

University of the West of England

## MODULE SPECIFICATION

| Part 1: Information       |                           |                              |                    |                       |  |  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Module Title              | Virtual Reality Story Lab |                              |                    |                       |  |  |
| Module Code               | UALAWJ-60-M               |                              | Level              | М                     |  |  |
| For implementation from   | Septe                     | ember 2018                   |                    |                       |  |  |
| UWE Credit Rating         | 60                        |                              | ECTS Credit Rating | 30                    |  |  |
| Faculty ACE               |                           |                              | Field              | Lens and Moving Image |  |  |
| Department Film a         |                           | and Journalism               |                    |                       |  |  |
| Contributes towards MA V  |                           | 'irtual Reality (compulsory) |                    |                       |  |  |
| Module type: Proje        |                           | ct                           |                    |                       |  |  |
| Pre-requisites            |                           | None                         |                    |                       |  |  |
| Excluded Combinations     |                           | Not applicable               |                    |                       |  |  |
| Co- requisites            |                           | None                         |                    |                       |  |  |
| Module Entry requirements |                           | None                         |                    |                       |  |  |

### Part 2: Description

In this module, students experiment with new forms of storytelling with the aim of shaping the field of immersive storytelling through longer form project development. Building on story ideas and initial prototypes developed in the first trimester modules, students are encouraged to consider new interfaces and interactions for immersive storytelling experience.

Students may explore stories for a wide variety of fields and applications, such as: factual/documentary, fiction, installation art, playful experiences, tangible story-worlds or sound-based virtual projects. Students will be expected to ideate, iterate and complete an immersive storytelling project for one VR/AR/MR platform. *Students will work both individually to research and ideate, and collaboratively to complete projects and achieve specified learning outcomes.* 

Industry partners contribute to delivery through workshops on emerging topics in the VR industry, including best practices, ethics, and future visions. They may also propose design briefs for research and development, alongside those from local or national media companies who have an interest in exploring virtual reality projects. In this way, students gain professional practice insights first-hand, enabling them to consider a variety of career paths and build a relevant and effective creative, technical and transferable skillset that will prefer them for employment in a rapidly expanding, cutting-edge industry.

Students must articulate a research question and work in way that is largely self-directed with guidance from an academic supervisor in order to create a project design and production plan. Students may take this project forward into the final module or use their learning to inform their vision for a new project to be created in the final module of the award.

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#### Assessment Strategy

The principle of 'learning through making' is core to the learning strategies in the programme. The assessment type has been chosen to enable students to engage in experimental creative practice by challenging them to design, prototype and evaluate new forms of immersive story.

Students will be assessed using the following broad criteria, details of which will be developed in the Module Handbook and mapped against the module learning outcomes:

- Critical enquiry
- Research and development
- Audience engagement and storytelling
- Practical outputs
- Professional practice

#### Formative assessment

Students participate in the evaluation of presented work (their own and others') throughout the module. All students will be expected to contribute to the critical evaluation of fellow students' work. Feedback (verbal and/or in writing) at regular points throughout the module provides students with a clear understanding of their progress and advice about how this can be improved.

#### Summative Assessment

Component A1: Presentation and Project (50%) Component A2: Portfolio (50%)

Detailed guidance for the assessment will be provided in the Module Handbook and. Indicative contents are:

- · Presentation: an approx. 20 minute of prototype experience and the work itself
- Portfolio: pre-production plans, treatments and practical prototype work and reflective journal, plus evaluative essay contextualising project and research (equivalent to 3,000 words)

| Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element) | Compone | ent A2       |            |
|---|---------|--------------|------------|
|   |         | A:           | <b>B</b> : |
|   |         | 100%         |            |
|   |         |              |            |
| First Sit   |         |              |            |
| Component A (controlled conditions)                                   |         | Element w    |            |
| Description of each element   |         | (as % of con | nponent)   |
| 1. Presentation and Project   |         | 50%          | 6          |
| 2. Portfolio  |         | 50%          | 6          |
| Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not requ               | uired)  |              |            |
| Component A (controlled conditions)                                   |         | Element w    | eighting   |
| Description of each element   |         | (as % of con | nponent)   |
| 1. Individually negotiated Portfolio                                  |         | 1009         | %          |
|   |         |              |            |

