

DOCUMENT CONTROL & APPROVAL

Issue	Amendment Detail	Name	Date Approved
0.1	Templates added to submission library	QAE	
	Academic Director Approval and submission to QAE.		
1.0	QAE Approval		

COURSE DESCRIPTOR

The Course Descriptor provides essential information to students, staff teams and others on a particular course or a group of courses in a programme and is designed to meet the University's expectations and those of external bodies such as the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) in respect of programme specifications.

Please refer to guidance notes on completing Course Descriptors before completing the details below.

SECTION 1 - General Course Information

Qualification (course type)	Undergraduate Course
Course Title	CFS Integrated Foundation Year
Intermediate Qualification(s)	
Awarding Institution	Falmouth University
Location of Delivery <i>(e.g. Falmouth, London, Detroit)</i>	Central Film School, London
Duration of Course	1 year (Full-time)
Course Credits	120
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	
Accreditation Renewal Date (Month and Year)	April 2027
UCAS Course Code	0G18/5N15/4A27
Relevant External Benchmarking	QAA SBM Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies December 2019

SECTION 2 – Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Educational Course Aim

This course introduces you to the fundamentals of filmmaking, screenwriting and screen acting practice. It will help the development of your creative, critical and craft skills in preparation for progression to the accelerated BA (Hons) programme and integrates professional practice through collaboration on BA and MA graduation films.

Course Specific Employability Skills

As you progress through the course you will develop an understanding of the art and craft of filmmaking. Both transferable and employability skills will be embedded into your learning through both structured collaborative practice and reflective thinking, and the progressive execution of your technical expertise.

- **Collaboration and Team Working**
Working with others in a respectful, positive, organised and collaborative manner.
- **Problem Solving and Experimentation**
Logical reasoning, experimentation and creativity, including the ability to relate these to practical challenges.
- **Health and Safety**
Developing an awareness of necessary health and safety guidelines.
- **Personal Development**
Defining priorities, managing your time effectively, developing an understanding of personal strengths and weaknesses, and how to respond to and give constructive criticism and feedback.
- **Imagination and Creativity**
Developing the ability and confidence to use creative solutions for film.
- **Organisational**
Time management, effective processes and good communication.
- **Research**
Managing and evaluating from a variety of sources. Fully understanding a brief and delivering a presentation.

Career/Future Study Opportunities

The BA Integrated Foundation course is designed to provide entry to the two-year fast-track BA (Hons) programmes at Central Film School.

This course gives you the opportunity to learn in a creative and inclusive studio environment – it will give you the confidence, production skills and portfolio of work required for entry onto our BA (Hons) Practical Filmmaking, BA (Hons) Screenwriting or BA (Hons) Acting for Screen.

We will introduce you to the fundamental production principles and transferable skills of film production. You'll explore the production process through creative projects and technical workshops, and develop core technical skills, digital practice, presentation and communication, as well as your critical thinking and writing. These core skills will inform a final group production project.

You'll have hands-on academic and technical support in excellent facilities. And when you leave the course you'll be equipped to get the most out of whichever degree you choose.

Further career opportunities/destinations include:

- Industry internships and trainee programmes
- Apprenticeships
- Skillset Training Schemes

Further study opportunities include:

- Central Film School, BA (Hons) Screenwriting
- Central Film School, BA (Hons) Practical Filmmaking
- Central Film School, BA (Hons) Acting for Screen
- Study within another institution

Structure of Course Delivery

Course Design

The foundations of a professional and collaborative sensibility will be laid in this foundation year of study that prepares you for the BA (Hons) two-year fast track degree. The focus of this foundation year is on laying the groundwork through collaborative project development to gain a deeper understanding of the visual storytelling process and its wider contexts. Your ability to forge productive relationships with others and to understand the essential elements of how creativity is fostered in team environments will support you and your ambitions in the next stage of your academic career and beyond.

