

Programme Specification

A Programme Specification provides a concise summary of the main features of a programme and its intended learning outcomes. It is intended to be used by prospective students, current students, academic staff and potential employers.

Programme Title:	
BA (Hons) Film & Television Production; BA (Hons) Film & Television Production with Foundation Year	
Programme (AOS) Code(s):	BG1FTV1 BG1FTV4
UCAS Code:	PW36
Name of Final Award:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours, BA (Hons)
Level of Qualification:	Level 6
Regime of Delivery:	Attendance
Mode(s) of Delivery:	Full Time
Typical Length of Study (Years):	3 years; 4 years
Professional Body Recognition / Accreditation (including specific requirements where applicable):	Screen Skills, previously called Skillset (from January 2015)

Brief Description of the Programme

BA (Hons) Film & TV Production is designed to equip students with the necessary experience to embark on a career in production, either in the film and/or television industries or shooting for the web. This is a practical and creative production-based course, allowing focus on developing the skills demanded of scripting, planning, managing, shooting and editing films of various genres, for different audiences from pre-production through to post-production. Option modules in the second and third year enable specialisation including creating art films or music videos, live events and multi-camera filming and writing for specific genres. The degree also includes film and media study and analysis. The course is aimed primarily at those who have successfully completed A levels, a National Diploma or similar, and have a desire to work within creative industries in the context of film and television production.

Why students should choose this award:

This is a very practical course with a strong focus on employability. Distinctive features concern a focus on advanced skills development, critical reflection and development of emotional intelligence through team-based and client oriented production work. The course is part of a PlacementPlus University, and offers opportunities for industry placements and for gaining many transferable skills.

Programme Aims

The main educational aims of the programme are to develop:

1	Generic key skills, development of emotional intelligence over time via the communication required of client-based collaborative work
2	A high level of teamwork skills specifically related to practical production work.
3	Problem solving skills related to practical production work.
4	A range of practical production skills and knowledge relevant to a variety of practices and formats, with emphasis on development of multi-skilled graduates who have a specific propensity for high production value yet relatively low cost generation of media assets.
5	The ability to research and critically evaluate film and television production project work
6	The ability to critically evaluate technological developments that are relevant to film and television production.

Programme Learning Outcomes

The Bucks Graduate Attributes focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities, who are equipped to operate in the 21st Century labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens. The attributes are developed through the programme.

ID	Learning Outcome
On successful completion of the programme a graduate will be able to:	
Graduate Attribute: Knowledge and its application (K)	
K1	Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with film and television production, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of television, film and filmmaking for internet and mobile applications
K2	Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of filmmaking, and of the way in which those principles have developed such as through the impact of new and emerging technologies
K3	Deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry relating to filmmaking, and the film, television and related Internet-based media industries.
K4	Present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgments in accordance with production design and evaluation
K5	Appreciate the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge concerning filmmaking practice
Graduate Attribute: Creativity (C)	

C1	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects of filmmaking practice, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge to inform production planning and design, at least some of which is at, or informed by, contemporary production processes and audience behaviours.
C2	Apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, such as when adapting and deploying techniques for different genres, formats and audiences
C3	Demonstrate conceptual understanding that enables the student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to devise strategies and to solve problems using conventional ideas and techniques pertaining to production design, pre-production, production processes, post-production and distribution of media assets to describe and comment upon particular aspects of current filmmaking, television production and related new media practice.
C4	Apply the main methods of enquiry in the context of filmmaking, television or Internet-based production, and the ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of productions in relation to their audiences
Graduate Attribute: Social and ethical awareness and responsibility (S)	
S1	Exhibit the ability to analyse film and media and their audiences in relation to the social and global context of their work.
S2	Demonstrate ethical and cultural awareness in practical and academic decision-making, and in the analysis of others' productions.
Graduate Attribute: Leadership and self-development (L)	
L1	Manage their own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources (for example, refereed research articles and/or original materials appropriate to the discipline)
L2	Demonstrate initiative and a mature capacity to make informed, independent decisions in industry-relevant, creative and scholarly contexts
L3	Exhibit professionalism in collaboration and communicate successfully with a team

Programme Structure

Programmes are structured in stages. The number of stages will vary depending on the mode (e.g. full-time, part-time), duration and location of study which will be detailed in the Programme Handbook.

