Programme Specification

Award and title: BA (Hons) Film and Television Production

School:	School of the Arts
Subject area:	Media Production
Entry from academic year:	2024-25
in the month(s) of	September
Awarding institution:	York St John University
Teaching institution:	York St John University
Delivery location:	York St John University
Programme/s accredited by:	
Exit awards:	Certificate of Higher Education in Film and Television Production Diploma of Higher Education in Film and Television Production BA (Ord) in Film and Television Production
UCAS code / GTTR / other:	
Joint Honours combinations:	None
QAA subject benchmark statement(s):	Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (2019)
Mode/s of study:	Undergraduate periods of study[1] for: full time: three years part time: six years
Language of study:	English
Paired with Foundation Year	No
Study abroad opportunities:	Yes
Opt-in YSJU Placement Year opportunity:	Yes

Introduction and special features

Whether it's the biggest budget Hollywood films, low-budget indie dramas and documentaries or high-end television, production is booming in the UK. Choosing to study Film and Television Production at York St John University means you will be following in the footsteps of graduates who have won BAFTA awards, set up their own successful production companies, work in BBC children's TV, in drama and on popular shows such as *The Great British Bake-Off*. Our graduates work on every type of production, from micro-budget horror to Marvel *movies.* We can help you to develop your creative filmmaking practice and prepare you to start work in the fast-moving and demanding world of film and television.

By coming to the city of York, you'll be moving to one of the foremost production hubs in the country, and our partnership with Screen Yorkshire will place you at its centre. Whether you're looking for work experience on massive Hollywood productions, to see how a studio operates at Channel 4 or BBC Leeds, or just to shoot in great locations, you'll have the chance here.

You'll work toward skills in the creative and technical crafts of film and television production so that you can produce the innovative work that today's media industry demands, in whatever form and via whatever platform is most appropriate. From producing to directing, screenwriting to cinematography, editing to sound, development to distribution, you'll have the chance to sample all areas of production, from idea to screen, on original projects and live industry briefs.

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[1] The standard period of study will apply unless otherwise stated

Working in our new state-of-the-art Creative Centre, you will learn how to tell a compelling story – be it as a documentary or drama. And you won't just be making films for friends and family. You will use social media to promote your work to the widest possible audience, giving you the edge in a competitive employment world. You will produce a range of outputs, from video essays to short documentaries, travelogues, short film dramas, music videos and promos. In so doing, you'll learn about how to fund projects and get them seen, online, in broadcast and at film festivals.

You will also work in our studios to produce exciting television programming – for example, a magazine or formatted entertainment programme. Nothing beats the thrill of live production to hone your team working and creative skills.

In your final year you will be able to specialise in a particular format for your Final Project as well as develop more specialist skills aligned to your career choice and take part in a work-based learning project. You will receive relevant formative written and/or verbal feedback in every module to help you succeed. This will include the opportunity to submit draft work, take part in group and individual tutorials, presentations, seminars, group discussion and to receive practical advice and support from tutors during workshops.

The strength of our programme lies in the fact that we make everything you do industry-facing, and we are responsive to the rapid changes and developments in the media landscape. For example, the projects you work on may be for a live brief, and we invite practitioners in to help guide you and prepare you for industry. Production processes will mirror those in the real world, so you will not only learn the creative processes, but the accompanying business know-how that you will need to succeed – for example, budgeting, crowdfunding, branding and marketing.

The programme isn't all practical, however. We want you to engage with the context, history and theories of media that underpin our practice because we know that this will help make you a more rounded practitioner - one who can blend theory with practice, the critical with the creative. We also know that employers highly value great communicators who are critical thinking problem solvers.

Our aim is to produce creative, flexible practitioners who can work together in teams to produce and promote their work to reach the widest audience. Our industry contacts will give you vital insights into getting work in the industry. You can also be able to take advantage of our Study Abroad options to broaden your experience in another country.

