

Module code: MOD003647	Version: 2 Date Amended: 05/Jan/2016
-------------------------------	--

1. Module Title
Contemporary Television

2a. Module Leader
Harriet Fletcher

2b. School
Cambridge School of the Creative Industries

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

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	Media Studies pathways		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module focuses on contemporary television, exploring a range of different genres, including drama, comedy and 'reality' shows. Specific programmes will be explored and analysed in screenings and seminars. These programmes are examined not simply as texts but as specific examples around which larger areas of debate and discussion (including, for example, genre, feminism, the representation of family, etc.) can be explored. The wider context in which these programmes are situated (e.g. technology, institution, audience and the changing context of television) will also be explored. Students' research and writing skills are refined through an assessed study of a popular television show of their choice. Students are assessed on the basis of their ability to apply theoretical ideas and debates to a close study of individual programmes. Possible programmes for discussion include: *Interruptions*, *The Singing Detective*, *Twin Peaks*, *Mad Men*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Modern Family*, *American Idol*, *X Factor*, *The Wire*, *Borgen*, *Buffy*, *Firefly*, *Dr. Who*, *Girls*, *Six Feet Under*, *End Piece*, *True Blood*, *Dexter*, *Girls*, *Homeland*, *Lark Rise to Candleford*, *Call the Midwife*.

6b. Outline Content

• Reality TV and Discourses of the 'Live' • Television and Ideology • Contemporary Music Television • Science fiction programmes • Audiences, Fandom and Reception • Televisual Affect: TV, Affect, and Intimacy • Narrative Complexity in the Contemporary Crime Drama • Experimental British Television • Queer Television • Web Television and New Media

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Seminar rooms with DVD screening 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 breadth and depth of understanding of a range of key theoretical approaches to the study of contemporary television
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Explore and critically evaluate a range of debates in the development of contemporary television theory and relate these to the close study of individual television programmes
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Evidence competence in reflexive study, research presentation and writing skills in the production of televisual analysis
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically assess and evaluate the relationship between television, mode of production, audiences, and the larger media context

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2024/5	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 hour Seminar per week
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Independent reading, viewing, research and preparation of assignments
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	80 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Critical Analysis Essay 2500 words					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Practical	1-4	20 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Reception Study 500 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]