Modules are set at a specific academic level and listed as either core (compulsory) or optional. The level indicates the relative academic difficulty which will increase through the programme. Passing modules will reward you with academic credit. The amount of credits will depend on the complexity of the module and the level of effort required, which is measured in 'notional learning hours'.

Our [Academic Advice webpages](#) provide more information on the structure of taught awards offered by the University.

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to sector developments.

Foundation Level (Optional for students on degree programmes)

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
FY026	Preparing for Success Knowledge and Creativity	N/A	C	Yes
FY027	Preparing for Success Self Development and Responsibility	N/A	C	Yes
FY028	Inquiry and Research Skills	N/A	C	Yes
FY015	Introduction to Moving Image Production	N/A	C	Yes

Level Four

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
TV411	Screen Language	15	C	Yes
TV412	Technical Skills: Camera and Editing	15	C	Yes
TV413	Documentary Production	15	C	Yes
TV414	Writing for Film & Television: Documentary	15	C	Yes
TV415	Screen Form and Platform	15	C	Yes
TV416	Technical Skills: Lighting and Sound	15	C	Yes
TV417	Fiction Production	15	C	Yes
TV418	Writing for Film & Television: Writing Fiction	15	C	Yes

Level Five

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
TV512	Art Film Production	15	O	Yes
TV531	Advanced Screenwriting & Pitching	15	O	Yes

TV530	Commercial Short Form Production	15	O	Yes
TV514	Breaking Conventions; Fantasy Genres	15	C	Yes
TV515	Introduction to Multi-camera Productions and Events: technical techniques and output	15	O	Yes
TV516	Film Drama Production	15	O	Yes
TV529	Advanced Editing and Compositing	15	C	Yes
TV518	Music Video Production	15	O	Yes
TV519	Writing and Producing Fiction: TV Series bible	15	O	Yes
TV520	Breaking Conventions: Crime and Realist Genres	15	O	Yes
TV521	Introduction to Multi-camera Productions and Events: Production and event planning	15	O	Yes
TV522	Client Production with PlacementPlus	15	C	Yes
TV528	Directing for Film	15	O	Yes
TV526	Pre-Production and Fiction Production Management	15	O	Yes
TV533	Advanced Camera, Lighting & Studio Multicamera Production	15	C	Yes

Level Six

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
TV604	Industry Practice Research Project	30	O	Yes
TV605	Independent Script Project	30	O	Yes
TV606	Independent Production Project	30	O	Yes
TV612	PlacementPlus Work-Based Project in Film or Media	30	O	Yes
TV617	Professional Preparation 1	15	C	Yes
TV618	Professional Preparation 1A	15	C	Yes

TV620	New Media Spaces, Narratives and Identities	15	C	
TV621	Applied Multi-camera Productions and Live Events - Crew competencies	15	O	Yes
TV622	Creative Group Production	15	O	Yes
TV623	Non-Fiction Storytelling - Documentary	15	O	Yes
TV624	New Media: Creativity, Society and Audience	15	C	Yes
TV625	Applied Multi-camera Productions and Live Events – Managing the production	15	O	Yes
TV626	Individual Micro Film Production	15	O	Yes
TV627	Factual Storytelling – Broadcast News & Current Affairs	15	O	Yes

Learning and Teaching Activities

Please see the [Academic Advice pages](#) for a description of learning and teaching activities that are recognised by the University. Detailed information on this specific programme is outlined below:

The teaching, learning and assessment methods for the BA (Hons) Film & Television Production have drawn substantially upon Communication, media, film and cultural studies QAA benchmarks.

Teaching and Learning Methods

These respond to sections 6.1 to 6.6 of the subject benchmarks and approaches include:

