



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MA Cinematography

Course Code: MCINE

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Award and Title: MA Cinematography (MCINE)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 11/2025

General Information

Award	Master of Arts Cinematography
Contained awards	Post Graduate Certificate Cinematography Post Graduate Diploma Cinematography
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 months (full time, campus based)
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 are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

N/A

Timetable

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.

Key Contacts

Your course director TBC

Your course administrator Adnan Khanzada filmcourseadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

1. Develop and stimulate a community of critical enquiry into contemporary Cinematography practices through local, national, and global contexts;
2. Expand and uncover students' potential through the encouragement and support of working on projects across a range of practice-based exercises;
3. Foster critical and creative dialogues between students, academics and industry professionals;
4. Develop and test ideas across a range of appropriate platforms exploring the creative potential and visual nature of cinematography
5. Develop public exposure for students' work in the form of screenings and development of a showreel
6. Provide an environment and ethos for graduates, practitioners, professionals and those working within a diverse context to come together in supportive, collaborative enquiries, whilst intensifying and deepening their own contextual practices;
7. Appreciate the impact of new technologies;
8. Empower students to make effective use of reflective strategies for the development and evaluation of self-managed learning and professional practice.

Course learning outcomes

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

1	Demonstrate an ability to work effectively with others, through collaboration, collective endeavour and negotiation with an understanding of and respect for the filmmaker and filmmaking process
2	Possess a high level of individual competence in and understanding of the relevant specialist skills in line with PG level study and be able to fully deploy this knowledge in making original, experimental and creative work
3	Develop their understanding of film language and characterisation of light and motion and, using image, demonstrate through their creative practice effective communication to an audience.
4	Engage with, and demonstrate through own practice an understanding of the organisational, managerial, interpretive, image manipulating techniques which are within the technical and creative responsibilities of the Cinematographer

5	Demonstrate the ability to critically appraise and apply appropriate research techniques relevant to the field and to communicate these findings through a range of formats appropriate to both scholarly and professional contexts.
6	Demonstrate research, examine and explore further study, employability and other future options within Cinematography

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Activities are provided through lectures, seminars, tutorials, talks, discussions and screenings, encouraging students to explore, debate and reflect upon questions of creativity. We recognise that students bring to the Northern Film School widely differing experiences of image making and culture and so have devised our programme to be able to meet different interests and levels of experience. The emphasis is on giving access to a wide range of ideas from industry and informed speakers, as well as providing a broad variety of films and other forms of moving image material to debate and discuss.

Critical discussion and peer and staff formative feedback is embedded in all project work. Lectures, workshops, seminars and tutorials will provide opportunities for staff to discuss student work at planning, preparation and ongoing stages. There will be opportunities for feedback from industry.

The intention is to provide a firm grounding in key concepts and concerns of Cinematography 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 independently and effectively.

Our aim is to provide regular Masterclasses for students, both at the school and at other venues. Masterclasses and seminars with filmmakers give students the opportunity to learn from and interact with established and experienced professionals.

The course places peer review and formative assessment at the heart of the course delivery through regular seminars, tutorials and workshops. These assessments are key to developing student learning and are closely aligned to the intended learning outcomes. Opportunities for formative feedback are scheduled explicitly into all modules. The aim is to engage all students in critical debate about their own and their peer's work in order to develop a supportive community where the learning that takes place between them is as important as the learning delivered by staff. Individual tutorials are made available to support individual student work prior to summative submissions. We offer a mix of theory and practice in all of our modules.

We define the *masterclass* as a practice-based workshop, lecture or seminar led by our expert staff, together with some guest appearances by prominent industry specialists who come to the University as visiting lecturers. In this context it is often the case that these sessions are open to a larger body of students from across the University.

Students will have the opportunity to engage with current film practice from within the school, such as the opportunity to work on various types of live projects. These could be practical, visual exercises or short film shoots for example.

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 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Visual Storytelling	20	1
Industry Focus 1	20	1
Cinematography	40	1&2
Industry Focus 2	20	2
Cinematography and Screen Arts	40	1&2
Major Project	40	2&3
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

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

Level 7

On this course students will be assessed by coursework.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	154 hours
Independent study	1646 hours
Placement	0 hours

