

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Aim and Title	BA (Hons) Creative Writing (Screen)
Intermediate Awards Available	BA Creative Writing (Screen) DipHE Creative Writing (Screen) CertHE Creative Writing (Screen)
Teaching Institution(s)	UEL
Alternative Teaching Institutions (for local arrangements see final section of this specification)	N/A
UEL Academic School	Arts & Creative Industries
UCAS Code	P393
Professional Body Accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statements	Communication Media Film & Cultural Studies (2019) Creative Writing (2019)
Additional Versions of this Course	BA (Hons) Creative Writing (Screen) with Foundation Year
Date Specification Last Updated	April 2021

Course Aims and Learning Outcomes

BA (Hons) Creative Writing (Screen) is about writing *for* and *about* screen-based entertainment. The course covers a wide variety of creative writing centred on screen media. This includes scriptwriting for film, television and the web. However, crucially, it also covers film and television criticism, as well as thinking and writing academically about media, within the discipline known as ‘screenwriting studies’. By Level 6, you will have discovered your own area of interest and will complete a dissertation/major project in your chosen form. In all areas of specialisation, the emphasis is on gaining understanding and producing work that leads to employability in the UK media industry and related fields.

What you will learn:

Knowledge

- You will gain an understanding of and facility with scriptwriting from initial concept to finished script
- You will gain critical skills relevant to a career in popular, journalistic film and television criticism



- You will gain critical skills relevant to an academic career within creative writing, media studies and screenwriting studies

Thinking skills

- You will learn how to approach creative ideas from a scriptwriter's perspective, analysing the best creative approaches to a storytelling challenge
- You will learn skills in analysing media products and reviewing them for the popular press
- You will learn skills in researching and analysing media products from an academic perspective, and constructing articles based on your research

Subject-Based Practical skills

- You will develop your ability to write grammatically, persuasively and in professional contexts
- You will establish a 'voice' with which to write in the appropriate form (script, journalistic criticism, popular criticism)
- You will develop judgement to enhance your creative, journalistic and academic work
- You will work with your peers to discuss ideas and give and receive editorial feedback, to enhance collaborative skills essential to the industry
- You will gain an understanding of the wide variety of career paths and media available within the practices of writing for and about screen, including transmedia applications of your work

Skills for life and work (general skills)

- You will develop transferrable skills, linked to UEL Core Competencies and the Career Passport, for creative industries centered around screenwriting and screenwriting studies.
- You will also gain more general skills such as presentation, literary, collaborative team working and team leading skills.

Learning and Teaching

Knowledge is developed through

- Guided reading
- Guided screenings
- Knowledge-based activities with feedback
- Online discussions and activities

Thinking skills are developed through

- Reflective activities with feedback
- Online discussions and activities

Practical skills are developed through

- IT activities with feedback



- Research skills-based activities with feedback

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- The demands of the study medium
- Planning activities with feedback
- Project work

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by

- Coursework
- Essays

Thinking skills are assessed by

- Creative Coursework
- Analytical Coursework

Practical skills are assessed by

- Portfolio completion
- Practical reports

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by

- Project work

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Course Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the course. UEL has a wide variety of Personal Support Systems in place, including student support hubs, the Disability and Dyslexia Team and a student Wellbeing team.

Work or Study Placements

Work or study placements are not the norm but may be discussed and assessed on an individual basis.

Course Structure

All courses are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:



- 3 Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree course.
- 4 Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 5 Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 6 Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 7 Equivalent in standard to a Masters degree.

Courses are made up of modules that are each credit weighted.

The module structure of this course:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Weighting	Core/Option	Available by Distance Learning?
4	PA4026	Technique 1: Establish (Writing Craft)	20	Core	N
4	MS4013	Documentary 1: Documentary and Representation	20	Core	N
4	PA4042	Screen: Past, Present & Future	20	Core	N
4	PA4041	Popular Screen Criticism	20	Core	N
4	PA4016	Forms & Genres	20	Core	N
4	MS4023	Mental Wealth: Professional Life – Agency 1	20	Core	N
5	PA5025	Scriptwriting	20	Core	N
5	PA5045	Writing Short Online Drama	20	Core	N



5	PA5028	Practice as Research	20	Core	N
5	PA5030	Script Development	20	Core	N
5	PA5026	Long Form Narratives	20	Core	N
5	PA5010	Mental Wealth: Professional Life: Enterprise and Engagement 2	20	Core	N
5	MS5018	Industry Placement (Sandwich Year)	120P	Optional	N
6	PA6052	Mental Wealth: Copywriting & Writing for Social Media	20	Core	N
6	PA6059	Adaptation	20	Core	N
6	PA6060	Screen Scholarship	20	Core	N
6	PA6051	Advanced Practice and Innovation	20	Core	N
6	PA6036	Major Writing Project (Dissertation)	40	Core	N

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, in order to create the best learning experience.

Additional detail about the course module structure:

A core module for a course is a module which a student must have passed (i.e. been awarded credit) in order to achieve the relevant named award. An optional module for a course is a module selected from a range of modules available on the course.

The overall credit-rating of this course is 360 credits. If for some reason you are unable to achieve this credit you may be entitled to an intermediate award, the level of the award will depend on the amount of credit you have accumulated. You can read the University Student Policies and Regulations on the UEL website.

Course Specific Regulations

N/A

Typical Duration

It is possible to move from full-time to part-time study and vice-versa to accommodate any external factors such as financial constraints or domestic commitments. Many of our students make use of this flexibility and this may impact on the overall duration of their study period.

The expected duration of this course is 3 years full-time or 4.5 years part-time.

A student cannot normally continue study on a course after 4 years of study in full time mode unless exceptional circumstances apply and extenuation has been granted. The limit for completion of a course in part time mode is 7 years from first enrolment.

Further Information

More information about this course is available from:

- The UEL web site (www.uel.ac.uk)
- The course handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of General Regulations (available on the UEL website)
- UEL Quality Manual (available on the UEL website)
- School web pages

All UEL courses are subject to thorough course approval procedures before we allow them to commence. We also constantly monitor, review and enhance our courses by listening to student and employer views and the views of external examiners and advisors.

Additional costs:

Required:

We anticipate no additional costs that will be essential for completion of your course as you will be able to access all required resources on-campus.



Optional:

It is recommended that you have access to your own personal computing equipment for working off-campus (e.g., a laptop from approximately £250 upwards). If working off-campus, it is also strongly recommended that you have access to a reliable internet connection to access our Virtual Learning Environments (Moodle & Teams) and make use of web-based software tools.

There will be field trips (within the London area) throughout the course which may incur costs for entry fees or tickets (e.g., museums or theatre productions – costs vary but will be kept to a minimum) and you will be expected to cover your own travel costs (e.g., Zone 1-4 Travel Card). Field trips will be optional.

You may be encouraged to purchase some reading materials specific to your studies that are not available via the UEL Library facilities.

Whilst you will be provided access to all software essential to the completion of your course, you may choose to purchase additional software (e.g. Celtx scriptwriting software- approximately £15 per month).

Alternative Locations of Delivery

N/A