

Postgraduate study

MA Media Theory programmes

MA Media Practice programmes

Screen School MAs

MPhil/PhD

MRes

Media and Communications



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This booklet outlines the postgraduate programmes in Media and Communications at Goldsmiths, University of London. Please read this booklet in conjunction with our Postgraduate Prospectus; further information is available from Admissions at the contact details on page 40.

We can supply information in alternative formats for people with a visual impairment or dyslexia. Please contact the Course Enquiry Team on **+44 (0)20 7078 5300** or e-mail **course-info@gold.ac.uk**.

Introducing the Department

The Department of Media and Communications at Goldsmiths is one of the UK's leaders in the field of media theory and media practice. This reputation teamed with a thriving research and postgraduate community makes Goldsmiths a lively and challenging place to study Media and Communications. The Department offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and has over 800 students. The Department's postgraduate programme in media and communications is one of the largest in the world.

Key facts

- An internationally recognised Department. The 2008 RAE exercise places Goldsmiths' Department of Media and Communications among the top four in the country for this subject area. 80% of work submitted fell within the two highest bands in the new system – that is to say 'World Leading' and 'Internationally Excellent'.
- All our teaching and public events take place on one campus, predominantly in the New Academic Building with purpose-built television and film, radio and photography studios, extensive seminar and media practice facilities, and its own café.
- Commitment to teaching of the highest standard resulting in a score of 22/24 in the last Teaching Quality Assessment Exercise with an emphasis on high quality lectures and small group work.
- Teaching is led by internationally renowned researchers and practitioners including some of the leading names in media and cultural and communications studies research. Please visit www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications/research/
- While our MA degrees generally specialise in either theory or practice, some theory degrees involve a practice element (eg MA Digital Media) and all theory MA students will have options to take a limited range of short media practice courses. Similarly, some of our MA practice students have the option to do short courses in theory topics.

- Our library resources in the Rutherford Building include an excellent collection of audio visual materials as well as books and periodicals, bringing together traditional and electronic resources.
- We attract students from a wide range of backgrounds - mature students, students from the South East of London and from all over Britain and international students from every continent. We welcome each student's contribution to the Department.
- Our research spans a wide range of topics and approaches - from philosophical studies of technology and human life to sociological investigations of media production and use; from issues of identity, embodiment and becoming to post-feminism, queer theory and critical race studies; from global screen studies and transnational investigations of media and culture to news' role in contemporary democracy.
- Our research staff are involved in a number of funded projects (with funders including the EPSRC, ESRC, AHRC, the Leverhulme Foundation, the European Union, Carnegie and the Open Society Foundation). The Department has links with the Goldsmiths Institute for Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship (ICCE) and offers short courses on professional media practice.

Facilities

The Department has up-to-date facilities in all of its media areas, and aims to provide practice facilities that emulate current industry use. These include: digital and analogue acquisition for time-based media and photography, radio and TV Studios, photography studios, digital video and audio editing, ENPS facility, animation and image manipulation software and hardware, traditional darkrooms, computer rooms for student production.

For more information on the Department, please visit www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications.

Career progression

Our students go on to pursue a variety of careers ranging across the media and cultural industries, a number also pursue further studies and occupy academic posts throughout the world. A small sample from some programmes is listed below, see also: www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications/alumni-events/
http://mcserver.gold.ac.uk/journalism/ma/2007/in_our_own_words/frontpage.html

MA Filmmaking

Goldsmiths' film students regularly go on to win awards at major international film festivals, and have even been nominated for the short film Oscar. Our alumni are active in the film and television industries around the world.

MA Political Communications

Students have gone on to work for interest groups, NGOs, political parties, governments, as political journalists, and for international institutions such as the EU and the UN.

MA TV Journalism

Students have gone on to work in Broadcast Journalism in both presentation and production.

MA Journalism

Work produced by our students:
http://mcserver.gold.ac.uk/journalism/ma/2008/ma_journalism_JMM/index.html
www.eastlondonlines.co.uk

In the last three years alumni have gone on to work for The Independent, The Gloss (Irish Times), the FT, the Guardian, the Evening Standard, the Independent, the Times, the Daily Mail, Deutsche Presse Agentur, Company Magazine, Property Week, Yachting World. The Periodicals Training Council accredits the MA Journalism.

MA Radio

Recent graduates are employed by the BBC at local, regional, national and international level and by UK independent radio and television broadcasters. Many international students obtain broadcast employment in their countries of origin, and student work has won international awards. We encourage you to support the Goldsmiths student radio station Wired FM. The Broadcast Journalism Training Council accredits the MA Radio.

MA Screen Documentary

Student work has won numerous prestigious awards over many years, including the RTS Factual Television award on a number of occasions. Alumni are active in the industry throughout the world.

