



MMCC2012

Screen Production: Filmmaking Across Genres

Session 1, Online-scheduled-weekday 2024

Department of Media, Communications, Creative Arts, Language and Literature

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	3
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	7
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	10

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor & Lecturer

Iqbal Barkat

iqbal.barkat@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

10HA 191B

Monday 1-5pm; other days by 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 seminars, screenings, practical workshops, in-class and online exercises, and equipment and software demonstrations. 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 a historical, creative and theoretical context.

Important Academic Dates

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

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

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.

General Assessment Information

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. This late penalty will apply to written reports and recordings only. Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs will be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Pitch Presentation	30%	No	Friday 08/03/2024 11.55 pm
Portfolio	10%	No	Friday 26/04/2024 11.55 pm
Screen Production	60%	No	Friday 31/05/2024 11.55 pm

Pitch Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Media presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 18 hours

Due: **Friday 08/03/2024 11.55 pm**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will develop a pitch for a film of under 5 minutes in length. For this assessment students need to submit a digital presentation of the pitch.

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

Portfolio

Assessment Type ¹: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task ²: 32 hours

Due: **Friday 26/04/2024 11.55 pm**

Weighting: **10%**

Students are required to maintain a portfolio that documents their learning including completing set weekly tasks on iLearn. The purpose of the portfolio is to engage in reflective learning and to assist in developing and documenting critical screen production skills.

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.
- 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.

Screen Production

Assessment Type ¹: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task ²: 45 hours

Due: **Friday 31/05/2024 11.55 pm**

Weighting: **60%**

This assignment has 2 components: Final Film (30%) Critical Evaluation of Role (30%)

1. Final Film. Selected pitch presentations will go into production. Films will be made in small groups (or students may choose to make their films individually).

2. Critical Evaluation of Role. Crew role performance is assessed on the basis of the final film and a report critically analysing and evaluating the production and the student's contribution.

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.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

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

Computer Requirements:

- **Personal Computer:** It is encouraged that students have a computer or laptop capable of video editing.
- **Desktop Access:** Access to high-performance desktop computers is available in 10HA. These computers are equipped with AVID Media Composer, the preferred video editing software for all screen units. Familiarisation with the Mac OS is encouraged as most computers in Building 10HA are Apple computers.

Software Access:

- **AVID Media Composer:** Installed on 10HA desktops and it is preferred for use in all screen units.
- **Adobe Suite:** Includes Premiere Pro, available for installation on personal computers.

Equipment and Software Usage: Access to the necessary equipment and software will be provided by the university. Students will be required to work with a variety of departmental digital and mechanical technologies, including:

- **Video Recording Equipment:** Such as Sony PXW-FS5 and FX6 cameras.
- **Audio Equipment:** Including sound recorders and microphones.
- **Editing Software:** Digital editing tools for both still and moving images.
- **Supporting Equipment:** Image stabilising gear, tripods, dollies, and various portable lighting tools.

Online Learning Resources: The university provides access to online platforms for learning about screen production technologies:

- **Udemy Business** https://multisearch.mq.edu.au/permalink/61MACQUARIE_INST/1c87tk9/alma99245374432302171.
- **O'Reilly Learning Platform** – business and technology courses, video and ebooks
- **ClickView** – which has recently expanded its content to include a Tertiary Library collection (over 2700 educational videos including foundation skills, business, finance, health & science, video & media production)

Health and Safety:

- **Footwear:** Flat-heeled, closed shoes are mandatory in the screen production studio.
- **Headphones:** Students must use their own headphones when working on desktop computers in 10HA.

- **Safety Guidelines:** Adherence to health and safety guidelines is required during workshops and production activities. A safety report is mandatory for all productions.

Unit Schedule

MMCC2012 SEMESTER 1 2024 SCHEDULE

MMCC2012 is not delivered in a standard mode like many other units. The activities for this unit include:

SEMINAR – Seminars will be conducted live online via Zoom on Mondays from 6-8 pm in Weeks 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7, as detailed on the course timetable. These sessions will encompass lectures, discussions, film screenings, and practical demonstrations, accessible through the link provided on iLearn. Attendance is strongly advised to facilitate active engagement with course material, including the opportunity to discuss assignments and filmmaking concepts. Recordings of these seminars will only be made available upon request under specific circumstances, such as absence due to illness.

