



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

BA (Hons) Filmmaking

Course Code: BAFLM

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Award and Title

BA (Hons) Filmmaking (BAFLM)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at OCT/2023

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Filmmaking
Contained Awards	Bachelor of Arts Filmmaking Diploma of Higher Education Filmmaking, Certificate of Higher Education Filmmaking
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years (full time, campus based)
Part Time Study	There is no part time route on this course.
Location(s) of Delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .
Course Fees	Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations)

There is a 40-credit pass/fail module (Making Stories 1: Hearing, Listening, Seeing - Introduction to the Moving Image and Sound) in the first semester of level 4.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Julius Ayodeji
Your Academic Advisor	Students will be allocated an Academic Advisor during induction
Your Course Administrator	Di Kilbride d.kilbride@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Sandwich or Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

There is a placement/experiential learning opportunity for the students at level 6 in the Collaborative Practice 2 module.

Length

35 hours minimum as approved by your tutor

Location

Students usually work with various companies or peers on relevant projects in the Leeds region. Further information on the allocation process is provided by the module leader prior to option choices being made.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

N/A

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

The previous iteration of our BA Hons Filmmaking was accredited by ScreenSkills. We are already in discussion with ScreenSkills to acquire accreditation for our new BA Hons Filmmaking. The ScreenSkills Tick is awarded to courses and apprenticeship provision that has been thoroughly assessed against strict industry criteria. It is the quality mark for employer approved provision in the Creative Industries. Students do not have to register or do anything to obtain accreditation. They automatically get this by graduating from an accredited Course Overview. Part of the accreditation process is ScreenSkills chatting to graduates from the course and they will be able to do this at the end of this academic year so we expect to begin the accreditation process at that point.

This is a practise-based course which embraces filmmaking as a collaborative, interdisciplinary art. We place story, in all its forms, at the centre of the BA (Hons) Filmmaking course, the driving force of the Curriculum, the energy which will directly influence every creative and practical decision made to realise the complexity of a film. Each student is encouraged to think of themselves as a *filmmaker*, that is, thinker, maker and creator. Their practice will be informed by theory and research into the area of creativity and acknowledges an equal emphasis of analytical, technical and creative skills.

Through lectures, practical workshops and production, students are required to develop a detailed and imaginative understanding of what story could be, whilst also learning the driving principles and essential practices of mise en scene that enable the communication of a story and its realisation to screen.

It is story, and then storytelling, which structures the through composed curriculum encompassing ongoing film analysis, research and creative workshops together with documentary, drama and experimental filmmaking, where we teach students the technical skills necessary for filmmaking alongside a developing understanding of film language and the intricacies of its grammar.

The course focuses on developing independent thinking, the ability to communicate and justify creative choices. This is what will enable the student to progress into the industry on completion of the course. In the tradition of both an art college and a film school, the course values experimentation and creativity, intellectual engagement, technical application, risk taking, cultural exploration, ambition, collaboration, commitment and, not least, content. There is a strong emphasis on student centred learning; we teach the principles of filmmaking whilst also nurturing and drawing out the individual voice, encouraging each student to bring originality and authenticity to their work.

https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-communication-media-film-and-cultural-studies.pdf?sfvrsn=28e2cb81_4

Course Overview

Aims

This course is designed for students who want a creative and professionally led three-year study in filmmaking. The course offers alternative pathways in which the student can pursue and explore filmmaking in experimental, documentary, and drama genres.

The purpose of the course is to offer students a thorough grounding in the craft and experience of filmmaking, involving them in the processes of identification and negotiation of specific goals. Production activity is designed to promote team productivity and creativity and to instil a culture of professional, supportive behaviour. Students are educated in developing creative content supported by technical craft. They are encouraged to develop their personal creative voice. The aim is for them to graduate as independent thinkers as well as technically skilled and imaginative filmmakers.

The course has a strong creative practice ethos which embraces film as collaborative practice. All students are encouraged to collaborate with each other, with many opportunities to practice skills and techniques at all levels, as well as building relationships that are sustained after graduation and often lead to lifelong collaborations and partnerships.

The course aims to introduce students to the art, craft and business of filmmaking and to develop students' potential as creative filmmakers. The course therefore aims to give students the broadest possible cultural grounding in filmmaking traditions. As the course progresses students will gain practical experience of written and visual storytelling, sonic storytelling, making supported by research and development, a range of communication skills, flexible creativity and problem solving. The course design values and includes opportunities for risk taking and experimentation.