1. Lectures, which inform and develop subject –specific knowledge and understanding.
2. Demonstrations and workshops, which will develop proficiency in the utilisation of production and post-production equipment for camera operation, lighting, recording of sound and editing filmic content.
3. Work simulations, live projects, client productions and work experience that will develop student knowledge and skills for employability.
4. Group seminars and tutorials during which key theories and contemporary issues will be discussed and the capacity to reflect critically on film and media developed.
5. Group project work that will provide opportunities to further develop production skills and to experiment with the medium.
6. Individual tutorials that will provide support and guidance dependent upon each individual’s needs and career aspirations
7. Use of a range of technology systems for the progressive acquisition of production skills that will prepare students for the technologically challenging work environment
8. Guided viewing on *Box of Broadcasts* and short screenings that will broaden the experience and further develop the conceptual and critical understanding of moving image forms.
9. Delivery of course content is complemented by contributions from industry professionals such as scriptwriters, directors, producers, editors and camera operators, and from those in new media distribution, interactive media and transmedia.
10. Students’ studies are supported by a wide range of production and post-production resources, by Blackboard, digital reading lists, e-books and where relevant, video conferencing on Blackboard Collaborate Ultra.

Contact Hours

The objective is to develop students as independent critical thinkers with professional filmmaking skills. To achieve this a selection of lectures, master classes, seminars, and workshops are provided along with a supplementary selection of online learning resources. The course makes use of contact hours in a variety of ways.

In pre-production (scriptwriting, documentary research), students receive tuition on the correct format and techniques and are then required to develop their own viable creative projects. These assignments are then refined via tutorial feedback with a tutor.

Within production-oriented modules contact hours are initially dedicated to developing students' skills in the use of equipment and such like through practical demonstration and through experimentation that is guided and supported by a tutor. As students' skills develop the mode of study evolves towards individual and group productions being undertaken more independently with occasional but carefully targeted tutorial support.

In the context of post-production elements students develop technical understanding and apply techniques that are then assessed within exercises and project work. These techniques are then further developed and incorporated into final year projects.

Theory is embedded via a process by which students watch and analyse film, television and other platforms and read suggested texts, to gain critical and contextual understanding of debates from the perspective of being filmmakers. Techniques used by professionals are identified and discussed with a view to being used, adapted and refined in new work. Sessions are lecture and seminar based with a gradual shift over three years from lecturer led time to student initiated assignment responses, thus encouraging students to explore the subject of film, television and other platforms for themselves. In the final year theoretical study focuses on the contemporary and innovative, with emphasis on current platforms and practitioners who deploy innovative methods of production and distribution.

Students' guided independent study includes level-appropriate access to equipment outside sessions, to enhance their skills.

Work-related experience

Students create films to client briefs for outside agencies on core module TV522 Client Production with PlacementPlus. On optional module TV518 Music Video Production they work on live briefs for musicians and gain experience in working with managers, agents or outside bodies. On TV515 and TV521 students work on live briefs. At Level 6, the option TV612 PlacementPlus Work-Based Project in Film or Media features a written report on a work-based area negotiated with an employer. TV617 and TV618 Professional Preparation enables students to choose options that include vocational experience, creative job-hunting and client-based production.

Additional Course Costs

There are costs associated with all studies, additional to the tuition fee, which require consideration, when planning and budgeting for expenditure. Costs are indicative and for the total length of the course shown unless otherwise stated and will increase with inflation; depending on the programme they may include equipment, printing, project materials, study trips, placement activities, DBS and/or other security checks.

Books and other Texts: Students may be required to purchase texts and journals to support their study programme. The minimum, average cost of books for students studying on a degree course is assumed as **£100 per year**.

Printing: We recommend a minimum budget of **£50 per year** for printing costs. This relates to the printing of written documents through the photocopiers.

Equipment Costs Students will need to purchase a 1TB external hard drive with powered USB 3 connection. The make and model used are selected by the students so costs are variable.

Graduation: Graduation costs per student are estimated at £100 - £200 total. This is an optional cost for all students as attending graduation is not a requirement in order to have a degree conferred.

Contact Hours

1 unit of credit is the equivalent of 10 notional learning hours. Full time undergraduate students study 120 credits (1200 hours) and full-time postgraduate students study 180 credits (1800 hours) per year or 'stage' of the course.

Course Stage	Scheduled Activities (Hours)	Guided Independent Study (Hours)	Placement / Study Abroad / Work Based Learning (Hours)
Foundation Year	336	864	0
Year One	454	746	0
Year Two	184.5 core + options 144.5 -257	292.5 core + options 343-455.5	[123 included under Guided Independent Study]
Year Three	99 core + module and dissertation options 50-202	461 core + module and dissertation options 398 – 543.5	40 core + 80 dissertation option

Assessment Methods

The [Assessment and Examination webpages](#) provide further information on how assignments are marked and moderated, including a description of assessment activities. These also include further information about how feedback on assessed work is provided to students, including our commitment to ensure this is provided to students within 15 working days (the 'three-week turnaround').