Media Industry links

To encourage links with the media industries, debate on current issues and to inform our research agenda, the department leads initiatives and interest groups across the college and outside. These include:

Centre for the Study of Global Media and Democracy

www.gold.ac.uk/global-media-democracy/

Goldsmiths Screen School

www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications/screenschool/

Goldsmiths Leverhulme Media Research Centre

www.gold.ac.uk/media-research-centre/

Goldsmiths, University of London Skillset

Media Academy (with Computing and Design Departments, the Documentary Filmmakers Group, Hi8us and London Film Academy) www.skillset.org/training/san/london/article_6397_1.asp



The Department is a key member of the FIRM Research Consortium (with BBC, Cambridge, MIT, and the Universities of Lancaster and Salford) which is researching the MediaCityUK development in Salford UK. www.firm-innovation.net/

The Department is also a leading force behind the Co-ordinating Committee for Media Reform

www.mediareform.org.uk

Introducing the degrees

We offer the following postgraduate degrees:

Media Theory MAs

- MA in Brand Development
- MA in Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship (Media Pathway in ICCE Programme)
- MA in Digital Media
- MA in Gender, Media and Culture (in conjunction with the Department of Sociology)
- MA in Media and Communications
- MA in Political Communications
- MA in Global Media and Transnational Communications

Media Practice MAs

- MA in Image and Communication
- MA in Journalism
- MA in Radio
- MA in Television Journalism
- MA in Digital Journalism (in conjunction with the Department of Computing)

Screen School MAs (Theory and Practice)

- MA in Film and Screen Studies
- MA in Filmmaking
- MA in Screen Documentary
- MA in Script Writing

MPhil/PhD

MRes

Entrance requirements

For all Media Theory Programmes and the MA Screen and Film Studies, you should normally hold, or expect to hold, a first degree of at least upper second standard in an appropriate subject. A first degree in Media and Communications is not required: we welcome students from a wide range of disciplines.

For other degrees, requirements vary. Please see individual programme details below. On all degrees, we welcome applications from Home/EU and International students.

English language requirement

If English is not your first language, you will need to obtain evidence of your English Language competence. We consider a range of English language equivalence tests and each programme has differing requirements. For details of the English language requirements you should view the web entry for your chosen programme on the website at www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications.

Where English is itself the medium of practice, such as Journalism or Script Writing, additional evidence of competence in English may be required.

Application and admission

Applications can be made online through the Goldsmiths website. Programmes have differing admissions deadlines. You should check the relevant programme on the Goldsmiths website for details of application deadlines at www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications. Admission is normally by interview except for those students residing outside the UK. Some programmes have additional admission requirements: see individual programme descriptions below.

Fees and funding

For up-to-date information on fees and funding, please visit www.gold.ac.uk/costs. **Please note:** fees are quoted on a yearly basis.

FEE WAIVERS NOW AVAILABLE for 2012/13 across all MA programmes

to selected students. Whichever MA course you apply for this year, if you accept an unconditional offer you will be eligible for the fee waiver scheme that will fund waivers equivalent in total to 13 full-time Home/EU fees. International students are also eligible for the scheme. Only applications received by the official deadline will be considered for fee waivers. Successful students will be notified by 30 May 2012.



“Picking a university is important. I chose Goldsmiths because of its high reputation in teaching and its creative atmosphere.”

Wan-Ting
MA in Brand Development



Media Theory programmes

For all MA Theory students

MA Research Skills course: in the Autumn and Spring terms, all MA students on Theory Programmes (and including MA Film and Screen Studies) attend a number of sessions on academic research skills and research methods; three lectures in the autumn and four-six seminar/workshop sessions focusing on selected methodological approaches commonly used in media and communications research. The aim of these two modules is to provide baseline knowledge of how to successfully complete a postgraduate academic research project, provide insight into the practicalities of project design, data-gathering and analysis for interdisciplinary research.

MA in Brand Development

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

This exciting degree will introduce you to one of the major areas in contemporary communications – brand development. Courses on the history and development of branding, and the changing role of marketing, promotion and design, will enable you to develop a critical and practical understanding of how branding is used in modern societies and institutions.

This is not a marketing degree, however, and students will take a rigorous, academic approach to contemporary branding and its contexts. Key themes such as intellectual property rights, the changing media environment, globalisation, and the impact of digital communications technologies form an important part of the syllabus.

The programme has been developed in collaboration with The Brand Union, and you will benefit from regular input from professionals working in the industry through seminars and talks from visiting speakers. Throughout your degree you can expect to be taught by experts in the field who have published widely in their respective areas of interest.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of two compulsory core courses, each valued at 30 credits, a dissertation of 60 credits and optional courses to the value of 60 credits. Courses are taught through a combination of lectures, seminars and tutorials.

Compulsory Core Courses

Branding I: History, Contexts and Practice

The first core course introduces you to a range of contemporary approaches to branding, and situates its development in the context of broader social and historical shifts. These include the emergence of consumer cultures, the changing media environment, the role of design and promotion in contemporary economies, and political contestation over the rules of international trade.

Branding II: Key themes and debates

The second core course focuses in more depth on key themes in contemporary branding, such as intellectual property rights, globalisation, place branding, the concept of brand 'value' and the impact of digital communications and marketing technologies. Throughout this core component of the degree, you will examine the very wide range of ways in which branding is used, from large media organisations and corporations to public sector bodies, charities, sports organisations and educational establishments. You will be encouraged to develop your critical and analytical skills, and to think creatively about how brands relate to their social and political contexts.

