

MA Filmmaking (CFS)

Award Document 2023/24

Course Map - MA Filmmaking (CFS)

Stage 1

Study Block 1	Study Block 2	Study Block 3
<p>FM01 Creative Screen Production Compulsory (30 credits)</p>	<p>FM03 Specialisms (Producing, Directing, Cinematography, Sound, Editing & Factual) Compulsory (30 credits)</p>	<p>FM05 Final Major Project with Specialism Role Compulsory (60 credits)</p>
<p>FM02 Production Development Compulsory (30 credits)</p>		<p>FM04 (23/24) Professional Development Compulsory (30 credits)</p>

General Course Information

Status	Approved
Qualification (course type)	Postgraduate Course
Course Title	MA Filmmaking (CFS)
Intermediate Qualification(s)	PG Cert, PG Dip
Awarding Institution	
Location of Delivery	Validated Partners
Duration of course	1 years
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body Accreditation	
Accreditation Renewal Date	
UCAS Code	
Relevant External Benchmarking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Master's Degree Characteristics Statement (2020) - QAA

Course Aims

MA Filmmaking at Central Film School develops our successful undergraduate programmes that combines academic and practical pathways to equip independent filmmakers to enter into the professional film and television industries.

We aim to foster future independent filmmakers and develop your creative and craft skills together with your contextual knowledge and analytical competence. Further, we aim to prepare individuals to engage confidently with, and challenge, the fast changing media landscape.

You will form part of an inclusive and collaborative environment at the School where industry-standard resources are integrated with technical and craft teaching which mirror real-world workflows. A balanced mix of academic criticality coupled with scholarly research is designed to nurture and inspire our students' creativity and ambition.

In small teams of diverse, dedicated and talented students, you will participate in the exchange of ideas, skills and experiences. You will have various opportunities to interact with high-profile film and television industry practitioners through our Professional Perspective panels and visiting lecturer programmes.

Potential industry placement, collaborative projects and research will help you meet the film and television industry professional standards and understand the cultural and industrial needs of your chosen sector.

The course is structured with core practical modules and an elective specialist module from the following categories; producing, directing, cinematography, editing, sound and factual programming. Our practical projects mirror the film and television industry's workflow and creative environments. You will be taught by industry professionals and learn through doing with an emphasis on on-set assessments in order to build your skills and confidence to enter the contemporary media job market.

Course specific employability skills

MA Filmmaking at Central Film School will offer you an opportunity to practice the following skills that can be used in professional settings in film, television and creative industries, as well as in academia and beyond:

Industry & Business Knowledge: You will develop an ability to recognise and apply relevant terminologies, technologies and processes to your creative practice or evaluation of others' work.

Critical Thinking & Analysis: You will develop an ability to look below the surface of film and television, make connections and reflect on different social and creative perspectives. Through this process, you will build a more profound understanding not only of film and television but also of values and attitudes in contemporary global societies that influence what you see on the screen.

Expanded Worldview: You will appreciate a range of diverse creative practices and modes of expression. You will also develop social and political sensitivity, especially regarding representation.

Ethical and Legal Responsibilities: You will progress your understanding of how to work professionally within industry-standard ethical and legal frameworks.

Health and Safety: You will enhance your awareness of health and safety guidelines and apply them in professional settings.

Problem Solving and Innovation: You will grow your capability to research and critically evaluate the currently available film and television practices and progress your creativity towards innovation by applying conceptual models to practical challenges.

Imagination and Creativity: You will gain confidence to determine your potential contribution to the creative industries, finding the courage to use artistic solutions and produce unique and original work.

Collaboration and Team-Work: You will develop a positive attitude when working with others in a respectful, organised and collaborative manner.

Organisation: You will advance your project and time management skills.

Entrepreneurial skills: You will learn to identify and take advantage of professional and personal opportunities. You will develop your business awareness and understand what effort is required should you choose to work as a freelancer.

