

Module code: MOD000344	Version: 4 Date Amended: 18/Feb/2026
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1. Module Title
From Script to Screen

2a. Module Leader
Sarah Gibson Yates

2b. School
Cambridge School of the Creative Industries

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
5

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisite:	MOD007413	Creative Moving Image	Compulsory
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA (Hons) Film; BA (Hons) Film and Media; BA (Hons) Creative Writing; BA (Hons) Drama and Film		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module provides you with the opportunity to explore creative and technical processes involved in devising and developing a short narrative film, from script to screen. The module thus differs from other screenwriting modules in that you actualize your scripts in video. In particular, it draws attention to the importance of visualisation, communicating narrative through image, sound and action.

Although films are created in a collaborative way, the distinct roles of producer, director, writer and editor are defined and discussed so as to encourage understanding of the interrelationships between each of them in ensuring the most effective realisation of the script ideas. You begin by viewing and discussing script and film work by new and established writers and directors and use these discussions to develop their original ideas into 5 min screenplays. A pitching session to peers and lecturers allows for the selection of some of those scripts to be produced into short films, with you working collaboratively in small groups to devise and realise those scripts to completion. You are expected to undertake script revisions and rewrites during the production process, as an integral part of interpreting and developing your ideas, and as the realities and practicalities of the production become evident. The module ends with a screening and critical discussion of all short films, with an opportunity to receive feedback from peers and lecturers.

6b. Outline Content

- Viewing, reading and discussion of short narrative scripts and films
- Developing and writing original 5 min screenplays
- Pitching and selection of screenplays for production
- Defining the role of the director: interpreting scripts; working with actors; production design
- Translating script to screen: marking up scripts; creating shot lists; storyboarding
- Pre-production planning
- Production and editing of short film
- Screening and critical review of work

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Use of DVD/VCR screening facilities for weeks 1 and 12.

Editing and Video Production facilities.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate detailed critical awareness of a range of short scripts and films from the point of view of structure, plotting, characterisation, dialogue, soundtrack and image;
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Translate and interpret narrative text in a chosen genre to moving image form;
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Appraise and evaluate research and production methods employed and the roles undertaken in narrative film-making;
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Engage in teamwork to develop, write, devise and design an original short narrative film.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-4	2 hours of seminar and studio work each week
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Hours include independent viewing, research and production work
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1,2,4	80 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Portfolio: 5 minute screenplay and 5 minute short film					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-3	20 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Critical commentary and evaluation: 1000 words					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]