

## Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 29/3/2021

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Version no. 1

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### 1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

BA Film Studies (PV33)

BA Film Studies with a Year Abroad<sup>^</sup>

Undergraduate Certificate of Higher Education in Film Studies\*

Undergraduate Diploma of Higher Education in Film Studies\*

Notes

\* An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

<sup>^</sup> Students may only enter this programme by approved transfer at the end of Year 1

#### a) [HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100058	100%

UCAS Code (where required)

PV33

### 2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

#### 3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

#### b) Type of study

Flexible/blended learning

### 4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is three years (four for the year abroad variant).

The maximum period of registration is five years (six for the year abroad variant).

### 5. Typical entry requirements

BBB at A Level / 300 points. Key skills are welcomed in addition and may be included in any offer / Access to HE course – pass kite mark course with substantial number of credits at level 3, normally minimum 18 / European Baccalaureate, pass with 77% overall / International Baccalaureate: Pass Diploma with 28 points. BTEC Nationals, International Irish, Scottish, OU and other qualifications welcomed. Mature students welcomed, alternative qualifications considered. Second year entry possible for those with advanced qualifications compatible with our degree structure.

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see

<https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

## **6. Accreditation of Prior Learning**

Other than standard credit transfers where students have completed the first year of a comparable programme at another university (60% is the equivalency of standard whilst 120 APEL credits would be the standard transfer), it is not expected that there will be any exemptions for specific modules on the programme.

## **7. Programme aims**

The programme aims to:

- provide a broad and detailed understanding of the theoretical framework in film and cultural study and make students familiar with the major developments in the history of the cinematic arts since its inception to present-day;
- provide an excellent foundation for a wide range of careers by equipping students with the knowledge and generic skills in preparation for employment in the film and visual arts worlds (cinema management, film distribution, museums, galleries, auction houses, arts administration), and in journalism, advertising, public relations and education;
- enable students to develop independent learning skills;
- promote flexibility of thought, encourage intellectual initiative and develop visual skills;
- stimulate intellectual development and develop powers of critical analysis, written communication skills and presentational skills;
- provide stimuli and the skills of research, analysis and presentation necessary for further study at postgraduate level where appropriate;
- provide opportunities to learn and understand the history of cinematic art in a research environment;

### **For Year Abroad Students**

- to enable students to develop and broaden their learning experience in Film Studies by studying at a non-UK, European University;
- to enable students to develop their linguistic abilities, by attending lectures and classes and completing assessment in the native language of a non-UK, European University;
- to enable students to enrich their all-round educational and personal development by studying at a non-UK, European University.

## **8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification**

- [QAA Benchmarking Statement](#)
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

## **9. Programme Outcomes**

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

**a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies**

i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate mastery of an appropriate body of cinematic material from different periods and cultures.	Lectures, screenings, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, independent research, viewing of selected cinematic texts, resource-based learning.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, tutorials.

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Demonstrate a broad understanding of transformations in media, style and subject matter in moving-image culture, film theory and history.</p> <p>Demonstrate a variety of approaches to understanding, constructing and interpreting film and other screen media texts.</p> <p>Demonstrate an understanding of different approaches to film, including aesthetic, technological, institutional and economic histories.</p>	Lectures, screenings, tutorials, seminars, directed reading and viewing, and independent research.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, sequence analysis, contributions to seminars, independent research exercises, film production exercise.

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of a range of theoretical approaches relevant to the discipline.</p> <p>Be able to analyse the cultural significance of various cinematic and other screen media texts through the assessment of continuity and change over extended time spans.</p> <p>Reflect critically on the nature of film studies as a discipline. Be able to think relationally between film and other visual arts.</p>	Lectures, screenings, tutorials, seminars, directed reading and viewing, independent research, including internet research.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, contributions to seminars, independent research exercises, film production exercise, book reviews, web-based projects.

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present on a variety of themes in the context of film studies, discuss issues and develop arguments in a variety of written and oral forms.	Tutorials, screenings, seminars, directed reading and viewing, independent research.	Essays, seminar presentations, film reviews, abstracts, formative assignment plans, web-based projects.

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain arguments using the range of theories available to film studies, formulating appropriate questions and utilising evidence.  Read, analyse and reflect critically and contextually upon cinematic texts and other source material.	Lectures, seminars, directed reading, tutorials, independent research.	Essays, dissertation, seminar presentations, contributions to seminars, independent research exercises, annotated bibliography.