Communication skills: You will practice an ability to articulate your ideas in writing and speech in a coherent and clear manner that can be understood by non-specialist audiences.

Personal Development: You will be advised on how to define your priorities, manage your time effectively, develop an understanding of personal strengths and weaknesses and find ways of responding to constructive criticism and feedback.

Despite its immediate subject focus on filmmaking, the course will also prepare you for other types of creative industry careers. All the above skills are transferable, which means that they can be adapted and deployed in a variety of fields and careers.

Career/future study opportunities

The course will help you become an adaptive thinker, a creator and a supportive contributing team player joining the next generation of writers, researchers, producers, directors, analysts, academics and project developers who shape the zeitgeist of contemporary film and television.

Typical career destinations of our graduates include:

- Film and Television Production Management (Narrative)
- Film and Television Production Management (Documentary)
- Camera Departments, camera operator, camera assistant
- Sound Design
- Sound Recording
- Post-Production, editor and assistant editor
- Visual Effects
- Virtual Studio Production
- Location Management and Logistics
- Talent Scouting and Development
- Film Exhibition and Distribution
- Sales Agency
- Advertising
- Branded and Web Content
- Music Video
- Live Event Broadcast Production
- Events Management
- Research and Development
- Journalism
- Arts Administration
- Influencer
- Social Media Manager

Further academic study: Postgraduate Practice & Research (PhD, ProfDoc) & PGCHE (Teaching Programme)

Structure of Course Delivery

As a student, your journey on the MA Filmmaking begins in Term 1 with Creative Screen Production, a general introduction to narrative and storytelling by learning to generate individual short film scripts. You then progress these, with your fellow students, into the production of your first short film. This process will also involve developing your practical filmmaking skills such as directing, cinematography and editing, as well as an introduction to the teamwork and problem-solving that film production engenders.

This module is followed by Production Development where the process of narrative structure and storytelling is researched and examined in detail in order to produce either narrative fiction scripts or factually based treatments which will then lead you into your graduating Final Major Project. You will also engage in primary and secondary research for your specialist roles that will lead you to your Specialism in Term two.

In Term two's Specialisms module, each student becomes more creatively independent and focussed on determining future pathways within the film, television and communication industries. This begins by you choosing specific roles from Producing, Directing, Cinematography, Sound Recording and Design, Editing and Factual Film. In this term, you will also take the Professional Development module and be expected to secure an internship placement which compliments your chosen specialist role. You will critically reflect upon this experience of your specialism and may either choose to explore future implications for the position (eg as the result of future technological changes) or by conducting an applied research methodology that critically examines your learning within your own chosen production role.

Term three is the Final Major Project and sees the culmination of each student's journey through the Masters programme with the productions of the graduation films. You will work within your own specialist role, as part of a collaborative crew, under the supervision of an industry practitioner throughout the productions. The films' subject matter can be narrative fiction or factually based. This final term signifies the bridge between studentship and professional practice with the fruition of your academic and filmmaking skills acquired over the course of the year. As part of the School's ethos you will have opportunities to collaborate with other courses and cohorts in the creative development of your productions, specifically with formal feedback from the MA Screenwriting students.

Pedagogy

The course delivers the curriculum using strategies that encourage independence, self-reliance and group co-operation. You are expected to take responsibility for your learning much more directly than at undergraduate level.

Group work is a vital aspect of the degree as it reflects the collaborative nature of filmmaking. Creative practice teaching centres around the interrelationship between core roles that are used in film and television. The course will outline the nature of these roles and how they might change in different situations. Module Leaders will specify how their modules are structured around regular group work and how such group work will be assessed.

You are also encouraged to explore the uses of blended learning techniques when working with your peers or pursuing work placements.

Teaching Sessions

Module teaching, learning and assessment take a variety of forms to offer an inclusive, safe and supportive learning environment for all students and enable multiple possibilities for constructive feedback so that you can fulfill your potential. These modules are led by experienced specialist academics and practicing filmmakers, supported by a team of technicians, who share their real-world film and television experience. This is enhanced by regular opportunities to listen and talk to visiting speakers through our Professional Perspectives Programme.

