



MMCC6212

Screen Production: Filmmaking Across Genres

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Iqbal Barkat

iqbal.barkat@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MMediaComm

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 others' 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 a foundational grasp of both theoretical concepts and practical skills essential for the planning and execution of screen productions.

ULO2: Employ specialised terminology in screen production to critically assess and interpret works within the field.

ULO3: Utilise adept planning and problem-solving strategies within a screen production environment.

ULO4: Critically appraise both personal and peer-produced works, identifying creative and technical aspects requiring enhancement or adjustment.

ULO5: Foster effective collaboration and communication with peers while adhering to set production deadlines.

ULO6: Analyse and synthesise contemporary production workflows, crew responsibilities, foundational on-set protocols, and industry-specific safety measures.

ULO7: Recognise the potential of screen productions to serve as platforms for raising awareness on societal issues.

ULO8: Integrate and synthesise prior professional experience and cognate learning to produce an in-depth, original piece of media research/project.

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
Screen Production	30%	No	Fri 11/4/25 11.55 PM
Portfolio	20%	No	Sun 8/6/2025 11.55 PM
Production Documentation	50%	No	Sun 8/6/2025 11.55 PM

Screen Production

Assessment Type ¹: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **Fri 11/4/25 11.55 PM**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will collaborate in small production teams to create a screen production of under 5 minutes in any form or genre. Each team member will take on a specific crew role (Director, Producer, Cinematographer, etc.). In exceptional circumstances, subject to unit convenor approval, students may undertake individual productions. Refer to iLearn for further information.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a foundational grasp of both theoretical concepts and practical skills essential for the planning and execution of screen productions.
- Utilise adept planning and problem-solving strategies within a screen production environment.
- Critically appraise both personal and peer-produced works, identifying creative and technical aspects requiring enhancement or adjustment.
- Foster effective collaboration and communication with peers while adhering to set production deadlines.
- Analyse and synthesise contemporary production workflows, crew responsibilities, foundational on-set protocols, and industry-specific safety measures.
- Recognise the potential of screen productions to serve as platforms for raising awareness on societal issues.
- Integrate and synthesise prior professional experience and cognate learning to produce an in-depth, original piece of media research/project.

Portfolio

Assessment Type ¹: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **Sun 8/6/2025 11.55 PM**

Weighting: **20%**

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 a foundational grasp of both theoretical concepts and practical skills essential for the planning and execution of screen productions.
- Employ specialised terminology in screen production to critically assess and interpret works within the field.
- Utilise adept planning and problem-solving strategies within a screen production environment.

- Critically appraise both personal and peer-produced works, identifying creative and technical aspects requiring enhancement or adjustment.
- Foster effective collaboration and communication with peers while adhering to set production deadlines.
- Analyse and synthesise contemporary production workflows, crew responsibilities, foundational on-set protocols, and industry-specific safety measures.
- Recognise the potential of screen productions to serve as platforms for raising awareness on societal issues.

Production Documentation

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Sun 8/6/2025 11.55 PM**

Weighting: **50%**

Each student will submit individual production documentation that demonstrates their pre-production preparation, details their contribution in their specific crew role, and provides a critical evaluation of both the final film and their role within the production team. This documentation should demonstrate understanding of professional screen production practices and the ability to critically reflect on creative and technical decisions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a foundational grasp of both theoretical concepts and practical skills essential for the planning and execution of screen productions.
- Employ specialised terminology in screen production to critically assess and interpret works within the field.
- Utilise adept planning and problem-solving strategies within a screen production environment.
- Critically appraise both personal and peer-produced works, identifying creative and technical aspects requiring enhancement or adjustment.
- Foster effective collaboration and communication with peers while adhering to set production deadlines.
- Analyse and synthesise contemporary production workflows, crew responsibilities, foundational on-set protocols, and industry-specific safety measures.

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.

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

MMCC6212 is not delivered in a standard mode like many other units. The activities for this unit include:

SEMINAR – Seminars will be delivered live online via Zoom on Tuesdays from 6-8 pm in Weeks 1,2,3,4,6 & 7. These seminars will be a mix of lectures, discussions, film screenings and practical demonstrations. Link provided on iLearn. Although recordings are available, the seminars are an excellent opportunity to ask questions, pose queries about assignments and discuss potential filmmaking ideas. You are highly encouraged to attend these sessions live online.

STUDENT-LED LEARNING – These are activities and exercises 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 weeks suggested in the schedule. These activities must be completed for the Portfolio Assignment (Journal).

WORKSHOP – This is a 2-hr activity held in Weeks 5, 11 and 12. In class sessions are held at 10HA RM 189 (Screen Production Studio). Students need to attend all 3 Workshops. Students need to stick to the same time for all 3 Workshops. In the Week 5 workshop students will get into production groups and be assigned production roles. Students who fail to attend this workshop may not be able to complete assignments.

PRACTICAL – Practicals will be held during the 1st week of the mid-semester break for 2 days (10 am to 5 pm). Students have to attend this activity face-to-face. Sessions are not recorded. Students can either attend the session on Mon 14th and Tues 15th April OR Wed 16th and Thurs 17th. They have to attend the session with their production group. Group will register for which session they attend in Week 5.

WEEK	SEMINAR (LIVE & ONLINE)	PRACTICAL, WORKSHOP, STUDENT-LED LEARNING, ACTIVITIES	RESOURCES	ASSIGNMENT

Semester Week 1	Seminar 1 (Live on Zoom) What is Screen Production? Research and Screen Ideas	Student-led learning	Essential readings Film viewings Online technical lessons	Assignment 1 (Portfolio)-Starts ?
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	
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 10HA RM 189 (Screen Production Studio) 1st Production meeting	Essential readings Film viewings Online technical lessons	Assignment 2 & 3 - Screen Production commences
Semester Week 6	Seminar 5 (Live on Zoom) Editing in Screen Culture	Student-led learning Production meeting	Essential readings Film viewings Online technical lessons	

Semester Week 7	Seminar 6 (Live on Zoom) Sound in Screen Culture	Student-led learning Production week	Essential readings Film viewings Online technical lessons	Assignment 1 – Portfolio Due Fri 11/4/25 11.55 PM
1 st Week Semester Break	2-DAY ‘INTENSIVE’ PRACTICAL	Practical Mon 14th and Tues 15th April OR Wed 16th and Thurs 17th	Film viewings Live technical lessons Filmmaking practice	
2nd Week Semester Break	Production teams prepare for production	Pre-production completed Production commences		
Semester Week 8	No seminar Group consultations	Student-led learning Production week		
Semester Week 9	No seminar Group consultations	Student-led learning Production ends & post-production starts		
Semester Week 10	No seminar	Student-led learning Post-production continues		
Semester Week 11	No seminar Group consultations	Student-led learning Workshop (in class) Sound edit/design		Assignment 2 & 3 – Presentation of Assembly/ Rough Cut
Semester Week 12	No Seminar	Workshop (in class)		Assignment 2 & 3 – Presentation of Fine Cut
Semester Week 13	No Seminar			Assignment 2 & 3 due Sun 8/6/ 2025 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 connect.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 the [Service Connect Portal](#), 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 2025.03 of the [Handbook](#)