BADF15H   **FINAL MAJOR PROJECT (CAPSTONE)**

Level: 6

Credit Value: 45

Pre-Requisites: NONE

Module Description

This module builds on the research, organisational, creative and practical production experience and skills gained and developed in previous modules to produce an individual film/TV production (10 – 15 minutes in duration) based on a student-proposed exploration of a specific aspect of film/TV production. The exploration could be based on an aspect of production covered in previous modules, or a particular area of film/TV which reflects an individual interest. This module addresses the increased requirement for students to work independently at Level 6, and to take a more focused approach to enhance their career potential. Therefore, whilst students will individually maintain the role of writer/producer/ director on their productions, they may choose to specialise in a technical and creative role(s) in specific areas, e.g. cinematography, sound design, editing, lighting, production design, etc.

Research is a major aspect of this module. Therefore, it is expected that students will utilise skills developed across previous units to collate, analyse and present extensive research from a wide range of primary and secondary sources to fully support their practical work. This research will reflect a structured exploration with a clear purpose related to and reflected in the proposed film/TV production.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Produce and present in-depth, detailed and wide-ranging research material designed to support and justify creative ideas and production decisions.

2. Proficiently and creatively utilise screenwriting, pre-production and directorial skills learned in earlier modules, to devise productions which can be efficiently conveyed to a production team.

3. Proficiently and creatively utilise organisational production skills to take on the specific responsibilities as a producer in charge of a production team.

4. Creatively and proficiently demonstrate understanding and use of film language through research and application, to convey narrative information and evoke emotional response in their own productions.

5. Critically evaluate the production in direct relation to the research and research methods.

Indicative Content

- Regular support and advice in devising research methods and pathways to undertake and produce original primary research.
- Regular support and advice in devising research methods and pathways to collate and

analyse secondary research.

- Further instruction in presentation of research in support of the proposed production.
- Development of self-directed research of film/TV sources from early cinema to modern day to study the proposed use of specific aspects of film language, visual narrative, production techniques, historical and technical developments, etc., evidenced in online portfolios.
- Application of film language, visual narrative, production techniques, historical and technical developments, etc., to the devising of original scripts.
- Completion of pre-production documentation necessary to organise a film shoot to a specific time scale and budget.
- On-going advice in organising and maintaining an efficient production schedule.
- Group work undertaken to emulate and reflect industry practice.
- Individual production roles undertaken to emulate and reflect industry practice.
- Self-evaluation of own production role via online blogs.
- Evaluation of finished product.

Learning & Teaching Strategies

This module is primarily student-led, as it is designed to facilitate the independent research and production skills required at Level 6. Further to general research techniques learned in previous modules, students will receive some advice in research techniques specific to each proposed production. Teaching is mainly delivered through individual tutorials. Initial tutorials cover the presentation of research and production proposals. Further tutorials will provide support in the form of advice following on-going progress reports and discussion of the progress of online research portfolios and evaluative production blogs. Levels of professionalism and organisational abilities will also be discussed. Final tutorials will be devoted to evaluative critiques of finished productions with particular attention paid to the relationship of the value of the research to the production process.

Assessment

Hand-in	Aggregate (Yes/No)	Semester Due
Online Research Portfolio (3000 words) (40% of module) LO1, LO3, LO4	Yes	Sem 2, Mid
Online Production Blog (20% of module) LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5	Yes	Sem 2, End
Completed digital film production (10 – 15 minutes duration), pre-production portfolio and (30% of module) LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4	Yes	Sem 2, End
Online Evaluative Report (1000 words) (10% of module) LO5	Yes	Sem 2, End

Specific Learning Resources

- Multi-camera TV Studio with lighting rig and green screen facility
- Digital camera and lighting kits
- Digital Sound recording kits
- Editing suite with Adobe Premier Pro CS6 software
- Lecture Theatre or Classroom with Multimedia Facilities including Blu-Ray and

Surround Sound (5.1 or similar)
- Large screen for projection (e.g. Lecture Theatre)
- CD/DVD resources (shown in lectures and/or available on loan from University of Essex and Colchester Institute Libraries)
- Reference books and journals (available on loan from University of Essex and Colchester Institute Libraries)

Reference List

Highly Recommended
Andersson, B., Geyen, J.L. (2012) *The DSLR Filmmaker's Handbook : Real-world Production Techniques*. Indianapolis, John Wiley
Cook, P. (2007) *The Cinema Book 3rd Edition*, London, British Film Institute
Musburger, R. B. (2010) *Single-camera video production (5th edition),* Abingdon, Focal Press
Charity, T. (2009) *Film: the 50 most influential film-makers in the world.* London, A&C Black

Recommended
Gates, R. (1999) *Production Management for Film and Video (3rd Edition),* Abingdon, Focal Press
Murphy, R. (2009) *The British Cinema Book 3rd Edition*, London, Palgrave Macmillan

Background Reading
Bushby, A. (1994) *A-Z of film, television and video terms,* Abingdon, Routledge
Mackendrick, A. and Cronin, P. (2006) *On Film-making.* London, Faber and Faber
Eisenstein, S. (1986) *The Film Sense.* London, Faber and Faber

Websites

http://www.bfi.org.uk/
http://sightandsounddigital.bfi.org.uk/ (subscription required)