The following assessment activities are used on this programme:

1. Group and individual portfolios of written work and audio visual content that will include research, pre-production, production and post-production work submissions
2. Critical self-evaluation and role analysis in the form of individual reflective written evaluations.
3. Peer evaluation in the form of discussion of work in groups.
4. Opportunity for client briefs, external placement/work-based learning reports that will enhance each student's capacity to adopt professional working practices.
5. Tasks and projects aimed at the assessment of specific production skills which will target each individual's career aspirations.
6. Individual and group oral presentations with logs.
7. Film and media essays and textual analyses that are culturally, industrially and technologically contextualised.
8. Exercises conveying critical understanding through practice.
9. Self-evaluation through external industry professional feedback on their production work.

Academic Progression

During the Foundation Year, students will be exposed to a variety of summative and formative assessments whilst developing the academic skills to be a successful student at university; course content and Learning Outcomes strongly relate to students developing their knowledge and understanding of the subjects being studied and assessed

Levels 4 and 5 focus on the development of technical skills through the Technical Skills and Advanced Technical Skills modules, while at Level 6 the Professional Practice module focuses on more self-management and entrepreneurial skills and elements that will duly prepare students for a largely freelance workplace.

Aligned with this, students are introduced via the Screen Language and Screen Form and Platform modules at Level 4 to critical, contextualised study of film and media, and to methods by which they might theorize their predominantly practical work and contextualize this through academic rigor. This is enhanced with due continuity at Level 5 via the modules Breaking Film and TV Conventions: Fantasy Genres and Breaking Film and TV Conventions: Crime and Realist Genres, and these in turn prepare students for the academic rigor required for New Media Spaces, Narratives and Identities, New Media: Creativity, Society and Audience and for their dissertation study at Level 6.

Classification

Calculation of final award:

Level 5 - 33% / Level 6 – 67%

For full details of assessment regulations for all taught programmes please refer to our [Results webpages](#). These include the criteria for degree classification.

Admissions Requirements

Please see the [Application webpages](#) for more information on how to apply, including a statement on how we support students from a variety of backgrounds. Please also see our [general entry](#)

[requirements](#) for taught programmes. Applicants who do not meet our published entry requirements are encouraged to contact our admissions team for further advice and guidance.

Typical applicant profile and any programme-specific entry requirements

For BA (Hons) Film & Television Production (3 years)

The successful applicant is expected to have an eye for the visual image and storytelling, demonstrated through creative projects they have attempted. Good written and verbal communication skills are also essential with a good command of English language, media literacy and IT skills.

The entrant will also be expected to have a genuine interest in all forms of audio visual content.

Students are normally expected to enter at Level 4, but can be admitted to any level of the course which is considered suitable, after a review of previous academic credits or consideration of other

learning or experience relevant to the subject matter of this course, using the Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme (CATS).

Applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements for the 3-year programme, or those who do not feel fully prepared for a Level 4 course, will be considered for the 4-year programme including a Foundation Year.

Please see the University's [General Entry Requirement](#) webpages for requirements for entry at this level.

Do applicants required a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check?

No

Opportunities for students on successful completion of the programme

Graduates from this course will be equipped to pursue careers in production, either in the film and/or television industries, shooting for the web or other areas of the media. Our graduates are prepared technically and creatively for industry skills and professionalism. Examples of our graduates' career roles include:

- Television director/writer/series director/edit producer
- Feature film assistant visual effects editor
- Music video director
- Working for major broadcasting companies including Premier League Productions, Sky Sports, BT Sport and Cloudbass.
- Corporate film production company director
- Camera operator
- Editor
- Production assistant □ Producer of online media □ Copywriter.

Further opportunities include working for streaming services, e-sports, and on video games.

This degree also provides opportunities for students to develop many transferable skills, including the ability to collaborate effectively in small groups or larger teams, dealing with external organisations, clients and creative artists, leadership, developing a CV, presentation skills, digital expertise, researching and planning a project, time management and knowledge of industry regulations and practices. These are applicable to employment in film, television and other areas of the media industries, to many other careers and to further industry training or higher education after graduation.