Options

For the optional courses, you will have an opportunity to explore some of the wider contexts for branding, by taking courses provided by other programmes in Media and Communications and by other Goldsmiths' Departments such as Sociology, Cultural Studies and (for some students) Design. The options that are available will vary from year to year, but may include: Media Audiences and Media Geographies, Political Communications, Music as Communication, Economic Sociology, Media, Ritual and Public Cultures, Promotional Culture, Consumer Citizenship and Visual Culture and Theories of the Culture Industry.

Goldsmiths prides itself on its innovative and critical approach, and you will be encouraged to immerse yourself in its creative intellectual environment in order to deepen your understanding of the cultural infrastructure surrounding branding.

Assessment

Assessment for each option is by a 5-6,000-word essay (3,000 for 15 credit options) and a 12,000-15,000-word Dissertation, which may be based on a work placement in a relevant industry or institution.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Liz Moor on 020 7919 7831 or e-mail l.moor@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Professional Media Practice

Skillset: Build Your Own MAs are industry recognised and specifically designed for working professionals in the creative media industries.

You can tailor your programme of study to suit your specific personal and career needs, and stand out and succeed in a competitive field with higher-level skills and specialist knowledge – whether you complete the full MA, which can be spread over 5 years, or select just one course. From cross-platform projects to entrepreneurship to computing, there's a course for your future.

For added flexibility, you can opt to take courses at any accredited institutions (known as Skillset Media Academies), as long as one third of your credits are completed at the Academy that awards your qualification.

These short courses are delivered using the knowledge and experience of prominent industry experts within Goldsmiths' widely-respected, innovative departments:

- Institute of Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship (ICCE)
- Media and Communications
- Design
- Computing

Entrance requirements

The course is open to media professionals with an undergraduate degree and the required work experience in a relevant industry (normally a minimum of two years), and to non-graduates with significant and relevant work experience (normally five years) who can demonstrate an ability to both complete and benefit from the course. Please refer to the contact details on page 40 of this booklet.

MA in Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

The MA in Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship programme will be attractive to people who either wish to develop a business arising from an existing creative practice or to understand how to create the infrastructure and environment for new types of creative businesses in the fields of Drama, Design, Creative Computing, Fashion, Media and Communications or Music to flourish in a variety of contexts.

Entrance requirements

We welcome applications from people with diverse backgrounds but whose interest focus is in the general areas of theatre and performance studies; design, fashion, creative computing, media and communications; and music.

Successful applicants will normally hold, or expect to hold, a first degree at 2.1 level or higher (or its equivalent in the case of applicants from abroad) in an arts or humanities subject or a subject that demonstrates your ability to think creatively and critically.

You must demonstrate in your written application and in interview (in person or by telephone), that you have a capacity for, and interest in, creative and cultural entrepreneurship; similarly, that you are able to meet the intellectual demands of a programme designed to be theoretically and practically challenging.

When applying, please specify your preferred pathway: Drama (performing arts), Design, Media and Communications, Music. You must demonstrate in your written application and in interview that you have a capacity for creative and cultural entrepreneurship, and that you are able to meet the intellectual demands of the programme.

Drama (performing arts) pathway: experience in drama, dance, performance and theatre studies, performing arts management at undergraduate level is desirable; Design pathway: a high degree classification in a discipline that has a demonstrable relationship to design and/or research. Applicants with relevant work experience will also be considered; Media and Communications pathway: experience in media and cultural studies at undergraduate level is desirable; Music pathway: evidence of engagement with contemporary music making is desirable, together with some understanding of management/administration issues as they particularly relate to music and musicians.

What do you study?

The programme contains four taught courses and a further dissertation/portfolio component. You will have a range of choices throughout the degree enabling you to design a pathway that is most relevant to your academic, business and career ambitions. All students take 'Theories of the Culture Industry: Work, Creativity and Precariousness' and 'Entrepreneurial Modelling', and your chosen pathway will determine the 'Creative Practice' course and 'Entrepreneurial Practices and Modes of Production' course that you take. In order to enable collaborative learning amongst those seeking to develop creative and cultural businesses and those already within them, we intend wherever possible to teach all students together, irrespective of the particular route on which you are registered.

For more detailed information on this programme, please see the Postgraduate ICCE booklet, available from the contact details on page 40.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact the Institute for Creative and Cultural Enterprises, e-mail icce@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Digital Media

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

The MA in Digital Media offers a critical conceptual approach to contemporary media and technology, challenging both technological determinism and over-optimistic visions of the virtual future, and stressing the social and historical contexts within which media technologies are employed. It will equip you with skills in critical evaluation and contextualisation, which can be applied to future developments in digital media and technology.

The MA is ideal if you wish to undertake further research and/or would like to pursue a career in the media and cultural industries. It is also suitable for media industry professionals who wish to reflect critically on their own practice through a taught course and who can demonstrate the relevant experience and expertise to undertake a practice/theory project.

What do you study?

There are two 'pathways' within the programme. The programme is comprised of two compulsory core courses each valued at 30 credits. In pathway one, there is also a 12,000-15,000-word dissertation of 60 credits plus option courses to the value of 60 credits. In pathway two, a digital media practice project valued at 30 credits plus a practice/theory project of 60 credits and additional course(s) to the value of 30 credits.