STUDENT-LED LEARNING – Activities and exercises pertinent to the course will be uploaded to iLearn by 5 pm each Monday, as outlined in the course schedule. Students are afforded the flexibility to engage with these materials at their convenience, both in terms of time and location. However, it is recommended that students adhere to the suggested weekly schedule for optimal learning progression. Completion of these activities is a requisite for the Portfolio Assignment.

WORKSHOP – A mandatory 2-hour workshop will be conducted in Weeks 5, 10, and 12. Students who have opted for on-campus participation are required to attend the face-to-face sessions at 10HA RM 189 (Screen Production Studio). Those registered for online attendance will participate live via Zoom. It is imperative that students attend all three workshops at their registered time. For instance, students registered for the Practical from 3-5 pm on Monday, 18 March (Week 5), are also expected to attend at the same time on 6 May (Week 10) and 20 May (Week 12). The initial workshop in Week 5 is crucial for forming production groups and assigning roles. Absence from this workshop may necessitate the completion of an individual production project, as group integration might not be feasible.

PRACTICAL – Practical sessions are scheduled for the first week of the mid-semester break, spanning two consecutive days from 10 am to 5 pm. Attendance is mandatory and must be in person, as these sessions will not be recorded. Students have the option to attend either on Monday, 15th April and Tuesday, 16th April, or on Wednesday, 17th April and Thursday, 18th April. It is essential that students participate in these sessions alongside their assigned production group. Groups are required to register their chosen dates during Week 5.

WEEK	LECTURE (LIVE & ONLINE)	PRACTICAL, WORKSHOP, STUDENT-LED LEARNING, ACTIVITIES	RESOURCES	ASSIGNMENT
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Semester Week 1	Seminar 1 (Live on Zoom) Concepts into Screen Productions: Screenwriting, Research and Screen Ideas	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	Assignment 1 - Starts Major Production Pitch Presentation ?
Semester Week 2	Seminar 2 (Live on Zoom) Introduction to Screen Production	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	
Semester Week 3	Seminar 3 (Live on Zoom) Preproduction	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	Assignment 1 Due Fri 8/ 3/2024 11.55 PM
Semester Week 4	Seminar 4 (Live on Zoom) The Screen Image (Screen Grammar/ Visual Language) The Camera and Movement The Production Process Production Design	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	
Semester Week 5	No Seminar	Workshop (in class OR live online on Zoom) 10HA RM 189 (Screen Production Studio)	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	Production meeting Pre-production
Semester Week 6	Seminar 5 (Live on Zoom) Editing in Screen Culture	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	Production meeting Pre-production

Semester Week 7	Seminar 6 (Live on Zoom) Sound in Screen Culture	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	Production meeting Pre-production
Semester Week 8	No Seminar Group consultations	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	Production meeting Pre-production
1 st Week Semester Break	2 DAY 'INTENSIVE' PRACTICAL	Practicals Tues 11th /Wed 12th OR Thurs 13th/ Fri 14th April 10 am to 5 pm	Film Viewings Live technical lessons Filmmaking practice	
2nd Week Semester Break	Production starts			Assignment 3 - Screen Production commences Production week
Semester Week 9	No Seminar Group consultations	Student-led learning	Essential Readings Film Viewings Online technical lessons	Assignment 2 – Portfolio Due Fri 26/4/2024 11.55 PM Production week Post-production starts
Semester Week 10	No Seminar	Workshop (in class OR live online on Zoom)		Assignment 3 – Presentation of Assembly/Rough Cut

Semester Week 11	No Seminar Group consultations	Student-led learning	Post-production continues Sound edit/design
Semester Week 12	No Seminar	Workshop (in class OR live online on Zoom)	Assignment 3 – Presentation of Fine Cut
Semester Week 13	No Seminar		Assignment 3 due Fri 31/ 5/2024 11.55 PM

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and

processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.

Unit information based on version 2024.03 of the [Handbook](#)