

Module code: MOD007415	Version: 1 Date Amended: 27/Jan/2020
-------------------------------	--

1. Module Title
Film Criticism and Reviewing

2a. Module Leader
Henry Miller

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-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module provides training and experience in writing film reviews within a professional context. You will begin by exploring the nature and purpose of reviewing films, and consider the impact and influence of film reviewers on notions of taste and cultural and social value. You will then work through the professional practices of the reviewing process. Students will gain experience in writing reviews for a variety of different readerships, across a range of print and digital formats. Seminars are designed to illustrate review philosophies; planning and structuring of reviews; tailoring the review according to a brief; keeping film diaries; and developing a personal writing style. You will share and develop ideas in small peer groups and will benefit from regular formative feedback from the module tutor. You will also have the opportunity to review films in a live context, through the links with the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse and Take One magazine. You will also be encouraged to keep a film diary and to review for the student-led Ruskin Journal.

6b. Outline Content

- In-depth study of the nature and purpose of film reviewing, within a broad cultural and academic context
- close analysis of published film reviews from a range of media
- understanding different writing styles and approaches for different readerships
- drafting and revision of a range of review exercises
- preparing reviews in a 'live' context for Take One magazine and/or Ruskin Journal.
- reflecting on the function of film diaries
- sharing, discussion and development of ideas with peers and seminar leader
- creation of original written reviews and building of a personal portfolio of reviews
- writing a critical commentary and evaluation of research methods and portfolio submissions

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Seminar room with 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 awareness of a variety of published film review styles and approaches, with reference to a range of film cultures and styles;
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Illustrate understanding of the role of the film critic within the creative industries;
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Integrate effective techniques in order to communicate ideas and observations clearly, confidently, and concisely;
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Produce reviews for a range of readerships, styles, formats, and editorial needs.

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	N/A	N/A
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-4	1 x 2 hour seminar workshops each week.
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Independent reading, viewing, and writing; reviewing in 'live' contexts.
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	75 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Portfolio of reviews in a variety of styles and formats and for a range of readerships,					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-4	25 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Critical commentary and evaluation of development and working practices					

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]