You will be taught by staff in a variety of ways:

Research Seminars: At MA level, seminars are the primary mechanism for learning. Students are required to take a proactive approach to contributing to these sessions. Through formalised, student-led group discussion, predicated on in-depth reading and preparation, a space is provided in which ideas, analytical approaches and your work in progress can be tested through discussion and application with peers and tutors. Seminars are the central fora for expression of your ideas and concepts. They are where goals to help you manage your learning and assessment preparation will be set.

Professional Masterclasses: This core learning is supplemented by a programme of guest speakers who deliver talks and masterclasses across a range of specialisms and career paths.

Workshops: Workshops are where you will develop specific craft skills and apply the content you are learning to productions and for assessment as well as to further your own personal, creative and professional development.

Crits/Peer Learning: We have a wide variety of approaches to peer learning including pitching/feedback sessions and crits, where you share work in progress and support each other in honing work for assessment and beyond. This activity helps you learn how to critique constructively and how to improve your work from reading others' approaches and acting on their feedback.

Individual Tutorials: These are there for you to really get to grips with your understanding of a module and/or an assignment, and also to discuss your progress and seek support in terms of time, project and personal management.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and Online Learning: A variety of modules may employ different forms of online learning to enhance your experience and add to the diverse ways of learning that you will experience on the course. Online spaces are used to provide a safe and supportive environment to help you stay engaged with work and peers across the modules and between periods of teaching and assessment.

Module Specific Sessions:

- Module 1 - FM01: Creative Screen Production
- Module 2 - FM02: Production Development
- Module 3 - FM03: Specialisms: Producing, Directing, Cinematography, Sound, Editing & Factual
- Module 4 - FM04: Professional Development
- Module 5 - FM05: Final Major Project

Course Assessment Strategy

The purpose of assessment is to measure your progress and achievement throughout the course and to confirm that the Learning Outcomes for each module have been met. It is the method by which you receive summative feedback in order to help you develop your practice and performance.

Assessment is governed by the Assessment Regulations as detailed in Central Film School's Academic Framework. Information about it is available on the Central Film School Website; details of links are provided in your Course Handbook.

Studying film and television requires you to understand the collaborative nature of filmmaking as well as the interrelationship of a variety of skills and knowledge. We, therefore, use formative and summative feedback throughout the course. Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria, as specified at the end of this document, relate to specific periods of growth and development.

Throughout the modules at Central Film School a major assessment method is the on-set assessment of your role. This type of assessment focuses on process rather than outcome. It develops and assesses your core hard skills (e.g. technical) and your soft skills (e.g. professionalism), both vital for your entry into the industry.

Formative assessment is concerned with progress, development and growth, and summative assessment measures achievement and accomplishment demonstrated at the end of each module.

Each module of study is assessed using the common assessment criteria of the University. Feedback is delivered formatively and following summative assessment.

The purpose of assessment is to provide you with:

- An active process that recognises and supports learning and achievement
- As an experience itself it contributes to the integration of learning and practice
- Feedback on progress which identifies strengths and recommendations for improvement
- Opportunities to present work, and articulate ideas and attitudes in a progressively professional manner

Evaluation and assessment provide the course team with:

- A means of offering you guidance in the evaluation of your progress
- A means of offering you advice and guidance on your work
- A means of monitoring and evaluating the course
- A basis for accreditation of modules
- A basis for progression from one term to the next
- A basis for the conferring of a Masters degree

Each module will have specific requirements and these will be clearly briefed at the appropriate stages of the course. At these points, you will be issued with a Module Guide containing a summary of the briefs, elements of assessment, learning outcomes, assessment methods, marking scheme and the work required for assessment. Please thoroughly read the Module Guide so that you have an understanding how the learning outcomes relate more specifically to the project work you will be completing. Ask questions if you are unsure of anything.