The design is based on the concept of the integrated filmmaker or what Erik Knudsen terms the 'Total Filmmaker', the idea of filmmaker as thinker, maker and creator. This approach develops the idea of practice informed by theory into the area of creativity and acknowledges an equal emphasis of analytical, technical and creative skills. The design of the course has therefore focused on a number of 'pillars' of knowledge around which it builds its content. These are areas of *history of film, the language of film and its practices, storytelling and creative making*. Each module is constructed with a number of these pillars in mind ensuring that each year we add a further progressive element to such knowledge. So, the structure upholds such concepts throughout each level of provision.

Each level is also classified according to a theme for each year. So, at level 4 we aim to so engage students in the history, film language, film practices, storytelling and making. This means that all content in Level 4 is focused on such engagement. At level 5 the aim is to contextualise filmmaking traditions and to open up new possibilities to students and finally at level 6 we aim to foster a large degree of independence in both the study and creative work that students undertake. This will also require students to begin to prepare themselves for life outside the confines of the institution.

The aims of the programme are to encourage students to:

- Think and become analytical
- Create films and projects

- Become familiar with visual and sonic storytelling practices
- Develop sophisticated communication skills
- Flexibly apply their creativity
- Understand how to solve complex problems
- Develop technical competencies
- Work effectively in teams

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate an informed and original approach to idea generation and storytelling, engaging with experimentation which involves creative decision making and risk taking in order to develop a consistent visual and sonic language.
- 2 Demonstrate intellectual engagement with all aspects of your film practice and a critical awareness of the social, historical and cultural impact of traditional and contemporary film.
- 3 Demonstrate skilled and insightful communication and a creative and reflexive approach to collaboration in the varied stages of the filmmaking process.
- 4 Demonstrate entrepreneurial skills informed by a developed understanding of the wider professional, legal, ethical and commercial structures linking production and exhibition of film within a global context.
- 5 Demonstrate developed understanding and skill in a range of film practice leading to advanced understanding and skill whilst engaging with contemporary techniques in digital literacy.
- 6 Demonstrate a clear understanding of employment opportunities within the sector.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Activities are provided through seminars, tutorials, talks, discussions and screenings, studio and lab-based workshops and practical exercises encouraging students to explore, debate and reflect upon questions of creativity. Whilst there are occasional online tutorials for some of the modules, the course is delivered face to face as its predominant mode of delivery. The intention is to provide a firm grounding in key concepts and concerns of filmmaking for a range of screen media, whilst also giving emphasis to the creation of new ideas through provocation, stimulation and inspiration. We aim to build the student's confidence through a range of exercises and processes that encourage them to evaluate their own and other people's work effectively.

Critical discussion and peer and staff formative feedback is embedded in all project and written work. Workshops, seminars and tutorials will provide opportunities for staff to discuss student work at planning, preparation and ongoing stages.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Contextualising Practice 1 (40 credits)	Y	Contextualising Practice 1 – continued (40 credits)	Y
Making Stories (40 credits)	Y	Creating Fiction: Imagined Realities (20 credits)	Y
		Creating Documentary: Observed Realities (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Contextualising Practice 2 (40 credits)	Y	Contextualising Practice 2 - continued (40 credits)	Y
Making Stories 2 (40 Credits)	Y	Making Stories 2 - continued (40 Credits)	Y
Collaborative Practice 1 (40 credits)	Y	Collaborative Practice 1 - continued (40 credits)	Y

The following modules are to facilitate Study Abroad options for home and International students. Home students will be able to either study abroad for the full year or for semester 2 only. There won't be an option to study abroad in Semester 1. International students will have either semester1 or semester 2 entry points.

Filmmaking 1: Production (40 credits)	N	Filmmaking 1: Production (40 credits)	N
Filmmaking 2: R&D (20 credits)	N	Filmmaking 2: R&D (20 credits)	N

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Contextualising Practice 3 (40 credits)	Y	Contextualising Practice 3 - continued (40 credits)	Y
Major Project (40 credits)	Y	Major Project - continued (40 credits)	Y
Collaborative Practice 2 (40 credits)	Y	Collaborative Practice 2 - continued (40 credits)	Y

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities, and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

All levels of study are assessed by coursework predominately, with some practical assessments.

The course includes varied assessment strategies appropriate to the learning outcomes of each module. The assessment strategy is designed to facilitate student achievement of the learning outcomes. A range of strategies identified as appropriate to the module's learning outcomes, are offered in order to give students an experience of a range of different modes of presentation. The course team will provide assignment briefings that will include a description of the task, the learning outcomes and the assessment criteria, plus clear indications concerning the modes of assessment, marking and grading practices. All modules include and outline formative assessment elements.

Assessment methods include:

- Continuous Assessment
- Project output
- Written assignments
- Portfolio
- Journal
- Peer assessment

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	228 hours	212 hours	214 hours
Independent Study	972 hours	988 hours	951 hours
Placement	N/A	N/A	35 hours

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and Opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.