|                                     | Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods  |  |  |  |                    |                       |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Learning Outcomes                   | On successful completion of this module students will be able to:  |  |  |  |                    |                       |
|                                     | <ol> <li>Identify a suitable project for development for an identified audience (A1, A2);</li> <li>Sustain substantial project development from ideation to completion (A1);</li> <li>Select, and/or design and experiment with new interfaces and interaction design, tools and techniques for an emerging storytelling application project (A1);</li> <li>Make informed choices for a storytelling objective that address a specific research question and/or design brief (A1, A2)</li> <li>Realise a project that is technically proficient (A1)</li> <li>Present a project that speaks to and engages an identified audience (A1);</li> <li>Critically assess in writing the application of immersive storytelling experience (A2);</li> <li>Effectively practice a range of soft skills, including collaboration, negotiation and complex problem-solving (A1).</li> </ol> |  |  |  |                    |                       |
| Key Information<br>Sets Information |  |  |  |  |                    |                       |
| (KIS)                               | Key Infor  | mation Set - Mo                                      | odule data   |  |                    |                       |
| Contact Hours                       | Number   | of credits for this                                  | s module   |  | 60                 |                       |
|                                     |  |  |  |  |                    |                       |
|                                     | Hours to<br>be<br>allocated  | Scheduled<br>learning and<br>teaching<br>study hours | Independent<br>study hours   | Placement<br>study hours   | Allocated<br>Hours |                       |
|                                     | 600  | 150  | 450  |  | 600                |                       |
| Total Assessment                    | The table below<br>constitutes a;<br>Written Exam: U<br>Coursework: W<br>test<br>Practical Exam<br>practical exam (i   | Jnseen or open<br>ritten assignme<br>Oral Assessme   | book written e<br>nt or essay, re<br>ent and/or pres<br>ermining mast<br>ent of the modul<br>ssessment perce | exam<br>port, dissertat<br>sentation, prac<br>tery of a techr<br>e:<br>centage<br>entage | tion, portfolio    | , project or in class |

# ACADEMIC SERVICES

| Reading List | The following list is indicative and will up-dated for publication as a reading list on <u>http://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk</u> and in the Module Handbook and as an on-line list on Blackboard.  |
|--------------|--|
|              | Further Reading  |
|              | <ul> <li>Bolter, J. D., Grusin, R., &amp; Grusin, R. A. (2000). <i>Remediation: Understanding new media</i>. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.</li> <li>Manovich, L. (2002). <i>The Language of New Media</i>. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.</li> <li>McCloud, S. (1994). <i>Understanding Comics: The Invisible Art</i>. New York: Harper Paperbacks. Murray, J. (1997). <i>Hamlet on the Holodeck</i>. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.</li> <li>Rose, F. (2012). <i>The art of immersion: How the digital generation is remaking Hollywood, Madison Avenue, and the way we tell stories</i>. New York: W.W. Norton &amp; Company.</li> <li>Turkle, S. (1984). <i>The Second Self: Computer and the Human Spirit</i>. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.</li> </ul> |
|              | Web Resources<br>Narrative as Virtual Reality 2 <u>https://jhupbooks.press.jhu.edu/content/narrative-virtual-reality-2</u><br>The Language of VR <u>https://medium.com/the-language-of-vr</u><br>The Ultimate Beginners Guide to Virtual Reality Storytelling <u>http://uploadvr.com/ultimate-guide-vr/</u><br>Virtual Reality Filmmaking: <u>http://stateofvr.com/</u>  |

## FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

| First CAP Approval Date  | 31 May 2017 |   |                   |
|--|-------------|---|-------------------|
| Revision CAP<br>Approval Date<br>Update this<br>row each time<br>a change goes<br>to CAP | Version     | 1 | Link to MIA 10660 |