



Module Specification

Stardom: Performance and Agency

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Stardom: Performance and Agency

Module code: UPGN9N-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries

Partner institutions: None

Field: English

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Stars fulfil both symbolic and economic functions. The module explores three interconnected aspects of this phenomenon: star persona; acting and performance; and creative agency.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: Through case study examples, students explore how star images are constructed, circulated and consumed. This includes examining the complex cultural meanings and affects ascribed to star images, and detailed analysis of the expressive elements of performance (gesture, voice, movement).

Stars are also active agents within the processes of film production. Students learn about the various ways in which stars seek to exercise control over their careers, including looking at examples of their working relationships with studios, producers, directors, talent agents, and other industry personnel.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See Assessment Strategy.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Critically analyse star images and/or star performances through close textual analysis of a range of materials

MO2 Demonstrate critical and commercial understanding of the symbolic and economic functions of stars

MO3 Explain and evaluate the creative agency of stars within specific industry contexts

MO4 Present ideas clearly and argue persuasively in written formats

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessments are designed to test students' understanding of stardom from a range of approaches. They will develop students' commercial awareness (building especially on UPGN9E-30-2 British Film and Television) and critical skills (building especially on UPGN9G-15-2 Screen Representations: Difference and Diversity), as well as further developing research, analysis, presentation and writing skills.

Assessment 1: Exam (2 hours)

The exam assesses students' understanding of the creative and commercial processes affecting stardom and star agency, including consideration of the different industry contexts studied in class. The seen paper enables students to prepare by doing appropriate further research on their own choice of examples; this ensures students demonstrate their deeper understanding of the subject, as well as reducing exam anxiety.

Assessment 2: Case study (2000 words)

The case study enables students to tailor the assignment to their own areas of interest, supported by the approaches, methods and examples used in class.

Assessment tasks:

Examination (First Sit)

Description: Exam (2 hours)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Case Study (First Sit)

Description: Case Study (2,000 word)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Examination (Resit)

Description: Exam (2 hours, seen paper)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Case Study (Resit)

Description: Case Study (2,000 word)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Film Studies [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Film Studies [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Film Studies {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Film Studies [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Film Studies {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Film Studies [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19