

## University of the West of Scotland

## Module Descriptor

Session: 2024-25

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                               |                                    |                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Module: Film Genre</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                               |                                    |                                                             |
| <b>Code: FILM08002</b><br><b>Crn 16870</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>SCQF Level: 8</b><br><b>(Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework)</b> | <b>Credit Points:</b><br><b>20</b> | <b>ECTS: 10</b><br><b>(European Credit Transfer Scheme)</b> |
| <b>School:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | School of Business & Creative Industries                                      |                                    |                                                             |
| <b>Module Co-ordinator:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Rachael Stark                                                                 |                                    |                                                             |
| <b>Summary of Module</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                               |                                    |                                                             |
| <p>This module will examine the theories that surround the term 'genre' within film studies.</p> <p>Students will analyse important genre classifications including style, form, representations, characterisation, narrative structure and authorship. In the module we will also identify the influence of industrial factors within genre production and discuss how audiences and critics understand and utilise the term genre.</p> <p>Genre specific texts such as the western, noir, the war film, costume drama, the musical, and the biopic will be analysed and key scenes will be used to illustrate discussion. A key aspect of this module is that student skills in film analysis are practised and developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does 'genre' actually mean?</li> <li>• Industrially, how did generic cinema develop?</li> <li>• How are specific genres constructed and recognised?</li> </ul> |                                                                               |                                    |                                                             |

|                                       |                          |                          |                          |                          |                            |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Module Delivery Method</b>         |                          |                          |                          |                          |                            |
| <b>Face-To-Face</b>                   | <b>Blended</b>           | <b>Fully Online</b>      | <b>HybridC</b>           | <b>Hybrid 0</b>          | <b>Work-Based Learning</b> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <b>See Guidance Note for details.</b> |                          |                          |                          |                          |                            |

|                                                                                                                                                                       |      |           |              |         |                           |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------|--------------|---------|---------------------------|--------|
| <b>Campus(es) for Module Delivery</b>                                                                                                                                 |      |           |              |         |                           |        |
| The module will <b>normally</b> be offered on the following campuses / or by Distance/Online Learning: (Provided viable student numbers permit) (tick as appropriate) |      |           |              |         |                           |        |
| Paisley:                                                                                                                                                              | Ayr: | Dumfries: | Lanarkshire: | London: | Distance/Online Learning: | Other: |

|                          |                                     |                          |                          |                          |                          |          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Add name |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|

**Term(s) for Module Delivery**

(Provided viable student numbers permit).

|        |                                     |        |                          |        |                          |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| Term 1 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Term 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Term 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|

**Learning Outcomes: (maximum of 5 statements)****These should take cognisance of the SCQF level descriptors and be at the appropriate level for the module.**

At the end of this module the student will be able to:

|    |                                                                                |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| L1 | Demonstrate discerning knowledge and understanding of cinematic genre.         |
| L2 | Apply some complex cinematic concepts in analysis of specific cinematic texts. |
| L3 | Critically analyse key arguments in film genre.                                |

**Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills**

| SCQF Headings                         | During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Knowledge and Understanding (K and U) | <p><b>SCQF Level 8</b></p> <p>An understanding of particular media forms and genres and the way in which they organise understandings, meanings and affects.</p> <p>An understanding of the social, cultural and political histories from which different media and cultural institutions, modes of communication, practices and structures have emerged.</p> <p>An understanding of the interconnectedness of texts and contexts, and of the shifting configurations of communicative, cultural and aesthetic practices and systems.</p> <p>An understanding of professional, technical and formal choices which realise, develop or challenge existing practices and traditions, and of the possibilities and constraints involved in production processes.</p> <p>An understanding of the aesthetic and formal qualities at play, and their relation to meanings, in particular cultural forms.</p> <p>An insight into the cultural and social ways in which aesthetic judgements are constructed and aesthetic processes experienced.</p> <p>An understanding of the narrative processes, generic forms and modes of representation at work in media and cultural texts.</p> <p>The ability to:</p> |

|                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                                  | Understand forms of communication, media and culture as they have emerged historically and appreciate the processes through which they have come into being, with reference to social, cultural and technological change.                                                                                            |                      |
| Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding    | <b>SCQF Level 8</b><br><br>Produce work which is informed by, and contextualised within, relevant theoretical issues and debates                                                                                                                                                                                     |                      |
| Generic Cognitive skills                         | <b>SCQF Level 8</b><br><br>Analyse closely, interpret, and show the exercise of critical judgement in the understanding and, as appropriate, evaluation of these forms.                                                                                                                                              |                      |
| Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills           | <b>SCQF Level 8</b><br><br>Gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively in written, oral or in other forms.                                                                                                                              |                      |
| Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others | <b>SCQF Level 8</b><br><br>Evaluate and draw upon the range of sources and the conceptual frameworks appropriate to research in the chosen area.<br><br>Gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively in written, oral or in other forms. |                      |
| <b>Pre-requisites:</b>                           | Before undertaking this module the student should have undertaken the following:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                      |
|                                                  | <b>Module Code:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Module Title:</b> |
|                                                  | <b>Other:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                      |
| <b>Co-requisites</b>                             | <b>Module Code:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Module Title:</b> |

