

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	BA Film and Media <i>Entry pathway awards:</i> BA Film and Media Practice BA Film and Media with Screenwriting (Level 6)
Name and title of any exit qualification(s)	Dip HE; Cert HE
Is the programme offered with a Foundation Year?	Yes
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home School/other teaching departments	Creative Arts, Culture and Communication
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	Full-time (3 years); Part-time (4 years); Full-time with Foundation Year (4 years) Part-time with Foundation Year (6 years) October
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	N/A
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies
UCAS code	BA Film and Media: P390; P39A (with FY) BA Film and Media Practice: P392, P393 (with FY) BA Film and Media w. Screenwriting: P391; P394 (w.FY)
Birkbeck Course Code	BA Film and Media: UUBAFMED_C (full-time, 3 years) UBAFMMED_C (part-time, 4 years) UUBFFMED_C (full-time with FY, 4 years) UBFFMMED_C (part-time with FY, 6 years) BA Film and Media Practice: UUBAFMPR_C (full-time, 3 years) UBAFMPRC_C (part-time, 4 years) UUBFFMPR_C (full-time with FY, 4 years) UBFFMPRC_C (part-time with FY, 6 years) BA Film and Media with Screenwriting: UUBAFMSC_C (full-time, 3 years) UBAFMSCW_C (part-time, 4 years) UUBFFMSC_C (full-time with FY, 4 years) UBFFMSCW_C (part-time with FY, 6 years)
HECoS Code	100058 film studies 100444 media and communication studies
Start date of programme	October 2000
Date of programme approval	Spring 2000
Date of last programme amendment approval	November 2022
Valid for academic entry year	2023-24
Date of last revision to document	06/09/2022

Admissions requirements

We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.

UCAS tariff: 96-120 points (48 for Foundation Year entry)

The UCAS tariff score is applicable to you if you have recently studied a qualification that has a UCAS tariff equivalence. UCAS provides a [tariff calculator](#) for you to work out what your qualification is worth within the UCAS tariff.

Course aims

This course introduces you to the academic study of film, television and screenwriting, with an emphasis on developing your creative skills in a range of practice-oriented modules. The degree will equip you with core knowledge and practice-based skills for work in film and media organisations, and in the creative industries. Our courses are taught by highly experienced tutors with links in key film and media institutions.

Throughout the course you will combine written and practical work in your experience and understanding of film and television theory and history, screenwriting and script editing. Through a range of exercises you will learn new skills in image and sound editing, in developing script projects and digital media strategies, while enhancing your writing, research and presentation skills as a creative professional.

Course structure

FT students can take no more than 60 credits in any one term, and no less than 30. PT students will be expected/required to take no more than 45 credits in any one term, and no less than 30.

(Please see Arts Foundation Year programme specification for details of the foundation year modules)

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
BA Film and Media Full-Time – 3 years					
Year 1					
4	FFME002S4	Introduction to Cinema	30	Core	T1
4	ARMC231S4	Cinema Today	30	Comp	T2
4		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
4		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 2					
5	FFME020S5	Approaches to Cinema History	30	Comp	T1
5	ARMC269S5	Television: from small screen to smart screen	30	Comp	T2
5		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
5		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 3					
6	FDME001S6	Project BA Film and Media	30	Core	T1-3
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3

BA Film and Media Part-Time – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	FFME002S4	Introduction to Cinema	30	Core	T1/T2
4	ARMC231S4	Cinema Today	30	Comp	T2
4		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 2					
5	FFME020S5	Approaches to Cinema History	30	Comp	T1
5	ARMC269S5	Television: from small screen to smart screen	30	Comp	T2
4		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 3					
5		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
5		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 4					
6	FDME001S6	Project BA Film and Media	30	Core	T1-3
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Indicative list of option modules					
Level 4					
FFME025S4 Screenwriting					
ARMC240S4 Working with the Film Camera					
ARMC217S4 Media Studies: Key thinkers and approaches					
FFME007S4 Journalism in British Life					
FFME027S4 Introduction to Journalism Practice					
ARMC157S4 Introduction to Digital Culture					
Level 5					
ARMC125S5 Researching Arts and Media					
FFME026S5 Screenwriting: the 30-minute script					
ARMC254S5 Working with Film Sound					
FFME063S5 Documentary					
ARMC252S5 Digital Media Design and Development					
FFME017S5 Media, Technology and Culture					
FFME029S5 Interview Skills and Feature Writing					
Level 6					
FFME036S6 Contemporary Global Cinema					
TBC Script Development and Script Editing					
ARMC270S6 Story Matters; Writing for Television					
ARMC255S6 Working with Found Footage					
ARMC175S6 Principles of Layout and Design					
FFME090S6 Principles of Digital Video and Editing					
ARMC230S6 Memory, Media and Digital Culture					
FFME050S6 Globalisation and Media Cultures					
ARMC235S6 Communicating Digitally					

BA Film and Media with Screenwriting Full-Time – 3 years					
Year 1					
4	FFME002S4	Introduction to Cinema	30	Core	T1
4	FFME025S4	Screenwriting	30	Comp	T1
4		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T2 or T3
4		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T2 or T3
Year 2					
5	FFME026S5	Screenwriting: the 30-minute script	30	comp	T1-2
5	ARMC269S5	Television: from small screen to smart screen	30	Comp	T2
5		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
5		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 3					
6	FDME001S6	Final Year Project	30	core	T1-3
6	ARMC271S6	Script Development and Script Editing	30	comp	T2
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Ba Film and Media with Screenwriting Part-Time – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	FFME002S4	Introduction to Cinema	30	Core	T1
4	FFME025S4	Screenwriting	30	Comp	T2
4		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 2					
5	FFME026S5	Screenwriting: the 30-minute script	30	Comp	T1-T2
5	ARMC269S5	Television: from small screen to smart screen	30	Comp	T2
4		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 3					
5		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1 or T3
5		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1 or T3
6	ARMC271S6	Script Development and Script Editing	30	Comp	T2
Year 4					
6	FDME001S6	Project BA Film and Media	30	Core	T1-3
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
List of option modules					
Level 4					
ARMC231S4 Cinema Today					
ARMC240S4 Working with the Film Camera					
ARMC119S4 Creative Organisations					
Level 5					
ARMC125S5 Researching Arts and Media					
TBC Approaches to Film Sound					
ARMC254S5 Working with Film Sound					
ARMC124S5 Freelancers and Entrepreneurs: Understanding Cultural Labour					

