Module Descriptor

Title	Advanced Film - Development		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Approved
Code	FILM09002	**SCQF Level**	9
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	Shaun Hughes		

Summary of Module

Advanced Film - Development together with Advanced Film - Production (FILM09003) offers students the opportunity to develop their creative and technical skills in making short films (fiction, documentary and/or experimental). Teaching takes the form of hands-on exercises, lectures/seminars, and workshop/laboratory sessions, including with industry guests. The core focus of the two modules is the development and production of a short film for which students choose specific specialized roles that allow them to acquire creative and/or technical skills in specific grades. All students are encouraged to identify the aspect of filmmaking where they personally have most to offer, and to develop this skill by making a meaningful contribution to one or more projects during the course of the year.

During this module students generate a documentary OR fiction idea to develop over the course of the module, some of which will be executed in teams during Advanced Film - Production.

Key content includes:

- Ideas development

- Screenwriting: structure, dialogue, vision.

- Documentary method: approaching the real

- The film crew: roles, grades, skills

- Development and pre-production: creative choices and preparation

- Pitching – preparation and practice

This module builds on skills and approaches developed in The Short Film (Level 8), and forms a necessary pre-requisite for Advanced Film - Production (Level 9).

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus[1] ☒	Hybrid[2] ☐	Online[3] ☐	Work -Based Learning[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☒ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☐ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☒	Term 2	☐	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate an understanding of what makes the short film a distinctive form
L2	Apply a thorough understanding of industry standard development processes to the development of film projects
L3	Demonstrate expertise in a specific role in film development
L4	Critically analyse and evaluate their own creative work
L5	Work collaboratively as a team with a strong degree of autonomy

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)	**SCQF 9** Demonstrate and/or work with: An integrated knowledge of the different roles involved in creative film production, and the ways in which they collaborate. A critical understanding of the wide range of creative methods used by film directors and screenwriters to develop characters, situations and stories. A knowledge of one or more specialist filmmaking roles, informed by forefront developments.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 9** Apply knowledge, skills and understanding:

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

	In using a range of the principal professional skills, techniques, practices and/or materials associated with short film production. In using a few skills, techniques, practices and/or materials that are specialised or advanced in relation to film production. In practicing routine methods of enquiry and research into professional-level problems and issues. To practise in a range of professional level filmmaking contexts that include a degree of unpredictability.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 9** Undertake critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues involved in film production Identify and analyse routine professional problems and issues Draw on a range of sources in making judgements associated with short film production.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 9** Use a wide range of routine skills and some advanced and specialised skills in support of established practices in short film production, for example: Present or convey, formally and informally, information on standard/mainstream topics in short film production to a range of audiences and for a range of purposes. Use a range of standard software programmes associated with short film production and post-production.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 9** Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities at a professional level in short film production. Exercise managerial responsibility for the work of others and for a range of resources. Practise in ways that show awareness of own and others' roles, responsibilities and contributions. Work, under guidance, with specialist practitioners. Seeking guidance where appropriate, manage ethical and professional issues in accordance with current professional and/or ethical codes or practices.

Prerequisites	**Module Code** FILM08004	**Module Title** The Short Film - Fiction
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching
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.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	12
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	6
Laboratory / Practical Demonstration / Workshop	6
Personal Development Plan	12
Asynchronous Class Activity	40
Independent Study	124
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources

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

Rabiger, Michael. (2015) Directing - Film Techniques and Aesthetics: Focal press

Rabiger, Michael. (2015) Directing the Documentary 6th Edition; Focal press

Macdonald, Kevin (2006). Imagining Reality, the Faber Book of Documentary; Faber and Faber

Field, Syd (2005). Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting; Delta Trade

Cunningham, Megan (2014) The Art of the Documentary: Fifteen Conversations with Leading Directors, Cinematographers, Editors, and Producers. San Francisco; New Riders.

McKendrick, Alexander (2005). On Filmmaking: An Introduction to the Craft of the Director. New York: Faber and Faber.

(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:

Students are expected to attend all workshops, lectures, tutorials and presentations unless they are specifically informed that these are optional. They are also expected to deliver drafts of creative work to tutors (as formative assignments) when requested to do so.

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.

(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

Divisional Programme Board	**Arts Media**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Art & Media
Moderator	Douglas King
External Examiner	A Nevill
Accreditation Details	Screen Skills
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	5

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Portfolio of Written, Audio, & Visual Materials (including pitch deck) relating to the development of a short creative DOCUMENTARY or FICTION film project (where each student has a specific role within a group) 100%
Assessment 2
Assessment 3
(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.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Portfolio of Work	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	100	36

Component 2

Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	When	Who