**Programme Specification**

# Film Studies [Frenchay]

Version: 2025-26, v2.0, Validated

**Contents**

## Section 1: Key Programme Details

**Part A: Programme Information**

**Programme title:** Film Studies [Frenchay]

**Highest award:** BA (Hons) Film Studies

**Interim award:** BA Film Studies

**Interim award:** DipHE Film Studies

**Interim award:** CertHE Film Studies

**Awarding institution:** UWE Bristol

**Teaching institutions:** UWE Bristol

**Study abroad:** No

**Year abroad:** No

**Sandwich year:** Yes

**Credit recognition:** No

**School responsible for the programme:** CATE School of Arts, College of Arts, Technology and Environment

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

**Modes of delivery:** Full-time, Part-time, Sandwich

**Entry requirements:** For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

**For implementation from:** 01 September 2025

**Programme code:** P30A00

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

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

**Overview:** Film Studies at UWE Bristol is an exciting, inclusive and forward-thinking degree, which introduces students to a wide range of subject-specific as well as interdisciplinary perspectives, and which enhances their knowledge and understanding of the role of arts in society.

We do this, on the one hand, by focusing on key aspects of subject knowledge: this includes film-analytical skills, as well as an understanding of the historical, cultural and industrial contexts which continue to shape both individual films and the film industry. At the same time, the programme also embeds key practical skills in its curriculum, including important transferable skills such as communication, presentation and research skills, but also subject-specific skills such as video editing, pitching and screenwriting.

Employability is a key consideration of the programme, and we take advantage in this regard of Bristol's own rich and vibrant film culture: this includes a range of relevant and diverse film festivals, offering a variety of volunteering and networking opportunities for our students. Beyond employment in the film industry, however, the programme also seeks to expand students' sense of the much wider range and variety of careers available in the creative media and cultural sectors, and provides them with the skills and knowledge to pursue careers in these industries and beyond.

**Features of the programme:**

**Educational Aims:** Our educational aims include a focus on:

Disciplinary innovation

The programme delivers a distinctive offer, which includes a firm foundation in subject-specific knowledge, while also offering students the opportunity to develop several key practical skills, including professional writing about film, screenwriting, and video editing.

It also values optionality, allowing students to carve their own path and pursue their own interests within the framework of an established and research-led programme. This includes a range of possible optional modules in the final year - including modules on music and affect in cinema, on stardom, and on independent and cult cinema. It also means students can take the different practical skills they develop into the final year project module, and choose, for example, a screenwriting project or audiovisual essay instead of a traditional dissertation.

Nuanced textual and contextual analysis

The programme equips students with the intellectual, practical and creative skills necessary to develop independent, informed critiques of filmic texts. Films are placed into detailed historical, cultural and industrial contexts, drawing on a wide range of genres, cultures and periods. Students will develop high-level analytical and conceptual skills, alongside critical understanding of the complex relationships between texts, media forms, audiences and institutions.

Inclusive and global approaches

The curriculum embraces diverse cultures and an international approach. The programme aims to give students new perspectives on their own lives and on the experiences of others, with attention paid to intersectional representations of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, (dis)ability, and other identity categories.

Commercial and social awareness

The programme aims to provide students with knowledge of the cultural industries and economic, social and political factors affecting the production, distribution and consumption of film and related media/texts. This includes exploring questions of cultural value, taste formation, access and participation.

Cultural engagement

The programme provides opportunities for students to participate directly in local and

regional cultural industries and events, gaining relevant industry experience. Our location is a real advantage in this regard: Bristol is widely known for its large and diverse film culture, including several key film festivals such as Bristol Radical Film Festival, Cary Comes Home, Cinema Rediscovered and Forbidden Worlds.

Education for Sustainable Development

The programme explores the complex historical and contemporary interrelations of culture, society, economics and politics across local, national, regional and global scales. Particular modules introduce specific texts and critical-theoretical approaches that are themselves concerned with social, economic and environmental justice, with the diversity of global cultures, and with the imagination of possible futures.

**Programme Learning Outcomes:**

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

**Programme Learning Outcomes**

PO1.   Analyse and evaluate film texts, drawing on relevant theories and research methodologies.

PO2.   Develop a comprehensive understanding of the history and evolution of cinema and of film studies as a subject.