Options

The option courses are from the Departments of Media and Communications, Sociology, Anthropology, and English and Comparative Literature. Examples might include: New Media and Society, Nature and Culture, Cultural Theory, Interactive Media: Critical Theory, Globalisation, Risk and Control, Embodiment and Experience, Political Communications. You may also take as an option, the one term core course in MA in Cultural Studies (Cultural Theory) or the one term core course in MA in Interactive Media (Critical Theory of Interactive Media). Further information on these is available at www.gold.ac.uk.

Compulsory Core Courses

Both the following courses are taught as ten two-hour workshop sessions with supporting one-to-one tutorials:

Digital Media – Critical Perspectives

This course offers a range of critical perspectives on the concept of 'new' or digital media, incorporating critical explorations of contemporary concepts such as the information society, convergence, virtuality and hypertextuality and examining digital media in their role as technological objects.

Technology and Cultural Form – debates, models, dialogues

This course offers a series of debates, models and dialogues on the issue of technology and cultural form. The course is divided in two parts. In the first part, it develops those questions of power, politics and subjectivity, which were introduced in the first core course, exploring issues of surveillance and control and globalisation and examining the relevant debates and models formulated by key figures such as Michel Foucault, Donna Haraway and N Katherine Hayles. The second part of the course investigates the concepts of networks, systems, nature, culture, spaces and flows as they apply to new or digital media encouraging you to develop your own critical and where appropriate, practical perspective.

Digital Media Practice

One from: an individual production exercise and course book log in screen documentary; a single project in image making to be agreed with the supervisory team; a project concept and proposal and an individual web project in journalism; a script report and an adaptation proposal in fiction script writing and editing.

Dissertation or Practice/Theory Project

All students are required to produce either a 12,000-15,000-word Dissertation on a topic agreed by you and your supervisor, **or** a practice/theory project in the area of documentary, image making, journalism or fiction. The length of the practical element is dependent on the media and the form used; you must agree this in advance with your supervisor. It will, however, be comparable with practical projects undertaken in practice MA programmes in the relevant field.

Assessment

Pathway one: one 14-day seen take-home paper for Digital Media – Critical Perspectives; one 5-6,000-word essay for Technology and Cultural Form – Debates, models, dialogues; plus 5-6,000 word essays for four options; a 12,000-15,000-word Dissertation.

Pathway two: one 14-day seen take-home paper for Digital Media – Critical Perspectives; one 5-6,000-word essay for Technology and Cultural Form – Debates, models, dialogues, the project/production exercise; the practice theory project, including a 3-4,000-word analysis of your practice which locates it within the theoretical debates explored in the MA as a whole; 5-6,000-word essays for two options.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Sarah Kember on 020 7919 7629 or e-mail s.kember@gold.ac.uk.



MA in Gender, Media and Culture

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

The MA in Gender, Media and Culture introduces you to recent debates on gender in the disciplines of sociology and media and communications studies, and to the interdisciplinary domains of feminist social and cultural theory. Drawing on the internationally recognised and pioneering expertise of staff in the Department of Sociology and Department of Media and Communications, the programme offers you the opportunity to develop cutting edge critical skills in a range of perspectives on gender relations and culture. As well as these theoretical and analytical points of orientation, the MA helps you grasp the importance of epistemology and methodology for the evaluation of empirical investigations of gender formations. The programme introduces you to and offers training in the key socio-cultural methods for the study of gender in the contemporary world, including methods for the study of visual culture; the body and affect; and memory and autobiography. These two elements of the programme are brought together in a dissertation study, which involves tailored supervision in the application of research methods to a specific topic.

What do you study?

This programme comprises of two core courses over the Autumn and Spring term as well as a range of options from various Departments including History, English and Comparative Literature, Centre for Cultural Studies, and Anthropology. There is also a research dissertation component with each student being appointed a supervisor to advise on this element of the degree.

Core courses

There are two core courses: Introduction to Feminist and Cultural Theory; and Gender, Affect and the Body. Both are designed to allow you to become familiar with a wide range of debates which, since the mid 1970s, have become integral to the fields of gender studies, feminist theory, and also cultural studies. These include, questions about sexual difference and the performativity of gender; gender, science, and reproductive technology; debates on affect and emotion; on gender and migration

and the new international division of labour; and on feminism and autobiography. These courses will also incorporate new developments in feminist scholarship allowing you to engage with the way in which feminist theory has responded to social, cultural and political transformations.

Options

You choose Option courses to the value of 60 CATS from a wide range available in the two departments.

Please note: options may vary from year to year; not all of them are offered each year. You may also be able to choose some options from other Departments (usually Anthropology, Centre for Cultural Studies, English and Comparative Literature, Politics). A full list of potential options can be found at www.gold.ac.uk/pg/ma-gender-media-culture/.

Assessment

Each Core Course and Option is examined by a 5-6,000-word essay. The dissertation element of the programme requires a 12,000-15,000-word dissertation, which is submitted in late August. Students are also able to submit a collaborative dissertation by two or more students. This entails the collaborating students submitting one dissertation of approximately 10-12,000 words. In addition, each student involved in the collaboration also submits a research 'diary' or reflective account on the dissertation of between 2-3,000 words, which is marked separately. You agree your exact topic with your supervisor.

Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate Routes

Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) and Postgraduate Certificate (PgCert) awards are also available in this programme. For the award of Postgraduate Diploma, you usually complete the two core courses and two option courses, and for the Postgraduate Certificate one core course and one option.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Yasmin Gunaratnam, the Course Convenor (Sociology), on 020 7712 2957 or e-mail y.gunaratnam@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Media and Communications

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

This Master's programme brings together studies in the analysis of modern societies and their cultures through interdisciplinary perspectives – an area in which Goldsmiths has an international reputation. The programme offers an intensive learning experience, which introduces you to the key strands of theoretical and empirical work in the field, and offers an unusual opportunity to combine intensive study and research in media theory with options from related disciplines, in Sociology, Anthropology and English.

The taught programme is organised in two terms. The Autumn term runs from mid-September to mid-December and the Spring term from mid-January to mid-April. The two teaching terms are followed by a short assessment term, which runs from early May to mid-June, during which you will complete the bulk of your examined work, and prepare intensively for your Dissertation (which is submitted in late August).

What do you study?

The programme consists of one compulsory course valued at 30 credits, a dissertation valued at 60 credits and option courses from an approved list to the value of 90 credits.

Compulsory courses

Media Core Course – Introduction to Media and Communications Theory

The aim of this one-term course is to introduce and explore critically the principal theoretical perspectives relevant to analysing contemporary media. The following major approaches are placed in their historical context and examined for their different strengths: critical theory, cultural studies, audience studies, feminist theory and political economy. This historical exploration of media theory is also placed in the wider context of the development of modernity and modern social theory, as well as more recent debates about the post-modern and the postcolonial. The course forms the basis for the more specific analytical skills and knowledge you will develop in your options and your Dissertation.

Options

These vary from year to year; the following have been offered recently: Political Economy of the Mass Media; Political Communications; Screen Cultures; Music as Communication, Promotional Culture; Media Audiences and Media Geographies; Media, Ethnicity and Nation; Strategies in World Cinema; Embodiment and Experience; Cinema and Society; Music as Communication and Cultural Practice.

You can choose an option or options to the value of 30 credits offered by the Departments of English and Comparative Literature, Sociology or Anthropology. For details of these course options, please visit www.gold.ac.uk.

Assessment

Assessment for each option is by a single 5-6,000-word essay, except in the case of Introduction to Media and Communications Theory, which is assessed by two 14-day 2,500-word take-home papers and a 12,000-15,000-word Dissertation.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Professor Sara Ahmed on 020 7919 7616 or e-mail s.ahmed@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Political Communications

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

This innovative programme is designed to equip you with an understanding of the contexts, structures and implications of the growing field of political communications across the globe. It examines the relationship between media, political actors and the public and considers the extent to which mediated activity has influenced democratic politics and the distribution of power. This involves a focus on the forms and techniques of political communication as well as a critical orientation towards the transformations that have taken place in the public sphere. It is aimed at students who are interested in or want to develop careers in politics and political communications, PR, journalism and public policy as well as from professionals in those industries seeking to gain a more critical perspective on their work.

Entrance requirements

Applicants without a first degree are also considered based on significant professional experience, and a commitment to reflecting on their own professional practice.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of two compulsory core courses each valued at 30 credits and up to four option choices (to the value of 60 credits), one of which must be from the Department of Politics, a research methods course plus Dissertation valued at 60 credits.

Compulsory core courses

The Structure of Contemporary Political Communications

This first module focuses on core themes, actors and communication processes in political science and media studies/journalism. Topics covered include: theories of communications and democracy; news production and political journalism; political parties, ideologies and political marketing; public opinion and the crisis of disengagement; political advertising, public relations and spin; media effects and agenda-setting; civil society, counter public spheres and interest group campaigning; new media and e-democracy; government media management and propaganda; election campaigns; and, news coverage of conflict/terror, war, business and industrial relations.

Critical Perspectives on Political Communications

This course builds on term one, covering fresh topics and new perspectives and literature developed in media sociology, political sociology, international/comparative politics and cultural theory. Work discussed includes: theories of media, culture and power; policy making, advocacy and elite decision-making; new technologies and the information society; popular culture and politics; identity and difference in global politics; interest groups and new social movements; alternative communications and forms of democracy; comparative systems work on democracies, transitional and authoritarian regimes; global governance and transnational communications and citizenship.

Options

You choose a course or courses to the value of 30 credits with the Department of Politics, Plus a course or courses to the value of 30 credits from the Media and Communications Department. These vary from year to year; the following have been offered recently: Political Economy of the Mass Media; Political Communications; Screen Cultures; Music as Communication, Promotional Culture; Media Audiences and Media Geographies; Media, Ethnicity and Nation; Strategies in World Cinema; Embodiment and Experience; Cinema and Society; Music as Communication and Cultural Practice.

Research issues

You are also encouraged to take a further autumn term course, Asking The Right Questions: Research in Practice, which is offered to postgraduate students on practice programmes in the Department of Media and Communications. This is a course taught by a mixture of staff and visiting lecturers and examines the relationship between journalists, their material and their places of work and considers techniques of journalistic investigation. It will also include a number of lectures covering key research issues to enable journalists to better understand and interrogate sources of power within society. This course is not assessed and is designed to complement the core political communications programme.

