



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD004993	Version: 2 Date Amended: 27/Jan/2020
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1. Module Title
Screenwriting: The Short Film

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
4

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:	BA (Hons) Film BA (Hons) Writing and Film		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description
<p>The module is designed to equip you with the skill base to make an entry level submission to the industry, both in schemes for new writers and relevant competitions. You will be expected to develop your own original idea for a short film, to this end it is vital that you acquire a real understanding of the form. The first half of the course will be spent analysing a range of short films and to understand how story ideas are generated and developed into a workable template. You will then progress onto developing your own original idea in second half of the course.</p>

6b. Outline Content
<p>* Critical study of selected TV series by established an new writers/directors * Each student will make a presentation analysing their chosen TV series which will form the basis for their final submission. * Discussion of elements such as; building character relationships, story structure, developing themes and subplots. * Generation of an original idea, development of research plans, and pitching to peer groups * Consideration of target audience * Consideration of revising and editing work through informal performed read through in the workshop setting. * Submission of television series to relevant schemes and competitions for new writers. * Creation of a short four page treatment for an original series, plus some supporting script material.</p>

6c. Key Texts/Literature
<p>The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/</p>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources
<p>Box of Broadcasts</p>

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 knowledge and understanding of the range of approaches to television scriptwriting for an original fiction series, plus an understanding of the current market.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Analyse a chosen television series and make a presentation to the workshop.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Research an original idea – illustrate a detailed awareness of innovative ways of approaching a television series in terms of narrative structure characterisation, atmosphere and dialogue.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate the practical issues of writing for the screen and engage in tea world top develop original ideas into structurally coherent stories for the screen.

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	12 weeks seminars plus 12 weeks workshops.
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Reading and writing several times a week. See module tutor during office hours as often as possible.
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	3-4	80 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Portfolio of script work (2000 word equivalent)					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-2	20 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Critical essay. 1000 words analysis of the television series

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]

