

Programme Specification

Award and title: BA (Hons) Film Studies and Media

<i>School:</i>	Humanities
<i>Subject area:</i>	Media and Film Studies
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2023-24
<i>in the month(s) of</i>	September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Certificate of Higher Education Film Studies and Media Diploma of Higher Education Film Studies and Media BA (Ord) Film Studies and Media
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Film Studies and Media English Literature and Film Studies American Studies and Film Studies
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Undergraduate periods of study ¹ for full time & part time
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with Foundation Year</i>	Yes
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	Yes
<i>Opt-in YSJU Placement Year opportunity:</i>	Yes

Introduction and special features

Joint Honours programmes give students the opportunity to combine two subjects from a range of areas in a structured way. The selected pairings are designed to complement one another and allow you to have a significant amount of choice and flexibility in relation to your learning experience. In addition, Joint Honours will engage you in a range of learning and teaching experiences and assessment opportunities.

Film Studies

The Film Studies programme at York St John University is made up of exciting and cutting-edge content which represent the changing nature of the subject area and the links between film and other disciplines.

A number of key strands can be found in the programme which aims to enhance your experience and also give you transferable skills. These include:

- The recent “de-Westernisation” of Film Studies and the growing body of academic research and scholarship into Transnationalism in Cinema
- The exploration of regional and national cinema as a cultural expression which reflects history, ideology and popular culture

¹ The standard period of study will apply unless otherwise stated

- The trans-media emergence of “Screen Studies” as a discipline which incorporates the changes in media where film culture has blended with televisual forms and digital media such as video game and animation
- An incorporation of non-fiction film forms and Documentary Studies
- The developments of scholarly approaches to wider film culture, fandom, user generated content and convergence culture
- Curricula which encourage students to get involved in optional field trips (partly subsidised by the programme) to, for instance, film festivals
- Modules which require students to engage in enterprise activities such as organising and promoting film themed events and film publications.
- Engagement with the Yorkshire Film Archive.
- Opportunity to become involved with our own publication, Neutral Magazine (archived here) <http://neutramagazine.com/>

We are also dedicated to the student enhancement strategy which includes:

- 1) The further integration of the Neutral project as an e-publication driven by the talent and dedication of our students (see our latest edition here: www.neutramagazine.com)
- 2) A further development of part subsidised optional excursion events which allow you to explore film cultures on a local, national and international level (an excursion that is subsidised by the Programme and none of the other excursion are of any additional cost to students).
- 3) A healthy roster of visiting speakers, industry experts and academics who will enrich the discourse of your programme and provide practical insight into Film in a commercial and creative context

Media

With the media modules you will undertake on this pairing, if you aspire to engage your community and the world through media, research and creative input then this is the joint honours degree for you. Key aspects of the programme are:

- An exploration of the ‘de-colonialization’ of Media Studies which offers views of the media in a global context.
- A commitment to exploring power relationships in contemporary media; the ways in which media are central to some of the burning social and ideological issues of our time (e.g. environmental sustainability, globalisation, perspectives of national identity).
- A creative and analytical immersion with technologies, project management and communication skills, resulting in opportunities for you to raise your profile as an employable graduate in the media and creative industries.

A number of exciting initiatives you will experience include:

1. The integration of our *Neutral* project as an e-publication driven by the talent and dedication of our students. Here is our latest edition: <http://neutramagazine.com/>
2. A vibrant schedule of excursions, field trips and events which allow you to explore media cultures on a local, national and international level (an excursion that is subsidised by the Programme and none of the other excursion are of any additional cost to students).
3. Dedicated mentoring across levels from professional designers (including our own programme dedicated member of staff) and experts who will help you to develop your technical ability and creative capacities.

We will help cultivate your skills to help enhance your future chances of employment.