Assessment

5-6,000 word essays for Structure of Contemporary Political Communications and Critical Perspectives on Political Communications; 5-6,000-word essays for each of the other theory courses (3,000 for 15 credit options); plus 12,000-15,000-word Dissertation.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Professor Aeron Davis on 020 7717 2966 or e-mail aeron.davis@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Global Media and Transnational Communications

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

This Master's programme introduces you to contemporary themes and debates in the study of media and communications from an international and intercultural perspective. We study changes in the ownership and control of traditional media, the past, present, and future of the Internet, and the role of the latest social media in political and sociocultural transformations. The core programme covers broader topics (eg globalisation, media and revolution, social mobilisation) as well as specific issues for closer analysis (eg identity formation, artistic (re)production, diaspora and identity, digital divides, ICT and media policy, power and resistance behind the screens) and cutting edge research methodologies. We work in an interdisciplinary way drawing on scholarly and public debates and practitioner, activist, and experiential perspectives.

This programme is particularly suitable for those wanting to move their knowledge, analytical skills, and academic qualifications up a level; for further study or to pursue careers in the media, the arts, non-profits and other third sector organisations, alternative media, the arts, consultancy, and activism.

By the end of the programme, you should be able to:

- understand public and academic debates about the role media and communications play in specific and broader processes of sociocultural and political change.
- analyse and evaluate the global-local, national-transnational, and offline-online dimensions to these processes.
- be conversant with scholarly theory and research in the transnational communications and global media domain and related disciplines.
- be able to articulate an informed position on these topics and issues for professional or academic purposes.
- know how to evaluate and apply a range of methodological approaches for conducting research.
- demonstrate the required level of conceptual and research skills to undertake and complete an independent research project relevant to this programme.

Entrance requirements

In your personal statement you need to demonstrate a commitment to thinking reflexively and critically in theoretical, creative, and professional pursuits.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of two compulsory core courses valued at 30 credits each, a dissertation valued at 60 credits and additional option or options to the value of 60 credits and a Research Skills/Methods module.

Global Media and Transnational Communications I: Orientations

This course takes a bird's eye-view of the terrain in historical perspective and in light of recent developments. Topics include 'globalization' and its critics, the politics of media policy making, ICTs for Development, multilateral agenda-setting, media geographies, space-time compression, theories of the "information society", transnational film production, the cultural politics of music-sharing, cinema and global affects, PR and advertising in a digital age. We look at a range of theoretical approaches to studying the traditional media, the Internet, Web 2.0, and social media. The course runs in the Autumn term and takes place once a week as a combined lecture/seminar session, which includes lectures from guest speakers. Attendance once a week at smaller reading groups may also be required.

Global Media and Transnational Communications II: Further Explorations

This second core course delves more deeply into selected research topics from year to year. Issues covered include case-studies of everyday life, the web, and diaspora, transnational cultures, postcolonial cinema, post-modernity, 'digital capitalism', media and identity, censorship, citizen journalism, transnational social movements, surveillance and control, digital activism, power struggles over the Internet, media and revolution, ICTs, development and human rights. The course takes place in the Spring term once a week as a combined lecture/seminar session. It also includes guest lectures. Attendance once a week at smaller reading groups may also be required.

Options

These vary from year to year; the following have been offered recently: Political Economy of the Mass Media; Political Communications; Screen Cultures; Music as Communication, Promotional Culture; Media Audiences and Media Geographies; Media, Ethnicity and Nation; Strategies in World Cinema; Embodiment and Experience; Cinema and Society; Music as Communication and Cultural Practice.

