



## **Programme Specification**

### **Screen Production (Screenwriting) [Bower]**

Version: 2023-24, v1.1, 08 Jun 2023

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## Section 1: Key Programme Details

### Part A: Programme Information

**Programme title:** Screen Production (Screenwriting) [Bower]

**Highest award:** MA Screen Production (Screenwriting) [Bower]

**Interim award:** PGCert Screen Production (Screenwriting) [Bower]

**Interim award:** PGDip Screen Production (Screenwriting) [Bower]

**Awarding institution:** UWE Bristol

**Affiliated institutions:** Not applicable

**Teaching institutions:** UWE Bristol

**Study abroad:** No

**Year abroad:** No

**Sandwich year:** No

**Credit recognition:** No

**Department responsible for the programme:** ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries, Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

**Contributing departments:** Not applicable

**Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:** Not applicable

**Apprenticeship:** Not applicable

**Mode of delivery:** Full-time

**Entry requirements:** Undergraduate qualification of Upper Second or above in an associated field of study. Applicants will be expected to have some experience of screenwriting.

The programme requires the sophisticated application of advanced skills in the English language. For applicants whose first language is not English: a minimum

grade of 7.0 overall on the British Council International English Language Test (IELTS).

**For implementation from:** 01 January 2022

**Programme code:** P31N12

## **Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes**

### **Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes**

**Overview:** The MA Screen Production (Screenwriting) is part of an integrated suite of taught postgraduate programmes in the Screen domain. Students on this course study alongside film creatives in a wide range of areas, including documentary, wildlife filmmaking, virtual reality and screen business. They are part of an expansive cohort of UWE Bristol postgraduate students building their futures in the screen industries.

Core study modules develop screenwriting skills and their practical application to feature films and television drama. Practice is central to this course, with students required to write screenplays from their first days on the programme. The modules challenge students to write effectively both as an individual screenwriter and as part of a team; they collaborate in an industry-based Writers Room structure when developing television content. The final semester is a student-led screenwriting project that includes all standard requirements for the successful pitching of a film project for commission.

Alongside their core studies, students of MA Screen Production (Screenwriting) share modules with other screen postgraduates. These include: 'Screen Criticism and Analysis', which is based on a festival of films across multiple forms; and 'Creative Enterprise and Entrepreneurship', which develops the skills that graduates require to act as freelancers or to launch start-up businesses in the screen sector.

**Educational Aims:** The MA Screen Production (Screenwriting) aims to extend students' knowledge and skills in the practice of writing scripts for a range of narrative fiction forms in film media. The programme provides a space for the exploration of multiple modes of practice in the industry. The course is built on the understanding that new screenwriters need to have high levels of creative skills in their craft, but they must also develop knowledge of the professional environment in which a screenwriter operates. This programme also develops students' understanding of the other professionals with whom they will collaborate in the screen industries.

Students conceive of, research, plan, and draft their own screenwriting projects. The aim of this teaching is to develop key understandings and frameworks of writing practices and skills. The ethos of the programme's education is highly practical: students' learning involves rapid turnaround exercises, as well as the development of more substantial screenwriting projects

A core aim of the programme is to give its students opportunities to build creative and business relationships with other postgraduate students following parallel courses in the Screen area. MA Screen Production (Screenwriting) students share modules and study spaces with students on other related MA programmes, allowing them to develop relationships that may be central to their future.

The programme provides an educational context that situates the skills of screenwriting within an understanding of the business environment of the screen industries. As well as modules developing students' skills and knowledge as screenwriters, students follow modules that:

Teach them the value systems by which commissioners will assess their film and television projects;

Develop their knowledge of the industry's models of production and distribution;

Develop the entrepreneurial skills that will enable them to succeed in a career as an independent writer, or to work within a larger production company.

**Programme Learning Outcomes:**

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**Programme Learning Outcomes**

- PO1. Students will be able to demonstrate the creative, analytical, evaluative and organisational skills necessary for the conception, development and writing to professional standards in the screen industries.
- PO2. Students will be able to critically and creatively engage with the screen industries development process and the place of critique, notes, rewriting and revision in that process.
- PO3. Students will be able to evaluate the roles of key personnel involved in development and production in the screen industries.
- PO4. Students will be able to critically evaluate scripts and developmental documents for the screen industries.
- PO5. Students will be able to conduct research into issues pertaining to the writing in the screen industries, either individually or as part of a team through research design, data collection, analysis, synthesis and reporting. Their research skills will include the ability to apply theoretical understanding of concepts to practical issues within the screen industries.
- PO6. Students will be able to demonstrate advanced skills in the analysis of screen content and the screen industry, including the capability to identify assumptions, evaluate statements in terms of evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, define terms adequately and generalise appropriately.
- PO7. Students will demonstrate a command of the skills and processes required to operate as a self-employed freelancer or to found a start-up business within the screen sector. They will be able to apply knowledge of the institutional and regulatory environment to their own business proposals and will be able to assess their original screenwriting projects against a broad knowledge of current value systems based on creative, cultural and economic worth.

- PO8. Students will demonstrate an understanding of key factors affecting businesses developing screenwriting content in the screen industries, including sustainability, social responsibility, diversity, ethics and intellectual property.
- PO9. Students will be able to apply their knowledge of major issues and debates within the cultural and creative industries.

## Part B: Programme Structure

### Year 1

The student must take 180 credits from the modules in Year 1.

### Year 1 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UALB3U-15-M	Developing a Screen Business Concept for the Marketplace 2023-24	15
UALB3S-15-M	Entrepreneurship in the Creative Economy 2023-24	15
UALB5Y-45-M	Feature Film Screenwriting, Editing and Re-Writing 2023-24	45
UALB63-45-M	Television Screenwriting 2023-24	45

### Year 1 Optional Modules

The student must take 60 credits from the modules in Optional Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UALB3X-60-M	Screen Production Final Project 2023-24	60
UALB3Q-60-M	Screen Research Final Project 2023-24	60

## Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

Students successfully passing the course will have developed an advanced knowledge of the creative processes of writing scripts for a range of film projects.

They will have experience of collaborative working in a Writers Room, as well as the requirements of individual film screenwriting. Graduates will have completed multiple drafts of their own original screenplays. They will have knowledge of the range of professional roles involved in creating, and supporting the creation, of scripts; they will have performed the role of Script Editor for their screenwriting peers.

#### **Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks**

#### **Part E: Regulations**

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures

<https://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/departmentsandservices/professionalservices/studentandacademicservices/regulationspoliciesquality/regulationsandprocedures.aspx>