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Design, research and present a sustained and independently conceived piece of writing on film studies issues.  Ability to interpret audio-visual imagery in its appropriate socio-political and cultural content.  Develop basic filmmaking skills including planning, filming and editing.	Research methodology classes, independent research, screenings, skills sessions and workshops.  Tutorials, seminars, directed reading and viewing, independent research and screenings.	Independent research projects, film reviews, dissertation.  Essays, film reviews, seminar presentations, tutorials, contributions to discussions.

**b) Transferable skills**

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in all expression of issues related to the study of film.  Participate effectively in group discussions related to film analysis.	Workshops, seminars, tutorials.	Seminar presentations – including both individual and group work.

ii) Written communication

Develop, sustain and substantiate key arguments in the range of film studies in a literary form.	Workshops, seminars, tutorials.	Essays, dissertation, annotated bibliographies, book reviews, sequence analysis, web-based exercises.
Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of issues related to the analysis of film.		

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Use IT to effectively support their studies, including using IT for filmographic, bibliographic and archive searches, data analysis and written/visual presentation of evidence.	Induction programme and discipline specific instruction. Year one tutorials and workshops on web design. Use of Blackboard VLE, research assignments including IT research element.	Essays, dissertations, independent research projects. Group website and individual web-based projects
Create an effective web page for a film/art event.		

iv) Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Understanding issues of film audiences, industry, financing and business.	Seminars, tutorials discussing audience figures and the cinematic art as business in financial terms. Business proposal tutorials and workshop.	Essays, dissertation, independent research projects.
Ability to compose an event budget.		Event proposal.

v) Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to work in groups and to develop skills in group management, leadership and peer responsibility.	Seminars, practical exercises – e.g. Film Production and Film and Art modules.	Group presentations.
Work as a team to devise an event proposal and design a website.		Mock film and art event proposal and website.
Students work in a small group to produce a short video.		Video project.

vi) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Identify and address problems in the range of film studies employing contemporary sources and secondary literature.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, skills sessions and workshops.	Essays, independent research projects.

vii) Information handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Gather and deploy evidence and data to find, retrieve, sort and exchange information.  Identify and discuss processes of film production, consumption and reception.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, skills sessions and workshops.	Essays, independent research projects.

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate intellectual independence through the setting of research tasks and solving problems related to film studies.  Demonstrate visual and critical awareness, deliver powerful and well-illustrated presentations, demonstrate computer skills, prioritise and organise tasks, work together with others.  Prepare for personal education and career development.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, including online research skills.	Demonstrated throughout the programme in all components.

## 10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

### a) Course transfers

n/a

## 11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of undergraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

## 12. Special features

- This is the one of the only a few film programmes in the UK that benefit from the close collaboration with History of Art colleagues and their teaching and research expertise.
- The programme also benefits from being based in the School of Arts, Media and Communication, allowing for collaboration with colleagues in English and Modern Languages.
- Opportunities to learn and understand theoretical and historical aspects of the cinematic art in a thriving research environment.
- An introductory course in film production, which provides the elements of basic literacy for those who decide to pursue careers in filmmaking.
- The possibility, after satisfactory completion of the first year, to transfer to the BA Film Studies (European Union), a four year degree course, which entails a year's study abroad.

### 12a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
<p><b>Research-briefed</b></p> <p>Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.</p>	<p>The programme provides a thorough grounding in developing students' research, critical thinking, and analytical skills. Students are introduced to key concepts and theoretical approaches that help them research and analyse film as audio-visual texts and broader industrial and social contexts that shape the development of screen culture. Drawing staff's research expertise, the programme builds students' confidence to become independent and autonomous learners through gradual exposure to research culture. Our graduates acquire the subject knowledge and problem-solving skills to identify, investigate, evaluate and critique real-world problems and authentic challenges that the film sector faces. The pedagogic development and assessment setup of many film modules are carefully designed to incorporate RiT frameworks that not only bring the latest research content to students but also train students crucial research skills.</p> <p><u><b>Research briefed</b></u></p> <p>In the first year, students are introduced to key concepts of film studies through core modules where teaching staff bring their research into the delivery either through providing examples or demonstrating subject knowledge in the field. This is then followed up in the second year. All of film' final year optional modules are designed and delivered by research active staff who actively research in the field.</p>
<p><b>Research-based</b></p> <p>Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge.</p>	<p><u><b>Research based</b></u></p> <p>The degree course of Film Studies trains students' curiosity in the field through expanding knowledge zones. Students are not only introduced key concepts and canon discourse of film history and screen culture, but also are encouraged to critically evaluate existing knowledge through engaging with secondary literature and latest publication in the field across the years.</p>
<p><b>Research-oriented</b></p>	<p><u><b>Research oriented</b></u></p>