\*Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

| <b>Learning and Teaching</b>                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.</b> |                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Learning Activities</b><br>During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:                                    | <b>Student Learning Hours</b><br>(Normally totalling 200 hours):<br>(Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities) |

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Lecture/Core Content Delivery | 39              |
| Independent Study             | 161             |
|                               | Hours Total 200 |

**\*\*Indicative Resources: (eg. Core text, journals, internet access)**

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Altman, R (2019) Film/ Genre London: BFI Publishing [electronic]  
 Codell, J F (ed.)(2007) Genre, Gender, Race, and World Cinema Malden: Blackwell Publishing  
 Cook, P (ed.) (2007) The Cinema Book London: BFI Publishing [electronic]

Grant, B K (ed.)(2003) Film Genre Reader II Austin: University of Texas Press

Grodal, Torben (2002) Moving Pictures: a new theory of film genres, feelings, and cognition/  
 Oxford: Calendon [electronic]

Moine, R (2008) Cinema Genre Malden, Mass; Oxford: Blackwell  
 Neale, S (ed.) (2002) Genre and Contemporary Hollywood London: BFI Publishing [electronic]  
 Sanders, J (2009) The Film Genre Book Leighton Buzzard: Auteur

(\*N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk\*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

**Attendance and Engagement Requirements**

In line with the [Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure](#): Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

Engagement includes attending in-person lectures and seminars, completing pre-class activities and completing assessment processes.

**Equality and Diversity**

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

Please ensure any specific requirements are detailed in this section. Module Co-ordinators should consider the accessibility of their module for groups with protected characteristics..

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

## Supplemental Information

|                                       |                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Divisional Programme Board</b>     | Arts & Media                                                        |
| <b>Assessment Results (Pass/Fail)</b> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>School Assessment Board</b>        | Arts & Media                                                        |
| <b>Moderator</b>                      | Dr Gill Jamieson                                                    |
| <b>External Examiner</b>              | A Nevill                                                            |
| <b>Accreditation Details</b>          | ScreenSkills                                                        |
| <b>Changes/Version Number</b>         | 2.10                                                                |

**Assessment: (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)**

For the assessment the student will create a 2,500 word case study on a generic mode of filmmaking. Part of the focus should be on the contexts of production (including production processes and technology, narrative content and narrative form) and how the genre has changed and developed.

The case study should include examples and analysis of key characteristics of the genre

You can include screen stills, promotional images, critical responses etc. to illustrate. It should be written in continuous prose.

This links the coursework to Learning Outcomes 1, 2 & 3.

Students must achieve over 40% or above to pass the module.

Before undertaking the assessment, students will submit their submission plans to a member of the teaching team. Lecturers will then provide formative feedback on their plans. Students also receive full feedback on their submissions.

**Assessment 1 – Case study**

(N.B. (i) **Assessment Outcomes Grids** for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed.

(ii) An **indicative schedule** listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

**Assessment Outcome Grids (See Guidance Note)**

| <b>Component 1</b>                   |                             |                             |                             |  |  |                                            |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Assessment Type (Footnote B.)</b> | <b>Learning Outcome (1)</b> | <b>Learning Outcome (2)</b> | <b>Learning Outcome (3)</b> |  |  | <b>Weighting (%) of Assessment Element</b> | <b>Timetabled Contact Hours</b> |
| Case study                           | x                           | x                           | x                           |  |  | 100                                        | 0                               |

|                                          |             |                |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| <b>Combined Total for All Components</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>0 hours</b> |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|

**Change Control:**

| <b>What</b>                                                                       | <b>When</b> | <b>Who</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Further guidance on aggregate regulation and application when completing template | 16/01/2020  | H McLean   |
| Updated contact hours                                                             | 14/09/21    | H McLean   |
| Updated Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure                               | 19/10/2023  | C Winter   |
| Updated UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code                             | 19/10/2023  | C Winter   |
| Guidance Note 23-24 provided                                                      | 12/12/23    | D Taylor   |
| General housekeeping to text across sections.<br>.                                | 12/12/23    | D Taylor   |

**Version Number: MD Template 1 (2023-24)**