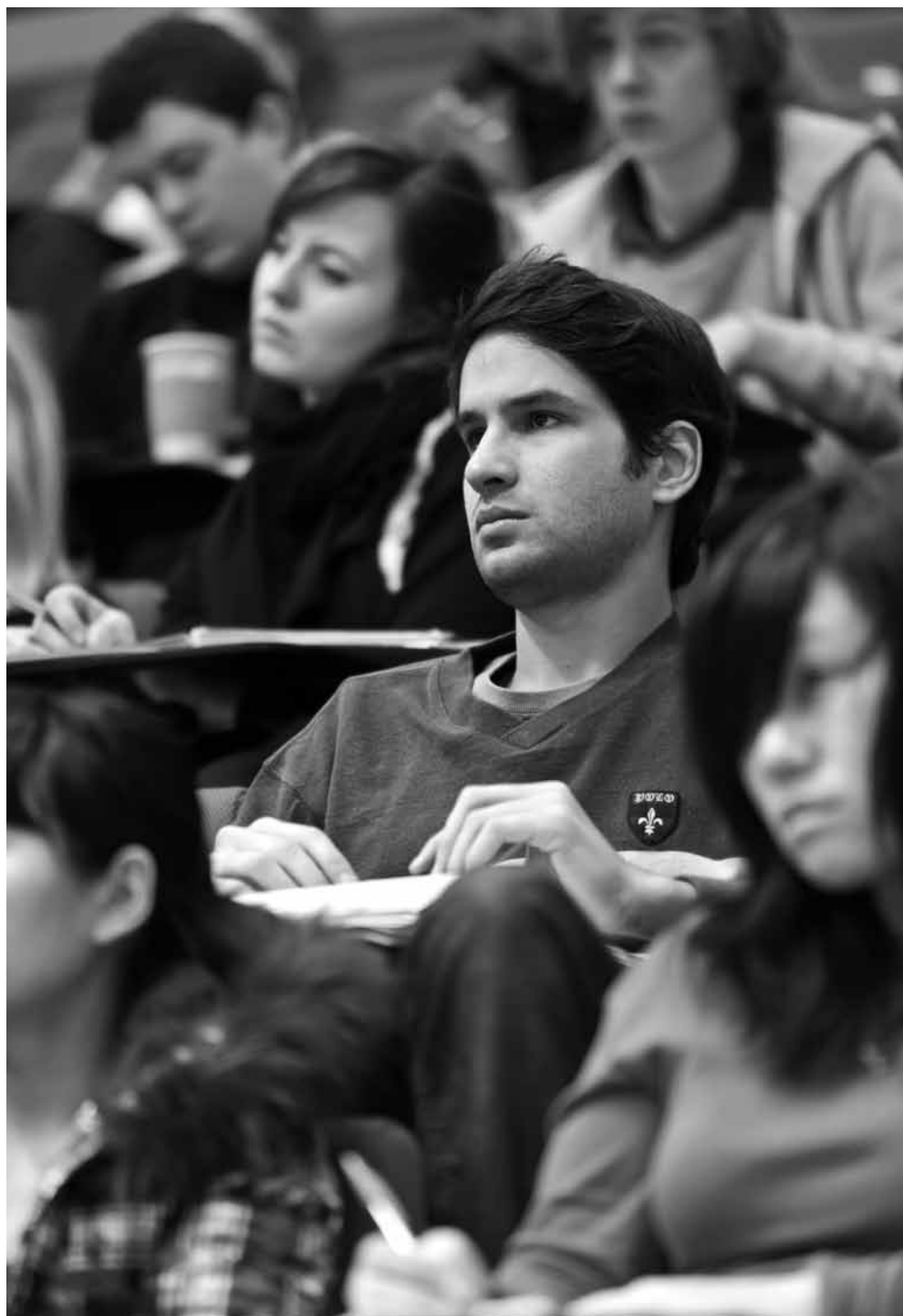
You may also choose options offered by the Departments of English and Comparative Literature, Sociology or Anthropology. For details of these course options please visit www.gold.ac.uk.

Assessment

You are assessed in written and spoken forms by: two essays (mid-term and end of term) essays for Orientations; a formal (individual or group) presentation and a Research Report based on your Dissertation topic for Further Explorations. In the Spring and Summer terms you will be working on your own research project; assessed as a 12,000-15,000-word Dissertation on an approved topic. For all three core courses you will also be required to submit work for unmarked forms of evaluation at specific times.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Marianne Franklin on 020 7919 7072 or e-mail m.i.franklin@gold.ac.uk.





Media Practice programmes

MA in Image and Communication

1 year full-time

The MA in Image and Communication (Photography or Electronic Graphics) gives practitioners and theorists the opportunity to research and develop the new boundaries of image-making made possible by technological change within the context of post-industrial culture. By combining theory and practice, it encourages you to deal with aspects of visual style and established practices of production while drawing on a broad range of cultural references and technical practices.

There are two modes to the programme allowing specialisation in either photography or electronic graphics, but a wide view of practice is encompassed. There is a common theory element and some joint practice elements which recognise the rapidly changing definitions and context of these practice areas.

Entrance requirements

In addition to the application form (see general requirements), you will need to submit samples of both your written and visual work. Admission is normally by interview.

You should normally have, or expect to gain, an appropriate first degree in a relevant subject, and have a level of practical experience. Alternatively, you may be a non-graduate with relevant practical experience and be able to demonstrate an ability to work at this level. If you are not a graduate, or your degree is in an unrelated field, you may be subject to a qualifying examination.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of three elements; a core course in Issues in Media and Culture valued at 15 credits, Image Construction, Manipulation and Management valued at 75 credits and an Original Portfolio valued at 90 credits.

The programme begins with a series of enabling practice workshops and theory courses. Over the year formal tuition is superseded by a project/tutorial system enabling you to develop your own interests.

Production Components

Practice workshops are open where relevant to all students on the MA. You are encouraged to develop project treatments whilst completing workshop sessions. Contents include:

Photography: medium/large format cameras, flash technology (portable and studio), colour printing, lighting, digital photography, scanning, printing, image management, durational technologies, production and post-production.

Electronic Graphics: computer and video graphics, computer-aided design, interactive work, virtual and projective media, animation, animatics, 2D and 3D computer animation. As a student, you take part in all 'enabling sessions' and are encouraged to reinforce these where relevant. During this intensive early part of the programme, you are encouraged to continue personal work.

Practice/Theory – Image Construction

This course provides an opportunity to undertake and review practical work in a critical/analytical spirit, drawing on the work of semiology and more recent developments in analysis, as well as research in the fields of communication and cultural studies. Through demonstrations, exercises and seminars led by staff, students and visiting lecturers, you are asked to consider critically aspects of contemporary visual communications. General topic areas are iconography, image manipulation and image management.

