



Module Specification

Independent Research Project in Filmmaking

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Independent Research Project in Filmmaking

Module code: UALAV7-15-3

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

Delivery locations: Not in use for Modules

Field: Lens and Moving Image

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: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Develop students' critical thinking, making and/or writing skills, to stretch their intellectual horizons and enhance their visual literacy.

Encourage students to study film and visual media from a range of interrelated historical, industrial, critical and practical perspectives.

Equip students with transferable skills that will be useful in a wide range of careers, including independent research, time management, presentation skills that will help make them more employable.

Encourage professional standards for the presentation of research material and develop a thorough knowledge and understanding of the chosen topic and a critical awareness of the relationship of student's own research to other work in the field.

Outline syllabus: The module supports students to undertake a self-initiated theoretical and investigative project that requires them to research a topic in depth that is particularly relevant to their practice and/or professional development. It allows students to synthesise and consolidate academic research and writing skills developed through the programme, and/or to demonstrate “critical making” skills in an audio-visual essay. In consultation with an allocated supervisor, students agree a suitable project which will enable them to demonstrate a high level of research, analytical and presentational skills. This can either take the form of a written dissertation or an audio-visual essay.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Teaching and learning methods: Scheduled learning includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops; fieldwork; external visits; work based learning; supervised time in studio/workshop. Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

Tutorials help students structure their independent learning and provide subject specific advice and guidance.

Workshops and lectures support students in designing and conducting their research project and provide guidance in research methods, how to develop a research question, how to structure an audio-visual essay, avoiding plagiarism, and in identifying and using appropriate research materials.

Library skills and study support sessions are also provided. In parallel with this students are assigned a personal tutor, with a relevant specialism, who will guide them in the formulation of an appropriate research topic and identify the best form for the project to take.

Students have the option to explore their research topic through critical making as well as writing.

The emphasis is on situating understanding in a wider critical context rather just writing ability; having the option to create a range of outputs, including an audio-visual essay enables students to explore film concepts visually, using their editing skills but still testing their ability to structure an argument and back up their points with evidence from both primary and secondary sources.

Audio-visual essays can employ text over visuals, inter-titles, split-screen shot comparison, hyper- narration, voice over or a “super-edit” but, whichever formal approach used, there must be evidence of wider reading and viewing and all sources must be properly referenced in the credits.

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

MO1 Design and structure an independent research project that is appropriate to degree or field, choosing a method of research (using academic texts, journal and magazine articles and industry interviews) that allows the successful exploration of your subject

MO2 Successfully structure an evidence based argument, using relevant academic theories and industry debates, to critically analyse and evaluate material relevant to your research project

MO3 Present and communicate your research using written and/or audiovisual techniques effectively, using the conventions of academic writing, including appropriate referencing with the UWE Harvard system

MO4 Work independently and professionally under the guidance of an academic supervisor

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 130 hours

Face-to-face learning = 20 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ualav7-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ualav7-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment strategy:

The assessment is designed to enable students to present their independent research effectively and demonstrate an ability to situate their chosen topic within an appropriate critical context, drawing on their wider reading and viewing. Advice on how to avoid plagiarism and the correct referencing conventions will be included both in the Module Handbook and throughout the formal teaching and UWE Library Service sessions. Tutors will aim to pick up any issues with referencing that may lead to inadvertent academic offences.

Formative assessment:

Formative assessment will take place within the tutorial process with opportunities for feedback on research design, project development (proposal, essay plan), contextualisation and work in progress, through reviewing of drafts.

Summative assessment:

Independent Research Project (3500 words or equivalent)

Students will be required to arrive at the beginning of the year with a Research Project Proposal and later submit a detailed Plan together with a bibliography, including key readings and viewings that will inform their research and receive formative assessment on their proposal and plan

The research project can, by negotiation with an academic tutor, either take the form of a traditional 3,500-word essay or an industry-focused analytical study (or equivalent), or it could take the form of an audio-visual essay (5 minutes in length), plus a 500-word positioning statement.

Students will be assessed using the following criteria:

Research Question

Critical Context and Methodology

Structure and Coherence of Argument

Presentation

Professional Practice

Assessment components:

Project (First Sit)

Description: Research project (3500 words or 3 to 5 minutes)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Project (Resit)

Description: Research project (3500 words or 3 to 5 minutes)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Filmmaking [Sep][FT][Bower][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22