

BADF10I

**COLLABORATIVE PRODUCTION PROJECT
(ACTION RESEARCH PROJECT)**

Level: 5

Credit Value: 30

Pre-Requisites: NONE

Module Description

The module is designed to evaluate progression of students' individual research, organisational and creative production skills, demonstrated through the devising and production of a short film (5 - 8 minutes in duration) which will utilise the skills and expertise of students from other departments. This module will emulate industry practice in which certain areas of a film/TV production will often call for the knowledge and skills of those working outside the film/TV industry, or in related industries, e.g. stage designers, fashion designers, lighting technicians, musicians, artists, stage actors, models, photographers etc; as well as those working in the digital industries. This collaborative process will also extend to the fundamental aspects of film making. Therefore, students will devise their own short films in the role of screenwriter, producer and director only. As writer/producer/director, they will collaborate with fellow Digital Film Production students who will take on the individual roles of cinematographer, sound recordist/designer/editor and film editor. This module will allow students to develop the digital film production skills learned and developed in Year 1 modules and BADF08I. The key research aspects of this module will be in production design and locating the necessary personnel to assist in realising the intended design. This module will culminate in the production of an individually devised, planned and produced short film, utilising the respective skills of a wider production team and collaborators from other disciplines.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Proficiently and creatively develop research and organisational production skills to take on the specific responsibilities as a producer in charge of a production team.
2. Develop and utilise screenwriting, pre-production and directorial skills learned in earlier modules, to devise productions which can be efficiently conveyed to a production team.
3. Develop and utilise research methods to explore and justify creative ideas and production decisions.
4. Work collaboratively and professionally with a production team which includes collaborators from other disciplines.
5. Further develop their understanding and creative use of film language through research and application, to convey narrative information and evoke emotional response in their own productions.
6. Follow appropriate procedures to complete productions to a professional standard.

Indicative Content

- Practical advice in researching and locating production personnel in the areas of production design, lighting, costume, make-up, special effects, etc.
- Practical advice in researching and locating production personnel in the areas of cinematography, sound design and editing.
- Development of screenwriting and directorial skills based on self-directed research of film/TV sequences from early cinema to modern day examples to study the proposed use of specific aspects of film language and visual narrative techniques; evidenced in online portfolios.
- Application of film language and visual narrative techniques 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 will be delivered through lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials. Students will receive practical instruction in researching and locating production personnel. Proficient operation of digital filming and sound recording equipment and the operation of digital editing facilities will be expected. Weekly seminars will be student led to discuss and convey creative and practical production decisions, production progress and group meetings. As productions commence, individual tutorials will be used to discuss the progression of online research portfolios and evaluative production blogs. Levels of professionalism and organisational abilities will be closely monitored and discussed in individual writer/director /producer tutorials. Use of visual and aural language with particular reference to production design, performance and the use of music will be discussed via seminars and workshops. Students will also demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of visual and aural language through their own presentations of film/TV sequence analyses via online research portfolios. Final tutorials will be devoted to evaluative critiques of finished productions with particular attention paid to the production process.

Assessment

Hand-in	Aggregate (Yes/No)	Semester & Week Due
Online Research Portfolio (40% of module) LO1, LO3, LO4	Yes	Sem 2, Mid
Online Production Blog (20% of module) LO1, LO2, LO4, LO6	Yes	Sem , End
Completed digital film production (8 - 10 minutes duration), pre-production portfolio and evaluation (800 words) (40% of module) LO2, LO4, LO5, LO6	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
Ettedgui, P. (1999) *Production Design and Art Direction*. Hove, Rotovision
Neumann, D. (1996) *Film Architecture: Set Designs from Metropolis to Blade Runner*. UK, Prestel

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)