



Module Specification

Thought in Action: Film and Philosophy

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Thought in Action: Film and Philosophy

Module code: UZRY8L-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Applied Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Philosophy

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: The module explores the relationship between film and philosophy and allows students to engage the public in order to further disseminate their philosophical reflections on film.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The aims of this module are to:

Explore the relationship between film and philosophy.

Tackle philosophy through film and interpret films philosophically.

Share student reflections on film-philosophy through public engagement.

Outline syllabus: This module examines whether and how film and filmmaking can critically address and help us rethink of some pivotal issues in contemporary philosophy such as space and time consciousness, being in the world, postcolonialism, violence, and self-recognition.

To do that, the module explores the ongoing film-philosophy debate by tackling questions such as:

Can films be philosophical or philosophically performative?

Does philosophical analysis enable viewers to understand and evaluate today's products of the cinema industry?

How can we express cogent philosophical arguments through film?

Throughout the course, students will have the chance to work closely during their placement with film curators and cinema producers who will help them to further enrich their insights into the aforementioned questions and topics.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will employ a combination of lectures, seminars, and workshops. Our pedagogy is interactive, discussion-based, and student-facing. Students are an active part of the learning process, and will be asked to contribute ideas, questions, and critical standpoints. The learning environment is designed to promote peer-to-peer support and exchange.

While teaching and learning will be predominantly classroom based, appropriate use will be made of online resources and learning environments.

The content of the module would be appropriate for the use of live briefs.

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

MO1 Develop and test critical arguments about the relationship between philosophy and film

MO2 Critically assess and discuss the various ways in which philosophical ideas are expressed in contemporary cinematography

MO3 Work in teams to produce and publicly deliver philosophical analyses of film

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 97 hours

Placement = 20 hours

Face-to-face learning = 33 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/425D2FB7-5C71-472B-9EDA-F51B94BCCD05.html) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/425D2FB7-5C71-472B-9EDA-F51B94BCCD05.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment for this module is as follows:

Assessment One: a 2000-word reflective blog (50%) based on a 20-hour placement.

Rationale: Students will conduct their placement within the frame of 'Thought in Action: Conversations about Cinema' – a film series co-organised by UWE and Watershed. Their placement activities will include: attending and actively

participating in the monthly screenings and debates of 'Thought in Action'; working in small teams to collect articles, reviews and materials, and generate a philosophical reflection upon one or more of the films that are going to be screened; choosing one spokesperson for each team who will deliver a short presentation of the aforementioned reflection during one of the film nights. The placement will be assessed via a series of blog entries that each student will have to write in order to share reflections on their own activities. In their blog, students have to opportunity to reflect on their teamwork experience during the module placement, develop critical analyses of the films they have been worked on, reconnect the theoretical and the practical components of this module, and share their feedback on this learning experience with the rest of the class.

Assessment Two: a 30-minute oral presentation (50%) typically consisting of a film analysis.

Rationale: the oral presentation will last approximately 30 minutes, and will consist of a philosophical analysis that students will have to develop on a film of their choice (15 minutes) followed by questions by the examiner on the contents of their presentation (15 minutes). The applied nature of this assessment allows students to understand how to put philosophy into practice. By using multiple formats that involve both written and oral presentations, this course will enable students to fully show what they have learnt in different ways and to improve their communication skills.

Formative assessment will be undertaken within lectorial and seminar/workshop sessions.

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Oral presentation (film analysis followed by questions by the examiner, 20 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Reflective Piece (First Sit)

Description: Reflective blog (2000 words, at least 4 entries)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Oral presentation (film analysis followed by questions by the examiner, 20 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Reflective Piece (Resit)

Description: Reflective blog (2000 words, at least 4 entries)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

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

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

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

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

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

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