The foundation year is structured with five modules over a three-term academic year. The first term commences with the Foundation in Film Practice module which will provide an introduction to filmmaking techniques and equipment through technical induction sessions, workshops and supervised studio practice. The Production Cultures module will introduce you to research techniques and equip you with the study skills needed for academic success. In term two, Writing a Short Script will introduce you to dramaturgy and screenwriting techniques. The Professional Practice module will acquaint you with professional film practice through working collaboratively in a Central Film School BA and/or MA graduation film shoot as an assistant to a specific production department, such as Producing, Assistant Directing, Camera, Production Design, Sound, Editing or acting. You will be assessed on-set regarding your professional conduct and your understanding of the production expectations and technical requirements. In Term 3 is the culmination of your foundation study where you collaboratively develop a short script and film on which you will fulfil the production role that you assisted in the Professional Practice module.

Module Structure

Term 1: Foundation in Film Practice

Term 1: Production Cultures

Term 2: Writing Short Scripts

Term 2: Professional Practice

Term 3: Group Project

On the BA (Hons) two-year fast track degree you will begin to specialise in Practical Filmmaking, Screenwriting or Acting for Screen and develop a deeper understanding of the importance and power of cinematic filmmaking and storytelling.

Module teaching, learning and assessment take a variety of forms, both to offer an inclusive, safe and supportive environment for you to learn in and to enable multiple possibilities for constructive feedback to allow you the opportunity to fulfil your potential. Module teaching is led by both experienced specialist academics and practising filmmakers and performers and is supported by a team of technicians who facilitate the development of your skills with our filmmaking equipment and share their real-world experiences. This teaching and learning is enriched by regular opportunities to listen and talk to guest lecturers who are all active and successful in their field. You will be taught by staff in a variety of ways:

Lectures: Traditional lectures are used for the conveying of complex ideas or for the clarifying of assessments and other course requirements.

Seminars: These are a chance for you to spend time with your tutor and peers investigating ideas and processes. It is also an opportunity to work on your assessments and receive support from the broader academic community where you can engage with ideas and develop your understanding in a safe and supportive environment.

Individual Tutorials: Tutorials with tutors and course leaders allow you to really get to grips with your understanding of a module and/or an assignment, as well as to discuss your progress and seek support in terms of time, project and personal management.

Technical Inductions: Our technicians will enhance your skills in handling our camera, sound and lighting equipment.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and Online Learning: Modules may employ different forms of online learning to enhance your experience and add to the diverse ways of learning that you will experience on the course. Online spaces are used to provide a safe and supportive environment to help you stay engaged with work and peers across modules and between periods of teaching and assessment.

Crits/Peer Learning: We have a wide variety of approaches to peer learning, including pitching/feedback sessions and crits, where you share work-in-progress and support each other in honing work for assessment and beyond. This activity helps you learn how to critique constructively and how to improve your work from reading others' approaches and acting on their feedback..

Professional Masterclasses: Your core learning is supplemented by a programme of guest speakers who deliver talks and masterclasses across a range of specialisms and professions.

Workshops: Workshops involve you developing specific craft skills and applying your learning to productions and assessment. They also facilitate your own personal, creative and professional development.

Learning Community: You will work on productions for the BA (Hons) and short course students that

will develop your professional practice and extend your network within the school community.

Course Assessment Strategy

The purpose of assessment is to measure your progress and achievement throughout the course and to confirm that the Learning Outcomes for each module have been met. It is the method by which you receive summative feedback in order to help you develop your practice and performance.

At Central Film School you will be regularly assessed through On-set Assessment. This type of assessment is unique and specific to Central Film School. It is an observation of your professional conduct on a film set, your understanding of the production expectations and technical requirements of an assistant to a specific production department, such as Producing, Assistant Directing, Camera, Production Design, Sound, Editing and Acting.

Assessment is governed by the Assessment Regulations as detailed in Central Film School's Academic Framework. Information about it is available on the Central Film School Website; details of links are provided in your Course Handbook.

Studying film requires you to understand the collaborative nature of filmmaking as well as the interrelationship of a variety of skills and knowledge. We, therefore, use formative and summative feedback throughout the course. Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria, as specified at the end of this document, relate to specific periods of growth and development during your course of study.