PO3.   Locate, retrieve, evaluate, and synthesise information from various sources, and apply appropriate research methods.

PO4.   Develop effective verbal and written communication skills in diverse mediums.

PO5.   Promote inclusivity and respect for diverse and global perspectives within the discipline.

PO6.   Reflect on new knowledge, understanding, and learning experiences, demonstrating critical self-awareness.

PO7.   Demonstrate an understanding of film production practices and contexts across space and time.

PO8.   Prepare for potential career opportunities in the field, demonstrating an understanding of relevant professional practice and skills.

**Assessment strategy:** Within Film Studies, the assessment strategy has been designed to test the programme learning outcomes, both in terms of subject-specific skills and knowledge (connected to film analysis, film history, film production) and in terms of transferable skills (synthesising information, developing verbal and written communication skills, developing a global and inclusive outlook), both of which will support students both throughout their degree and into the world of employment.

Specific assessments will test the acquisition of practical skills relating to the use of specific technologies (PowerPoint, editing tools, recorded presentation software, scriptwriting software), professional skills (pitching, curating, film programming and reviewing, audio-visual essays, creative writing) as well as the acquisition of academic skills allowing students to analyse and evaluate a wide range of texts and to prove their capacity to express themselves in written and/or audio-visual formats.

Marking criteria for each individual assessment will match the specific learning outcomes for the module, giving students a clear understanding of the key competencies and skills each assessment tests, with feedback sheets again connecting both feedback and mark to specific learning outcomes.

Two principles at the heart of our assessment strategy are those of inclusive assessment and of programmatic design.

Firstly, a key principle underpinning each point of assessment is to provide students with a wide range of different options that reflect their multiple interests and the specific skillsets they are developing. This can take the form of the number and range of topics students can choose from – for example in an essay-based piece of assessment – but it also frequently means students can choose from a range of formats, including short and long essays, portfolios, AV essays, recorded presentations, and so on.

Secondly, assessment for each module does not happen in a vacuum: assignments will build on previous assessment and its feedback in order to hone particular skills and knowledge across all three levels of the programme. For this purpose, feedback always includes both reflections specific to the assessment the student has completed, but also feed-forward, practical suggestions which students can take on board in the context of future modules and assessment.

**Student support:** Students are supported in a number of ways as they progress through the programme, firstly through the APT (Academic Personal Tutor) scheme, in which students are assigned a member of staff as their personal tutor as they enter at L4, and (unless they request a change) retain this APT through the full three years of the programme. This ensures they have a go-to contact for queries which don't pertain to one particular module, as well as a trusted member of staff who has a holistic view of their progress, which also supports the overall programmatic design and coherence of the programme.

In addition to this, a number of supportive measures are taken within individual modules themselves, including the sharing of teaching materials via Blackboard 48 hours in advance, the recording of all lectures, timely response to all emails (putting students in touch with relevant University services where needed), and dedicated assignment support, both within lectures and as one-to-one, bookable tutorials.

**Part B: Programme Structure**

**Year 1**
Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.
Full time and sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

**Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)**
Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
| --- | --- | --- |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| UPGN9A-30-1 | The Movie Experience: Audiences, Culture and Taste 2025-26 | 30 |
| UPGN4R-30-1 | Film Style and Meaning 2025-26 | 30 |
| UA1B6R-30-1 | Human Stories 2025-26 | 30 |
| UPGB7R-30-1 | Realism, Spectacle, Narrative 2025-26 | 30 |

**Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)**
Part-time students must take 60 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGN4R-30-1 | Film Style and Meaning 2025-26 | 30 |
| UPGB7R-30-1 | Realism, Spectacle, Narrative 2025-26 | 30 |

**Year 2**
Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 2.
Full time and sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

**Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich)**
Full-time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Full-time and Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGB7T-30-2 | Screenwriting: Creative and Critical Practice 2026-27 | 30 |
| UPGN4X-30-2 | Global Cinemas 2026-27 | 30 |
| UPGB7S-30-2 | Professional Writing About Film 2026-27 | 30 |
| UA1B6S-30-2 | Human Futures 2026-27 | 30 |

**Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)**
Part-time students must take 60 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UA1B6R-30-1 | Human Stories 2026-27 | 30 |
| UPGN9A-30-1 | The Movie Experience: Audiences, Culture and Taste 2026-27 | 30 |

## Year 3

Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 3.
Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.
Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the modules in Year 3.

### Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Full-time)

Full-time students must take 60 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Full-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UA1B6T-30-3 | Humanities Research Project 2027-28 | 30 |
| UPGN5T-30-3 | Contemporary Cinema 2027-28 | 30 |

### Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 60 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGN4X-30-2 | Global Cinemas 2027-28 | 30 |
| UPGB7T-30-2 | Screenwriting: Creative and Critical Practice 2027-28 | 30 |

### Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 30 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGNA5-30-3 | Professional Development on Placement 2027-28 | 30 |

**Year 3 Optional Modules (Full-time)**
Full-time students must take 60 credits from modules in the group Optional Modules (Full-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGB7U-30-3 | American Independent and Global Cult Cinemas 2027-28 | 30 |
| UPGB7V-30-3 | Stardom and Representation: Identity and Diversity in Global Cinema 2027-28 | 30 |
| UPGB7W-30-3 | Sensing Cinema: Perception, Style and Affect 2027-28 | 30 |

**Year 4**
Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 4.
Sandwich students must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 4.

**Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)**
Part-time students must take 60 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UA1B6S-30-2 | Human Futures 2028-29 | 30 |
| UPGB7S-30-2 | Professional Writing About Film 2028-29 | 30 |

**Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)**
Sandwich students must take 60 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGN5T-30-3 | Contemporary Cinema 2028-29 | 30 |
| UA1B6T-30-3 | Humanities Research Project 2028-29 | 30 |

**Year 4 Optional Modules (Sandwich)**
Sandwich students must take 30 credits from modules in the group Optional Modules.

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGB7U-30-3 | American Independent and Global Cult Cinemas 2028-29 | 30 |
| UPGB7V-30-3 | Stardom and Representation: Identity and Diversity in Global Cinema 2028-29 | 30 |
| UPGB7W-30-3 | Sensing Cinema: Perception, Style and Affect 2028-29 | 30 |

## Year 5

Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 5.

### Year 5 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 30 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

Students will take:
Contemporary Cinema

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGN5T-30-3 | Contemporary Cinema 2029-30 | 30 |

### Year 5 Optional Modules (Part-time)

Part-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGB7W-30-3 | Sensing Cinema: Perception, Style and Affect 2029-30 | 30 |
| UPGB7U-30-3 | American Independent and Global Cult Cinemas 2029-30 | 30 |
| UPGB7V-30-3 | Stardom and Representation: Identity and Diversity in Global Cinema 2029-30 | 30 |

## Year 6

Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 6.

**Year 6 Compulsory Modules (Part-time)**
Part-time students must take 30 credits from modules in the group Compulsory Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UA1B6T-30-3 | Humanities Research Project 2030-31 | 30 |

**Year 6 Optional Modules (Part-time)**
Part-time students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Part-time).

| Module Code | Module Title | Credit |
|---|---|---|
| UPGB7U-30-3 | American Independent and Global Cult Cinemas 2030-31 | 30 |
| UPGB7V-30-3 | Stardom and Representation: Identity and Diversity in Global Cinema 2030-31 | 30 |
| UPGB7W-30-3 | Sensing Cinema: Perception, Style and Affect 2030-31 | 30 |

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

The programme studies subject-specific and interdisciplinary approaches to film in a global context. It explores a wide range of genres, contexts and periods, enhancing students' understanding of cultural diversity and the role of the arts in society. It engages with cultural industries, venues and events in the region, building critical and commercial awareness of the sector. This is complemented by practical experience of digital content production, creative writing, cultural journalism, and events management and curation. Graduates have high level analytical and communication skills (written, oral, visual), information literacy, research skills, and the ability to develop independent projects effectively (individually and collectively).

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

The programme has been designed in line with the QAA Quality Code for HE (2024), the relevant benchmarking statement (Communication, Media, Film and Cultural

Studies (2024)) as well as the QAA Framework for higher education qualifications (FHEQ) (2024). These documents were used to establish the broad aims and parameters.

Other reference points which have been consulted in designing the programme include:

UWE Strategy 2030

UWE Enhancement framework for academic programmes and practice

Creative Skillset's 2012 and 2023 employment censuses

Advance HE's guide on Inclusive curriculum design in higher education

UKPSF (UK Professional Standards Framework) for teaching and learning in Higher Education.

**Part E: Regulations**

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.