Module Descriptor

Title	Experimental Film		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Existing
Code	FILM10008	**SCQF Level**	10
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	Gill Jamieson		

Summary of Module

This module provides students with an opportunity to develop and make short experimental films, utilising alternative or innovative filmmaking techniques and practices. The module combines theory and practice, encouraging students to explore the contribution of groundbreaking experimental filmmakers to film as an art form, whilst applying some of the key conceptual and critical ideas in their own filmmaking practice.

This module aims to provide an understanding of how to apply experimental ideas, concepts and approaches within the context of creating a short film. We will explore, discuss and deconstruct historical and contemporary films and filmmakers using regular screenings to showcase innovative approaches to experimental and avant garde filmmaking.

Students are encouraged to experiment with film form and expression in workshops and seminars and to effectively communicate ideas about their own filmmaking practice that contextualises their outputs within broader debates about art, culture and film.

The learning strategies used within the module include: experiential learning, where you learn through the process of experimenting and reflecting on your own work. Learning may be individualised and we encourage students to draw on their personal experiences, influences and individuality whilst developing concepts for their experimental films.

Workshops and seminars introduce key theories, principles and practices from historical experimental filmmakers. These discussions ensure students are familiar with the historical developments shaping the evolution of cinema from a global perspective. Students are expected to participate in discussions and analysis of historical and contemporary filmmakers, art and films and to attend relevant film screenings.

Workshops and seminars will give you an opportunity to contextualise your influences, present your experiments and work in progress films, whilst giving an opportunity to discuss your projects and to give and receive feedback from your peers.

Film Festival/Gallery Visits will enable you to become a consumer of creative and innovative filmmaking and consider where your work sits within current distribution practices.

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 knowledge, understanding and appreciation of experimental and alternative filmmaking principles and practices.
L2	Explore alternative approaches to creative filmmaking and identify themes of personal interest and artistic identity.
L3	Conceive and apply creative audio-visual experiments to generate new ideas and approaches to filmmaking.
L4	Critique and reflect on the creative, technical, logistical practices and processes encountered during experimental and alternative filmmaking
L5	Utilise communication skills to communicate experimental and alternative filmmaking techniques and concepts; both verbally and through the written word.

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 10** A critical understanding of core concepts and theories underpinning the development of experimental and avant garde film.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 10** Practise a range of techniques and approaches to the creation of experimental film form and/or non-mainstream film.

[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

Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 10** Critically review and consolidate knowledge, skills and practices associated with experimental filmmaking.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 10** Use a variety of ICT packages to develop ideas and explore a range of strategies pertaining to distribution and dissmentation of film outputs.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 10** Exercise autonomy and initiative by drawing on personal experiences, influences and individuality whilst developing concepts for experimental films.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title** NA
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title** NA

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	36
Asynchronous Class Activity	36
Independent Study	128
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Hjort, M. and MacKenzie, S. (2003) Purity and provocation: Dogma 95. London: British Film Institute. Grove, E. (2013) Raindance Producers' Lab Lo - To - No Budget Filmmaking. Focal Press. Garfield, R. (2021) Experimental Filmmaking and Punk: Feminist Audio Visual Culture in the 1970s And 1980s. London: Bloomsbury Publishing Plc.

Jones, C. and Jolliffe, G. (2006) The guerilla film makers handbook. London: Continuum.

Rees, A. L. (1999) A history of experimental film and video: from the canonical avant garde to contemporary British practice. London: BFI Publishing.

Rizzo, M. (2005) The art direction handbook for film. London: Focal Press.

Ramey, K. (2016) Experimental filmmaking: break the machine. New York: Focal Press.

Sitney, P. Adams (1987) The Avant-garde Film: A Reader of Theory & Criticism. Anthology Film Archives

Sitney, P. Adams (2002) Visionary Film: the American Avant-garde, 1943-2000. Oxford University Press.

(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 on-campus workshops, lectures and seminars and to regularly engage with resources on the VLE learning platform Aula.

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. The module is aligned with the University EDI policy.
(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	Arts & Media
Moderator	Callum Rice
External Examiner	Dr Alex Nevill
Accreditation Details	ScreenSkills Select

Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	V2 – shortened title to Experimental Film

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Creative Portfolio 70%
Assessment 2
Written Assignment 30%
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	☒	☒	☒	☐	☐	70	24

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Written assignment	☐	☐	☐	☒	☒	30	12

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**
Summary of module section edited, MC & Moderator updated	March 2025	G Jamieson
Shortened		