Formative assessment is concerned with progress, development and growth, and summative assessment measures achievement and accomplishment demonstrated at the end of each module.

Each module of study is assessed using the common assessment criteria of Central Film School. Feedback is delivered formatively and following summative assessment.

The purpose of assessment is to provide you with:

- An active process that recognises and supports learning and achievement
- As an experience itself it contributes to the integration of learning and practice
- Feedback on progress which identifies strengths and recommendations for improvement
- Opportunities to present work, and articulate ideas and attitudes in a progressively professional manner

Evaluation and assessment provide the course team with:

- A means of offering you guidance in the evaluation of your progress
- A means of offering you advice and guidance on your work
- A means of monitoring and evaluating the course
- A basis for accreditation of modules
- A basis for progression from one term to the next

Each module will have specific requirements and these will be clearly briefed at the appropriate

stages of the course. At these points, you will be issued with a Module Guide containing a summary of the briefs, elements of assessment, learning outcomes, assessment methods, marking scheme and the work required for assessment. Please thoroughly read the Module Guide so that you have an understanding how the learning outcomes relate more specifically to the project work you will be completing. Ask questions if you are unsure of anything.

Regular seminars, scheduled tutorials and peer review opportunities, as well as bookable tutorials, provide formative feedback on work-in-progress against the learning outcomes and project deliverables. These staff and peer interactions offer you opportunities to ask questions, seek clarification and discuss and share significant findings, areas of research, methods employed and discoveries made.

Summative assessment provides you with marks that contribute to your academic grade and details the successful parts of the work, as well as advice on how to improve your work going forward. At strategic points in your learning you will be assessed on collaborative group productions which may take place solely between you and your peers on the course and at other times alongside students from different courses. When a collaborative production is assessed, issues of fairness and equity of grades are addressed utilising the Group Work Assessment Strategy. Summative feedback is given at the end of each module.

Level Learning Outcomes

No	Category	Level 4 Stage 0 Outcome
1	Technical	Recognise ideas, creative elements, processes, practice and techniques appropriate to a project
2	Collaboration	Recognise constructive relationships and work effectively on a project
3	Communication	Recognise professional communication and presentation skills
4	Professionalism	Recognise self-management skills and set priorities for personal progression
5	Research	Recognise research and resources that inform the cinematic arts
6	Analysis	Recognise specialist information and practices
7	Experimentation	Recognise problem solving techniques and test ideas in the realisation of a project
8	Industry	Recognise industry vocabulary and structure

Curriculum Structure, Assessment Methods and Learning Outcomes

							Contributing towards the Learning Outcomes (Taught (T) , Practised (P) and/or Assessed (A))							
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Module Code	Level	Module Name	Credits	Study Block 1, 2 or 3	Compulsory (C) or Option (O)	Assessment methods*	Technical	Collaboration	Communication	Professionalism	Research	Analysis	Experimentation	Industry
BAIF401	4	Foundation in Film Practice	30	1	C	PC	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TP	TP	TP	TPA
BAIF402	4	Screen Industries Research	15	1	C	CS	TP	TP	TP	TP	TPA	TP	TP	TP
BAIF403	4	Writing Short Scripts	15	2	C	AR	TP	TP	TP	TP	TP	TPA	TP	TP
BAIF404	4	Professional Practice	30	2	C	JL	TP	TP	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TP
BAIF405	4	Group Project	30	3	C	DI & PR	TP	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TP	TPA	TP

*The following codes for assessment methods apply (additional codes can be proposed through this process, if necessary):-			
AR	Artefact	LR	Literature Review
CB	Computer-based	OR	Oral
CE	Critical evaluation	PC	Practical
CS	Case study	PF	Performance
DI	Dissertation or project	PL	Placement
ES	Essay	PO	Portfolio
EX	Exam	PR	Presentation
GR	Group Report	RE	Individual report
IT	In-module Test	SP	Studio Practice
JL	Journal / Logbook	OT	Other