A wide range of post-graduate studies are also suitable for BA (Hons) Film and Television graduates, including MA courses in Film Production and in Screenwriting.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules. Please refer to our [Credit Accumulation webpages](#) for further guidance.

Student Support

During the course of their studies, students will be supported in the following ways:

- At the start of their studies all students will receive a full **induction** to the programme which will include introduction to the staff responsible for delivering the course, and access to library and IT facilities
- The **Programme Handbook** will outline the exact nature of the course and how it is structured, including the availability of option modules
- Each student will be allocated a **Personal Tutor** who will support their academic development, be able to advise and guide them with their studies and, where necessary, give advice on study options
- Students will be able to access our full range of **support services**, including the Learning Development Unit for skills and study support, the Library, the Careers and Employability Team, Student Finance Team, Accommodation and Counselling Services

Programme specific support (if applicable)

Media Resources, including Technical Tutors (teaching) and Technical Demonstrators, support programmes in the School.

Appendices

Quality Assurance

Awarding Body:	Buckinghamshire New University
Language of Study:	English
QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s):	Communication, Media, Film & Cultural Studies
Assessment Regulations:	<i>Academic Assessment Regulations</i> , accessible via the Academic Advice webpages (https://bucks.ac.uk/students/academicadvice)
Does the Fitness to Practise procedure apply to this programme?	No

Ethics Sub-committee	
Date Published / Updated:	Sept 2020, Dec 2020, July 2021, Jan 2022
Date programme re-approval required:	December 2099

Other awards available on programme (Exit Qualifications)

Please refer to the *Academic Qualifications Framework* for Exit Qualifications recognised by the University and credit and module requirements.

Name of Exit Qualification:	Ordinary Degree
Full name of Qualification and Award Title:	Batchelor of Arts, B.A. Film and Television Production
Credits requirements:	300 Credits
Module requirements:	<p>ALL 120 Credits at Level 4 - TV411, TV412, TV413, TV415, TV416, TV417, TV418</p> <p>ALL 120 Credits at Level 5, TV514, TV 522, TV529 and TV533. And 60 credits from the following option modules: TV512, TV515, TV516, TV519, TV520, TV521, TV526, TV528, TV530, TV531</p> <p>PLUS the following Level 6 modules: (excluding the Dissertation or equivalent)</p> <p>Module Code TV617; TV618; TV620; TV624</p>

Learning Outcome

Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with film and television production, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of television, film and filmmaking for internet and mobile applications

Appreciate the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge concerning filmmaking practice

Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of filmmaking, and of the way in which those principles have developed such as through the impact of new and emerging technologies

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects of filmmaking practice, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge to inform production planning and design, at least some of which is at, or informed by, contemporary production processes and audience behaviors

Name of Exit Qualification:	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
Full name of Qualification and Award Title:	Diploma of Higher Education DipHE Film and Television Production

Credits requirements:	240 Credits
Module requirements:	ALL 120 Credits at Level 4 ALL 120 Credits at Level 5 Module Code:TV411, TV412, TV413, TV415, TV416, TV417, TV418;TV514, TV 522, TV529, TV533. And 60 credits from the following option modules: TV512, TV515, TV516, TV519, TV520, TV521, TV526, TV528, TV530, TV531
Learning Outcome	
Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of filmmaking, and of the way in which those principles have developed.	
Apply the main methods of enquiry in the context of filmmaking, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of productions in relation to their audiences	
Apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, such as when adapting and deploying techniques for different genres, formats and audiences	
Demonstrate conceptual understanding that enables the student to devise strategies and to solve problems using conventional ideas and techniques pertaining to production design, preproduction, production processes, post-production and distribution of media assets.	
Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with audio-visual production and evidence an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of television and film.	

Name of Exit Qualification:	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)
Full name of Qualification and Award Title:	Certificate of Higher Education CertHE Film and Television Production
Credits requirements:	120 Credits
Module requirements:	ALL 120 Credits at Level 4 Module Code: TV411, TV412, TV413, TV415, TV416, TV417, TV418
Learning Outcome	
Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of filmmaking.	
Deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry relating to filmmaking	

Present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgments in accordance with production design and evaluation

Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with film and television production.

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of key aspects of filmmaking practice.