Students critique published research content and process.	Sitting within the humanities discipline, Film Studies takes critical evaluation of both primary and secondary resources as its hardcore foundation. Students are train to research, explore and analyse existing scholarship on a broad range of topics, key concepts and theories in the field. This is the basic component in almost all film modules ranging from year one to final year, with increased emphasis on this component and independent research experience from year two onwards.
<b>Research-apprenticed</b>  Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.	<b><u>Research apprenticed</u></b>  Whilst students are developing their research skills and subject knowledge through learning, the Film programme also uses assessment as a tool to help students develop a deep understanding of research process and eventually become independent autonomous learners. Whilst different research components, such as literature survey and academic skills are introduced in year one, students have the opportunity to develop an individual research project based on their own interests from the second year onwards. The Independent Research Project requires students to draw their academic skills and subject knowledge together to produce a video essay. In the final year, students will further practice their skills by developing an extended research project. Through research and skill workshops, students engage with self-directed learning of research skills and methods including composing research questions, reviewing existing literature, choosing an appropriate method for undertaking the research and analysis, engaging with scholarly debate, providing evidence to back up opinion and argument, and writing up the findings in formal academic style that is concise, clear, well-focused and coherently structured.

**As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:**

All teaching staff member on the Film programme are research active. In addition, extra-curriculum screening and talks are available to students who wish to explore research topics and apply their critical and research skills in engaging key debates beyond the film curriculum. The department also hosts two film festivals, industry-facing Media Stories and student-led First Frame. Both festivals are public facing and enable students to explore new productions and get in contact with filmmakers through first-hand experience.

**Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:**

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development. All teaching staff members regularly attend education training and pedagogy development workshops to support teaching activities and curriculum development.

All teaching staff participate in pedagogic exercise of peer observation in teaching and assessment to learn from the best practice. The School Pedagogy Forum enables colleagues to learn about new pedagogical projects and research. Film Boards of Studies regularly focus on curriculum development and planning, teaching and learning, enabling staff to discuss how best to



implement guidance from Education Services in a subject-specific way. Film staff have also been supported by successful applications for Teaching Development Fund awards, which have enabled them to develop innovative teaching resources and authentic assessments.

### **13. Indications of programme quality**

The programme has received consistently positive reports from external examiners. In her 2015/16 report, our external examiner wrote that the 'Film programme, which I had pleasure to assess for four years, is well designed, offering a wide range of modules and a clear progression from the second to third year.'

### **14. External Examiner(s) reports**

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at [exampapers@Leicester](mailto:exampapers@Leicester) [log-in required]

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### Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

#### BA Film Studies

##### Level 4/Year 1      2025/26      Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

#### Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HA1307	Reading Film	30 credits
Sem 1	HA1201	Introduction to Film History	15 credits
Sem 1	HA1005	Reading Television	15 credits
Sem 2	HA1324	American Film and Visual Culture	30 credits
Sem 2	HA1115	Film and Art: Academic Study and the Workplace	15 credits
Sem 2	HA1202	Introduction to Film History II	15 credits

**Notes**

n/a

**Level 5/Year 2      2026/27**

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HA2030	Researching World Cinema	15 credits
Sem 1	HA2429	Film Production	30 credits
Sem 1	HA2434	Documentary Film and Television	15 credits
Sem 2	HA2433	Film, Reception and Consumption	30 credits
Sem 1	HA2451	Global Animation	15 credits
Sem 2	HA2227	Independent Research Project: Video Essay	15 credits

**Notes**

n/a

**Level 6/Year 3      2027/28**

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	30 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HA3401	Film Studies Dissertation	30 credits
Sem 2	HA3401	Film Studies Dissertation	30 credits

**Notes**

n/a

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HA3030	Women in Hollywood	15 credits
Sem 1	HA3427	New Chinese Cinemas	15 credits
Sem 2	EN3035	Weird Fiction/Weird Film	15 credits
Sem 2	HA3439	Film and Art Journalism	15 credits
Sem 2	HA3438	Hitchcock and Film History	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HA3488	Star Wars: A Cultural History	15 credits
Sem 1	ML3043	Film and Social Change	15 credits
Sem 2	NT3200	Sustainability Enterprise Partnership Project	15 credits

### Notes

Students will take two options in Semester 1 and two options in Semester 2.

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

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### BA Film Studies with a Year Abroad

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For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

### Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).