Regular seminars, tutorials and peer review opportunities, as well as bookable tutorials provide formative feedback on work-in-progress against the learning outcomes and project deliverables. These staff and peer interactions offer you with opportunities to ask questions, seek clarification, discuss and share significant findings, areas of research, methods employed and discoveries made.

Summative assessment provides you with marks that contribute to your academic grade and details the successful parts of the work, as well as advice on how to improve your work going forward. Summative feedback is given at the end of each module

Course Learning Outcomes

LO name	Level 7
1. Technical	Demonstrate the technical requirements of the production process that lead to a successful delivery of a filmed project
2. Collaboration	Analyse interpersonal skills and self-discipline to support working within diverse teams to deliver a successful project
3. Communication	Demonstrate a command of diverse professional, effective communication and presentation skills
4. Professionalism	Demonstrate a professional and personal progression of learning throughout all processes
5. Research	Analyse resources and research methodologies that inform critical contextual debates in film and television studies
6. Analysis	Analyse critical texts and discourse to formulate a reasoned argument and offer evidence for your claims
7. Innovation	Analyse the creative elements required for development and effectively resolve challenges throughout the production process of a narrative or factual project
8. Industry	Demonstrate a command of your chosen specialism in response to creative, ethical, economic and social contexts of real-world film and television cultures and industries

TPA Table

Module Code	Level	Module Name	Credits	Study Block	Compulsory (C) or Option (O)	Assessment Methods*	Contributing towards the Learning Outcomes* (Taught (T), Practised (P) and/or Assessed (A))							
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
FM01	7	Creative Screen Production	30	1	C	PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TP	TP
FM02	7	Production Development	30	1	C	PO PW	TP	T	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP	TP
FM03	7	Specialisms (Producing, Directing, Cinematography, Sound, Editing & Factual)	30	2	C	PO SP	TP	TP	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TPA	TP
FM04 (23/24)	7	Professional Development	30	2	C	PW	TP	TP	TPA	TP	TP	TPA	TP	TPA
FM05	7	Final Major Project with Specialism Role	60	3	C	AR PW	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA

Learning Outcomes*
1. Technical
2. Collaboration
3. Communication
4. Professionalism
5. Research
6. Analysis
7. Innovation
8. Industry

Assessment Criteria

Level Learning Outcomes			
No	Category	Level 7 Outcome	Falmouth Assessment Criteria Category
1	Technical	Select the technical requirements of the production process that lead to a successful delivery of a filmed project	Process The student demonstrates excellent ideas generation, problem solving, concepts, technical competency, and proposals in response to set briefs and/or self-initiated activity
2	Collaboration	Interpret interpersonal skills and self-discipline to support working within diverse teams to deliver a successful project	Collaboration The student demonstrates excellent (multi-disciplinary) team working
3	Communication	Interpret a command of diverse professional, effective communication and presentation skills	Communication The student demonstrates excellent communication and presentation skills
4	Professionalism	Demonstrate a professional and personal progression of learning throughout all processes	Organisation The student demonstrates excellent self-management skills
5	Research	Interpret resources and research methodologies that inform contextual debates in film and television studies	Research The student demonstrates excellent research and information skills.
6	Analysis	Interpret engagement with critical texts and discourses to formulate a reasoned argument and offer evidence for your claims	Analysis The student demonstrates an excellent ability to critically engage with and analyse information and formulate reasoned arguments.
7	Innovation	Design the creative elements required to formulate the development and resolve challenges throughout the production process of a narrative or factual project	Innovation The student demonstrates excellent independent practice, experimentation, risk taking, creativity, originality (i.e. new ideas and/or solutions) and in depth enquiry into their discipline.
8	Industry	Interpret a command of your chosen specialism in response to creative, ethical, economic and social contexts of real-world film and television cultures and industries	Industry The student demonstrates an excellent, ethically informed, real-world experience of industry/ business environments and markets.