Level 6					
FFME036S6 Contemporary Global Cinema					
ARMC270S6 Story Matters; Writing for Television					
ARMC255S6 Working with Found Footage					
ARMC173S6 Media, Digitalisation and the City					
FFME050S5 Globalisation and Media Cultures					
ARMC235S6 Communicating Digitally					
BA Film and Media Practice Full Time – 3 years					
Year 1					
4	FFME002S4	Introduction to Cinema	30	Core	T1
4	ARMC240S4	Working with the Film Camera	30	Comp	T3
4		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
4		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 2					
5	ARMC254S5	Working with film sound	30	Comp	T2
5	ARMC269S5	Television: from small screen to smart screen	30	Comp	T2
5		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1 or T3
5		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1 or T3
Year 3					
6	FDME001S6	Final Year Project	30	Core	T1-3
6	ARMC255S6	Working with Found Footage	30	Comp	T1
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
BA Film and Media Practice Part-time – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	FFME002S4	Introduction to Cinema	30	core	T1
4	ARMC240S4	Working with the Film Camera	30	comp	T3
4		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 2					
5	ARMC254S5	Working with film sound	30	comp	T2
5	ARMC269S5	Television: from small screen to smart screen	30	comp	T2
4		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1 or T3
Year 3					
5		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T2 or T3
5		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T2 or T3
6	ARMC255S6	Working with Found Footage	30	comp	T1
Year 4					
6	FDME001S6	Project BA Film and Media	30	Core	T1-3
6		Option module (from list)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Option module (from across Birkbeck)	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Indicative list of option modules					
Level 4					
ARMC231S4 Cinema Today					
FFME025S4 Screenwriting					

ARMC119S4 Creative Organisations
ARMC157S4 Introduction to Digital Culture
Level 5
FFME020S5 Approaches to Cinema History
FFME026S5 Screenwriting: the 30-minute script
ARMC125S5 Researching Arts and Media
ARMC252S5 Digital Media Design and Development
ARMC249S5 Curating Culture
Level 6
FFME036S6 Contemporary Global Cinema
ARMC270S6 Story Matters: Writing for Television
ARMC175S6 Principles of Layout and Design
FFME090S6 Principles of Digital Video and Editing
ARMC271S6 Script Development and Script Editing
ARMC235S6 Communicating Digitally
ARMC173S6 Media, Digitalisation and the City

Core: Module must be taken and passed by student

Compulsory: Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)

Option: Student can choose to take this module

How you will learn

Your learning and teaching is organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

Your learning for this course will be organised around the activities outlined below.

Teaching on this course is a combination of lectures, seminars and practice-based work. Lectures are designed to provide you with an outline or overview of the topic, to engage you with the material and direct you to other resources. They are a springboard for your own learning. Seminars are group sessions where you will be asked to contribute to discussion or group work around the topic, with material set in advance for which you need to prepare. For practice-based sessions you will put your learning into practice.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. For most of the modules associated with this course, your assessment will be through the following types of assessment:

- Essays, reviews, reports, scripts, logs, posters
- oral, audio or video presentations (usually with a written report)
- group and individual projects: short videos, video essays
- digital media/design exercises

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

By the end of this course, you will have the ability to:

- Discuss theories and concepts relating to film, TV and media, and understand their historical development
- Understand film, TV and media language, narrative, genre and audiences in a variety of cultural, international and commercial contexts
- Critically analyse texts in different forms of media
- Assess a wide variety of information in different media, and to present theoretical and empirical arguments about the use and role of media
- Critically evaluate arguments and evidence, including your own work, and conduct academic research in the fields of film, media and related cultural inquiry.
- Communicate ideas in visual form (eg video making) and apply theory to practice
- Analyse a creative brief and to identify appropriate creative models
- Develop ideas and creative projects through group work (web design, screenwriting, film and TV projects), and to gain skills in working with others and exchanging ideas
- Evaluate appropriate uses of new technologies for researching areas of the media (multimedia and web design modules)
- Work effectively as part of a team and individually to meet deadlines and manage your time and workload

Careers and further study

You will find Film, Media and Screenwriting graduates in the following kinds of roles:

- Curator/Programmer in a variety of media and cultural organisations
- Creative/Admin/technical support in film/media projects
- Assisting with screenwriting and script editing in film/TV and other media projects
- Variety of roles in film and media marketing, publicity material production and advertising
- Film/video editor
- Web editor and designer for film/media organisations and projects
- Teacher in Media and Media education in primary, secondary schools and other educational settings
- Programme researcher, broadcasting/film/multimedia
- Digital content provider and creator

Birkbeck's BA Film and Media graduates will complete with a set of valuable attributes, for example:

- The ability to work as part of a team
- High-level oral and written communication skills in English
- Research skills
- Skills in evaluating and assessing different types of information
- The ability to present yourself and an argument

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on [the careers pages of our website](#).

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its [Common Award Scheme Regulations](#) and Policies published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

[Please check our website for more information about student support services.](#) This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback.

Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is [available online](#).

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