The special features of this programme include:

- Access to industry-standard filmmaking and TV production facilities and equipment.
- Close industry links with a range of leading partners through Screen Yorkshire Connected Campus.
- Clear focus on future employability, media entrepreneurship, freelance, portfolio working and creative citizenship.
- Practical experiential learning in which theory informs practice.
- Opportunities to collaborate and produce a portfolio of high-quality work.
- Participation in annual Industry Week where you will meet professional media producers.
- International film festival visits, industry trips and masterclasses (there will be a cost to attend some fieldtrips, but where possible these will be subsidised by the University)

Admissions criteria

You must meet the minimum entry requirements which are published on the programme specific webpage.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (seehttps://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of Recognition of prior learning (RPL). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aim(s)

- To develop a strong grounding in key film and television production skills, processes and professional practices that enable you to tell compelling stories.
- To understand the diverse needs of different media audiences and apply that in practice whilst engaging with broader ethical and cultural debates around film and television production.
- To be a creative, critical and analytical thinker in dealing with a range of film and television production tasks and situations.

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 4

4.1 Work productively in a team by collaborating effectively in the production of media artefacts and/or completion of group assignments.

4.2 Demonstrate ability to deliver work to a given brief and making use of a problem-solving approach to specified tasks

4.3 Generate ideas, develop, and realise creative and critical work within different forms of writing and media.

4.4 Acquire and employ basic technical skills and industry practices in the creation of original film or TV content

4.5 Reflect upon own work with reference to academic, scholarly and industry conventions.

4.6 Identify and show understanding of the ethical, safety and legal considerations relevant to the production of media artefacts.

4.7 Engage with core debates and issues within film and TV industries.

Level 5

5.1 Employ industry-guided media production skills, processes and practices to produce content to given length, format, brief and deadline.

5.2 Demonstrate understanding of and compliance with intellectual property rights; health and safety concerns; ethical considerations; and appropriate, regulatory and legal codes in relation to the development and production of media artefacts for specific audiences.

5.3 Demonstrate confidence to actively experiment with different media forms, conventions and techniques and exhibit learning through the development and implementation of ideas.

5.4 Demonstrate ability to work productively both in a team and as a solo practitioner at different times through collaboration and leadership

5.5 Demonstrate a critical understanding of different media platforms, forms, and audiences.

5.6 Apply entrepreneurial skills in dealing with audiences, clients, sources, contacts, or collaborators, and in the development of own professional identity.

5.7 Critically reflect upon own work and skill development applying academic, scholarly and industry conventions.

5.8 Employ appropriate research skills and scholarly conventions in the critical analysis of the media

Level 6

6.1 Synthesise technical, creative and production management skills in the creation of original film or TV content for a range of audiences

6.2 Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of and engagement in processes linking pre-production, production, marketing, distribution, and reception of media or journalistic artefacts for specific audiences.

6.3 Plan, organise, manage and complete supervised, self-directed projects

6.4 Show development of individual proficiencies in aspects of media production.

6.5 Collate, organise and deploy ideas, sources and information to formulate arguments cogently and express them effectively.

6.6 Carry out research for dissertations, projects, or creative productions involving sustained independent and critical inquiry using appropriate academic conventions.

6.7 Show a sophisticated understanding of your ethical, legal and regulatory responsibilities in relation to working with sources, production and collaboration, dissemination and audience.