Admissions criteria

You must meet the minimum entry requirements which are published on the programme specific webpage.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Recognition of prior learning \(RPL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme structure

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					Compulsory (C) or optional (O)	non-compensatable (NC) or compensatable (X)
FIL4002M	4	1	Filmmakers on Film	20	C	X
MED4004M	4	1	Research in Practice	20	C	X
MED4005M	4	1	Media Culture and Society	20	C	X
FIL4001M	4	2	Film and its Audiences	20	O	X
AMS4002M	4	2	Cinema and Society	20	O	X
MED4007M	4	2	Mediated Identities	20	O	X
MED4008M	4	2	Media Evolution and History	20	O	X
MED4002M	4	2	Critical Perspectives	20	O	X
FIL4002M	4	2	Cult and Extreme Cinema	20	O	X
MED5004M	5	2	Media Enterprise	20	C	X
FIL5005M	5	1	Imaginary Worlds: Researching Science Fiction	20	O	X
FIL5002M	5	1	Film and the American Imagination	20	O	X
MED5001M	5	1	Taste, Controversy and Culture	20	O	X
MED5002M	5	1	Music and Media	20	O	X
MED5003M	5	1	Visual Culture	20	O	X
FIL5001M	5	2	Independent Cinema	20	O	X
FIL5004M	5	1	European Cinema	20	O	X
FIL5003M	5	2	Gothic and Horror	20	O	X
MED5005M	5	2	Life Online	20	O	X
MED5006M	5	2	Globalisation, Media and Sustainability	20	O	X
MED6001M	6	1&2	Dissertation	40	C	NC
MED6002M	6	1	Futures	20	O	X
FIL6001M	6	1	Animations	20	O	X
FIL6002M	6	1	Documentary Film Studies	20	O	X

MED6005M	6	2	Media Spaces	20	O	X
FIL6003M	6	2	Transnational Cinema	20	O	X
MED6006M	6	2	Gender and Sexualities: Issues and Debates	20	O	X

You must take a minimum of 20 credits in each of your subjects in each Semester.

Please note that not all options may be available every year as they depend on student demand and staff availability.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the table above as non-compensatable. A non-compensatable module is one that must be passed at the relevant level (with a mark of 40) in order to progress.

Film Studies

Programme aim(s)

1. Provide you with a comprehensive grounding in the concepts, theories, methodologies, issues and debates on the subject of cinema and screen studies.
2. Enable you to develop key academic, generic, cognitive and technical skills which will enhance employment potential.
3. Engage with the discipline as a de-westernised subject and explore the ways in which film operates in a global and transnational context.
4. Encourage you to explore the implications of your academic study in the wider society to which they belong.

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 4

- 4.1 Gather and organise information from recommended sources in the discipline of Film Studies.
- 4.2 Identify and practice the key elements (e.g. essay writing, portfolio building, presentation, etc.) for both short-term and long-term academic development.
- 4.3 Demonstrate awareness of foundational conceptual, theoretical and historical perspectives relating to cinema and its cultural contexts.
- 4.4 Demonstrate competence in the analysis and evaluation of film texts.
- 4.5 Consider and evaluate some of the relevant skills and learning requirements for working independently and in groups.
- 4.6 Communicate effectively using a range of key skills appropriate for the audience and purpose.

Level 5

- 5.1 Demonstrate a critical understanding of the key theories and concepts relating to film and screen studies.
- 5.2 Critically analyse data and information relevant to study of film.
- 5.3 Demonstrate effective research skills and methodologies in preparation for dissertation level study.
- 5.4 Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

- 5.5 Make appropriate selections of materials and use them analytically and critically in the exploration of cinema.
- 5.6 Demonstrate professional and career skills, and utilise key skills in the context of work-related learning.

Level 6

- 6.1 Demonstrate the appropriate application of advanced research skills.
- 6.2 Deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry to the key strands of the degree; cinema and society; film and audience; genre fiction; transnationalism.
- 6.3 Demonstrate independence, innovation and entrepreneurial skills in working and academic practices.
- 6.4 Devise and sustain arguments, assumptions and abstract concepts and effectively engage with such matters as a critical thinker.
- 6.5 Demonstrate a complex understanding of subject-relevant information, ideas and arguments effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- 6.6 Synthesise and apply complex theoretical perspectives and concepts to a range of situations and issues relevant to film studies.

Learning, teaching and assessment

Film Studies

On the Film Studies programme you will experience and take part in lectures, seminars, workshops, task focused activities, field-trips and excursions and informative engagement with media practitioners and those working in the creative industry. Crucially, this is backed up by three distinct features. These are:

- research informed teaching where experts in their subjects will work with you and develop your knowledge
- a schedule of tutorial support where you will gain advice and guidance on how to progress academically
- technology enhanced programme instruction from experts that will help you to learn how to use media as a critical and creative tool

You will be assessed in a variety of ways including essays, portfolios, individual and group presentations (for example, voice-over commentaries on video essays using iPads and tablets), poster presentations, industry focussed 'proofs of concept', interactive e-portfolios (using platforms such as Mahara ePortfolio or blogging sites), creative visual pieces. All of these will be introduced at Level 4 and then developed throughout the degree.

Media

Programme aim(s)

1. To encourage students to develop an informed and critical understanding of key themes and debates within Media and Communications
2. To enhance students' development as independent learners and media scholars
3. To support students in developing a range of transferable skills to equip them for employment and lifelong learning
4. To develop an ability to reflect critically on the process of researching, writing, analysing, and forming an academic argument
5. To provide a supportive learning environment that meets the needs of a diverse set of learners
6. To enhance students' development of appropriate skills in communication, analysis, collaboration, research, and self-management

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 4

- 4.1 Gather and organise information from recommended sources in the discipline of Media and Communication.
- 4.2 Identify and practice the key elements (e.g. essay writing, portfolio building, presentation, etc.) for both short-term and long-term academic development.
- 4.3 Demonstrate awareness of foundational conceptual, theoretical and historical perspectives relating to Media and its cultural contexts.
- 4.4 Demonstrate competence in the analysis and evaluation of a range of Media texts.
- 4.5 Consider and evaluate some of the relevant skills and learning requirements for working independently and in groups.
- 4.6 Communicate effectively using a range of key skills appropriate for the audience and purpose.

Level 5

- 5.1 Demonstrate a critical understanding of the key theories and concepts relating to the study of Media and Communication.
- 5.2 Critically analyse data and information relevant to study Media and Communication.
- 5.3 Demonstrate effective research skills and methodologies in preparation for dissertation level study.
- 5.4 Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- 5.5 Make appropriate selections of materials and use them analytically and critically in the exploration of Media.
- 5.6 Demonstrate professional and career skills, and utilise key skills in the context of work-related learning.

Level 6

- 6.1 Apply the appropriate application of advanced research skills.
- 6.2 Deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry to the key conceptual strands of the degree; Transnational Media, Media and Power; Media in the Creative Industries; Media and Identity.
- 6.3 Demonstrate and apply independence, innovation and entrepreneurial skills in both employability focussed and academic practices.
- 6.4 Devise and sustain arguments, assumptions and abstract concepts and effectively engage with such matters as a critical thinker.
- 6.5 Apply a complex understanding of subject-relevant information, ideas and arguments effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- 6.6 Synthesise and apply complex theoretical perspectives and concepts to a range of situations and issues relevant to Media and Communication studies.

Learning, teaching and assessment

Throughout the BA (Hons) Media Joint Honours programme, your learning will be structured so that your knowledge and skills are continually developed across the three levels of study. You will take part in lectures, seminars, workshops, task focused activities, field trips and excursions and informative engagement with media practitioners.

Modules may include your working during a Semester with lecturers in one capacity and then with a designer in another to produce a creative and critical portfolio. At other times, you will work in seminars and then visit places (e.g. art galleries) and events (such as a short film festival) to see and reflect upon media in action.

This is enhanced by three distinct features:

- Research informed teaching where experts in their subjects will work with you and develop your knowledge
- A schedule of tutorial support where you will gain advice and guidance on how to progress academically
- Technology enhanced programme instruction from experts that will help you to learn how to use media as a critical and creative tool

You will be assessed in a variety of ways including essays, portfolios, individual and group presentations (for example, voice-over commentaries on video essays using iPads and tablets), poster presentations, industry focussed 'proofs of concept', interactive e-portfolios (using platforms such as Mahara ePortfolio or blogging sites), creative visual pieces. All of these will be introduced at Level1 and then developed throughout the degree.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's [general regulations](#) for undergraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensatable.

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

Date written / revised: July 2020

Programme originally approved: July 2020