

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Module code:</b> MOD003647 | <b>Version:</b> 3 <b>Date Amended:</b> 20/Jan/2025 |
|-------------------------------|--|

|                         |
|-------------------------|
| <b>1. Module Title</b>  |
| Contemporary Television |

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <b>2a. Module Leader</b> |
| Harriet Fletcher         |

|   |
|---|
| <b>2b. School</b>                           |
| Cambridge School of the Creative Industries |

|  |
|--|
| <b>2c. Faculty</b>   |
| Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences |

|                  |
|------------------|
| <b>3a. Level</b> |
| 6                |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>3b. Module Type</b> |
| Standard (fine graded) |

|                    |
|--------------------|
| <b>4a. Credits</b> |
| 15                 |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>4b. Study Hours</b> |
| 150                    |

| <b>5. Restrictions</b>                             |                          |             |           |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Type   | Module Code              | Module Name | Condition |
| Pre-requisites:                                    | None                     |             |           |
| Co-requisites:                                     | None                     |             |           |
| Exclusions:  | None                     |             |           |
| <b>Courses to which this module is restricted:</b> | BA (Hons) Film and Media |             |           |

## 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. Your research and writing skills will be refined through an assessed study of a popular television show of your choice. You will be assessed on the basis of your ability to apply theoretical ideas and debates to a close study of individual programmes. Possible programmes for discussion range from classic series (such as *The Singing Detective*, *Six Feet Under*, *The Wire*, and *Twin Peaks*) to the most recent hits, which are updated on a year-by-year basis.

### 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 |
| 2025/6   | 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]