6.8 Operate in professional media through successful engagement and reflection with a work-based learning project

Programme structure

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Compulsory (C) or optional (O)	non-compensatable (NC) or compensatable (X)
						Module status
MDP4008M	4	1	Researching Media Industries	20	C	X
MDP4009M	4	1	TV Studio Production	20	C	X
MDP4010M	4	1	Location Production	20	C	X
MDP4011M	4	2	Media Contexts and Debates	20	C	X
MDP4012M	4	2	Drama Project	20	C	X
MDP4013M	4	2	Screenwriting	20	C	X
MDP5026M	5	1	Documentary Production	20	C	X
MDP5027M	5	2	Short Film Project	20	C	X
In Semester 1, you must choose two modules from MDP5015M, MDP5016M or MDRP5031M						
MDP5015M	5	1	Experimental Film Practice	20	O	X
MDP5016M	5	1	Transmedia Practice	20	O	X
MDP5031M	5	1	Genre	20	O	X
In Semester 2, you must choose either MDP5014M or MDP5017M						
MDP5014M	5	2	Indies: To Indiewood and Beyond	20	O	X
MDP5017M	5	2	Critical TV Studies	20	O	X
And you must choose one module from MDP5028M, MDP5029M or MDP5030M						
MDP5028M	5	2	Multicamera TV Studio	20	O	X
MDP5029M	5	2	Post Production: Don't just fix it make it in Post	20	O	X
MDP5030M	5	2	Sound Design	20	O	X
MDP6013M	6	1	Research Project	20	C	X
MDP6020M	6	1	Live Industry Project	20	C	X
MDP6021M	6	2	Final Project	40	C	NC
If you have taken MDP5028M you cannot choose to take MDP6017M If you have taken MDP5029M you cannot choose to take MDP6014M If you have taken MDP5030M you cannot choose to take MDP6018M						
MDP6015M	6	1	Cinematography and Production Design: Individual Project	20	O	X
MDP6016M	6	1	Directing: Individual Project	20	O	X
MDP6019M	6	1	Production Management: Individual Project	20	O	X
MDP6014M	6	2	Post-Production: Individual Project	20	O	X
MDP6017M	6	2	Multicamera Project	20	O	X
MDP6018M	6	2	Sound: Individual Project	20	O	X

Please note that not all options may be available every year as they depend on student demand and staff availability.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the table above as non-compensatable. A non-compensatable module is one that must be passed at the relevant level (with a mark of 40) in order to progress.

Learning, teaching and assessment

We believe that the best way for you to learn a practical subject like film and TV production is by doing it. So, while there are some lecture-style sessions, most of your taught time on this course will be spent in seminars and workshops and in studio production sessions, mirroring real-world practice.

Your learning journey through your programme will be clearly explained to you.

- At Level 4 you will focus on the acquisition of basic production skills and core knowledge around questions of form, context and practice as well as addressing the challenge of working in a group, building personal confidence and becoming more independent in your learning.

- At Level 5 you will have more opportunities for experimentation and creative risk taking as well as improving your skills working in collaboration with other students. You will be supported to create more impactful, ethically informed content that is able to meet diverse audience needs and to think about your emerging professional identity as a journalist or media producer.

- At Level 6 you will enjoy greater freedom to specialise in the skills that make you ready to start your career. These will include the opportunity for work placement, entrepreneurship, participation in live briefs and/or community projects. You will be encouraged to to take greater responsibility for understanding and reaching audiences through the completion of a range of self-directed creative and academic projects.

Assessment will be through presentations, essays, the submission of portfolios of practical work and reflective analysis from group work and productions.

You will have the opportunity to collaborate in producing group work with fellow students. Working together is a vital skill in media industries and central to future employability across a range of graduate pathways. From the very start of your programme you will learn methodologies to enable to you to collaborate in the production of media artefacts. This will be supported through workshop sessions where you will be introduced to the theory and practice of effective group working.

Assessment of group work will be carried out through the creation of portfolios in which you will be graded on your individual learning and understanding of relevant production processes and ideas demonstrated through observation, reflection and where appropriate completed projects, artefacts or action plans.

Much of the time you will be producing work for real products – social media, public websites, printed publications, live briefs for clients, live productions, work experience and so forth. And throughout your studies and practical work you will be supported and guided by an experienced team of academics and media practitioners, and our dedicated media technical team.

In each module you will be provided with a moment of formal formative assessment in which a tutor will provide detailed feedback on a piece of work. This may be written, recorded or verbal and will enable you to identify areas for improvement and development ahead of the final submission. You will also be required to engage in individual and small group tutorials and seminars which will provide support and on-going critique. Workshop sessions are characterised by a dialogical approach in which students are encouraged to seek feedback through collaborative approaches to learning and teaching including peer-to-peer.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's general regulations for undergraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensatable.

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:
- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
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Date written / revised:
Programme originally approved: