



MMCC2012

Screen Production: Filmmaking Across Genres

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Iqbal Barkat

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Contact via iqbal.barkat@mq.edu.au

191B 10HA

Any day by email appointment.

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

40cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit introduces students to professional screen production practices, with a focus on creative development of ideas, cinematography, visual & aural style, and editing. The unit is delivered through practical workshops, in-class and online exercises, equipment and software demonstrations, and selected case studies and screenings. The 'hands-on' and experiential intensive mode of delivery exposes students to real-world practices and fosters development of collaboration and communication skills. Students work individually and in groups, as part of production crews, to generate original screen media when completing assignments. This unit aims to develop students' ability to critically analyse and evaluate their own and other's work and to place it within an historical, creative and theoretical context.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

ULO1: demonstrate understanding of introductory conceptual and practical skills in planning and executing screen productions.

ULO2: integrate screen production terminology and apply this knowledge to critically interpret and analyse screen production works.

ULO3: apply skills and strategies for planning and problem solving in a screen

production setting.

ULO4: evaluate one's own and peer production works and identify creative and technical issues in these works.

ULO5: collaborate and communicate effectively with fellow students and work to production deadlines.

ULO6: evaluate and synthesize contemporary production processes, crew roles, basic on-set protocols, and screen industry related safety procedures

ULO7: identify how screen productions can contribute to the awareness of social issues.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Portfolio comprising of Journal (20%) and Intensive Learning Week Film (10%)</u>	30%	No	17/04/20
<u>Screen Production</u>	40%	No	01/06/20
<u>Major Production Pitch Presentation</u>	30%	No	16/03/20

Portfolio comprising of Journal (20%) and Intensive Learning Week Film (10%)

Assessment Type ¹: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **17/04/20**

Weighting: **30%**

This assignment has 2 components: a Journal (20%) and an Intensive Learning Week Film (10%)

Journal: Students are required to maintain a journal that documents their learning. The purpose of the journal is to engage in reflective learning and to assist in developing and documenting critical skills.

Intensive learning week film: Working in small groups, students will write, plan, shoot and edit a short film of any genre, fiction or documentary of any subject matter.

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- demonstrate understanding of introductory conceptual and practical skills in planning and executing screen productions.

- integrate screen production terminology and apply this knowledge to critically interpret and analyse screen production works.
- apply skills and strategies for planning and problem solving in a screen production setting.
- evaluate one's own and peer production works and identify creative and technical issues in these works.

Screen Production

Assessment Type ¹: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task ²: 45 hours

Due: **01/06/20**

Weighting: **40%**

This assignment has 2 components: Final Film (20%) Critical Evaluation of Role (20%) 1. Final Film Selected pitch presentation will go into production. Those students whose pitch is selected will be designated as 'director'. Teams will include the following crew roles: Producer, Development Producer, 1st Assistant Director, Director of Photography, Sound Recordist/ Designer, Editor, and Production Designer. Each member of the creative production team is expected to undertake adequate preparation and research to carry out their role. Teams are expected to shoot their production in three days or less.

2. Critical Evaluation of Role Crew role performance is assessed on the basis of the final film and a range of supporting documentation. Documentation to be provided includes: a) a report critically analysing and evaluating the ways technical and aesthetic considerations have combined to realise (or not) the original concept. b) a production portfolio of documents demonstrating technical and creative research, preparation and process undertaken in respective crew roles and any other involvement in the production (for example, script breakdowns, colour charts, storyboards).

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- demonstrate understanding of introductory conceptual and practical skills in planning and executing screen productions.
- apply skills and strategies for planning and problem solving in a screen production setting.
- evaluate one's own and peer production works and identify creative and technical issues in these works.
- collaborate and communicate effectively with fellow students and work to production deadlines.
- evaluate and synthesize contemporary production processes, crew roles, basic on-set

protocols, and screen industry related safety procedures

- identify how screen productions can contribute to the awareness of social issues.

Major Production Pitch Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Media presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 18 hours

Due: **16/03/20**

Weighting: **30%**

Based on research and inspired by strong ideas, you will develop a pitch for a film of under 5 minutes in length. You may choose to pitch: - a documentary; - an experimental film; - or a narrative, fiction film. The film could be in any genre. The film must have minimal dialogue (no more than 5 lines) with the exception of film essays and documentaries (which can include longer interviews and voice-over). The film **MUST** be made in black and white. The film **MUST** address a significant social, political, or cultural issue (e.g, anxiety among students) in a direct or indirect way. If you would like your screen idea to come to life on screen it must be feasible. For this assessment students need to submit: 1. a digital presentation of the pitch. 2. a written document of around 750 words addressing the following: a. A working title. b. 1-sentence description of the film. c. Familiarity with the form and genre. d. A short synopsis of the film. e. What is the social issue that you are exploring in your film? e. Key motif. f. Additionally thoughts on other relevant elements such as shooting style, performance, production design, the colour-palette, etc.

Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- demonstrate understanding of introductory conceptual and practical skills in planning and executing screen productions.
- integrate screen production terminology and apply this knowledge to critically interpret and analyse screen production works.

¹ If you need guidance or support to understand or complete this type of assessment, please contact the Learning Skills Team

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

ACTIVITIES

MMCC2012 is not delivered in a standard mode like many other units. There are few classes during semester. The majority of classes occur during the 1st week of the semester break. The activities for this unit include:

1. **LECTURE (LIVE)** – This lecture will be delivered live at 10HA LT1 on Friday, 28th February from 6-8pm. Students need to be present for this session.
2. **STUDENT-LED LEARNING** – These are activities that will be uploaded on iLearn. Students engage with them at a time and venue of their choice. It is advised that students engage in the activities in the week suggested in the schedule. The activities will be uploaded by 5pm Friday. These activities must be completed for Assignment 2. Please complete these activities weekly.
3. **PRACTICAL** – This is a 2-hr in-class activity. Students need to be present for this session. Practicals are held at 10HA RM 189 (Screen Production Studio) on Friday 27th March, 15th May and 29th May. Students need to attend all 3 Practicals. Students need to stick to the same time for all 3 Practicals. For example, if they have registered for the 3-5 pm Practical on Friday, 27th March, they will attend the 3-5 pm Practical on 15th May and 29th May.
4. **WORKSHOPS** – This is an in-class activity. Students need to be present for this session. We have called the workshops 'INTENSIVE'. They will be held from Tues 14th to Fri 17th April 2020 from 10 am to 5 pm. Students need to be present for all 4 days. On 17th April at 7.30 pm, the films made during the intensive will be screened at LT1 10HA. Students are encouraged to be present and to invite their friends and family for the screening.
5. **SCREENING** – On Fri, 5th June at 6 pm, the films made during the intensive will be screened at LT1 10HA. Students are expected to be present and to invite their friends and family for the screening. Awards will be presented achievement in directing, design, cinematography, producing, creative producing, editing and sound design.

TECHNOLOGY

In this unit, students will be given instruction in the:

- a. Operation of the Sony FS100, FS700 and NEX5 Cameras;
- b. Operation of dialogue recording techniques;
- c. Operation of AVID's Non Linear Editing Software, Media Composer. Students may edit their works in the Edit Lab 10HA006 (when it is not being used for other activities) and the edit stations at the Screen Culture Lab (10HA 142). Students are not to edit their group productions on their own computers.

READINGS

All readings for the unit will be available via the Macquarie Library. Please refer to iLearn for library links to weekly readings.

Unit Schedule

Please refer to iLearn for a detailed schedule.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Late Submission and Special Consideration

Unless a [Special Consideration](#) request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Students with a pre-existing disability/health condition or prolonged adverse circumstances may be eligible for ongoing assistance and support. Such support is governed by other policies and may be sought and coordinated through [Campus Wellbeing](#) and Support Services.