Issues in Media and Culture

Theory, philosophy, and artistic practice all share in the business of asking us to pay attention to something we might otherwise not consider, might not see nor hear, and to think about it. Philosophy searches for meaning unfettered by habitual understandings and beliefs. By making something and placing it before us, the practitioner too makes demands on our otherwise quotidian understanding of the world. Theory pays attention to the relationship between meaning and the things we encounter in the world, be they actions, customs, artworks, or media events. It tries to reveal, clarify, or deepen that relationship. In all cases, it is with great care that we cut something out of the continuum of life and frame it, be it by the covers of a book, the focus of a lens, the devices of a story, or the punctuations of dialogue. This course aims to aid in sharpening that care by estranging ourselves from the familiar and familiarising ourselves with that which is strange.

Assessment

This programme is assessed through coursework, exercises and short projects, an exhibition/portfolio of original work and two essays: Issues in Media and Culture (3-4,000-word essay) and Practice Theory (3-4,000-word essay). In addition there is a viva voce examination on the practical work.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Nigel Perkins on 020 7919 7928 or e-mail n.perkins@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Journalism

1 year full-time

This Master's programme furthers the creative development of individuals working in the field of journalism by the exploration of practical and theoretical approaches to the development of skills, which may be applied to practice in print, radio, television and new media. The course encourages a critical understanding of journalistic practice and informed knowledge of the overall political and industrial contexts in which journalists are now working.

You learn about newsgathering and production, feature writing, media law, web-based journalism and media theory. You are also encouraged and helped to find work placements during term holidays. By the end of the programme, you should be:

- familiar with a wide range of journalistic techniques and practices and the means by which they may be realised
- able to develop a personal approach to your own practice
- able to produce a portfolio of original print journalism work to a professional standard
- conversant with the wider ethical, legal and technological contexts of journalistic practice
- able to describe the qualities of your own work and of its cultural significance

Entrance requirements

You should normally have, or expect to gain, an appropriate first degree at 2.1 or equivalent level. In the past we have considered a range of first-degree subject areas. You should also have some appropriate practical experience and be able to demonstrate an ability to work at this level. You must also demonstrate that you can write fluently in colloquial English by submitting samples of your journalistic work with your application. If you are not a graduate, or your degree is in an unrelated field, you may be subject to a qualifying examination. Admission is normally by interview and a test may be set.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of Journalism in Context valued at 15 credits, Asking the Right Questions 15 credits, Journalism Practice (News) 30 credits, Journalism Practice (features) 90 credits and Media Law and Ethics 30 credits.

The programme is a practical introduction to journalism as a multi-media skill with the emphasis on print journalism. In the first term there will be teaching in lectures, small group seminars and practical workshops for a period of approximately 12-15 hours. During the rest of the week students are expected to work on individual and joint projects without supervision. In the second term, teaching time of 8-10 hours is usually concentrated on two or three days per week to allow more time for research and writing. In the third term, students are only required to attend for one or two days a week and the rest of the time is devoted to producing a portfolio.

Production Components

News: in the first term you learn about news content; the establishment of a news agenda; researching; interviewing; writing; sub-editing and on-screen layout. In the second half of term you will apply this knowledge to the production of a weekly local newspaper. You also take a basic course in television news techniques and web journalism.

Features: in the second and third terms the course concentrates on features. The course will examine the use of features in newspapers and magazines; the marketing of ideas, and different ways of presenting features for different outlets; interviewing techniques; descriptive writing; writing within a news context; profile writing; opinion and humour. Students produce a website or a magazine proposal.

All teaching is workshop based with the course tutor and invited practitioners from Radio and TV, as well as print journalism. In the second term students will have bi-weekly individual tutorials as well as workshops with practitioners in different areas of print journalism.

Theory Components

In the first term a series of talks on Monday mornings will link theory and practice. In the second term you attend a course of lectures and seminars on the principles and applications of media law concentrating on the UK but also making references to the USA and Australia and some other countries. The course also explores theories in Media Ethics and Cultural Studies concerning the making of media laws and media regulation.

Assessment

You are assessed by: 3-4,000 word essay related to issues of multi-media journalism; three-hour unseen examination in Media Law and Ethics; portfolio of original journalistic work; work produced throughout the year, including assignments not included in the portfolio; plus your contributions to group projects and discussions.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Angela Phillips on 020 7919 7610 or e-mail a.phillips@gold.ac.uk.



MA in Radio

1 year full-time

This Master's programme provides an opportunity for postgraduates with some knowledge and experience of radio to explore the medium in depth, both in theory and practice. The programme provides teaching and learning in radio journalism and creative radio; primarily in the audio documentary and drama forms. Radio journalism is taught in the context of digital multi-media online publication and this programme was the first MA university practice course to be accredited by the UK BJTC (Broadcasting Journalism Training Council).

Students have access to digital production and self-drive sound studios and networked audio postproduction rooms. The radio newsroom has a licensed network of ENPS terminals with student access to national and international professional wire and radio news services. Students are encouraged to participate in Goldsmiths Student Union radio service Wired.

By the end of the programme, you should have gained:

- familiarity with a wide range of journalistic practices and creative techniques of radio production through your production of a portfolio of creative programming to a professional standard.
- a critical approach to your own practice.
- knowledge of the wider ethical, legal, and cultural contexts of international radio practice.
- a foundation ability in professional aspects of technical operation and confidence and knowledge of the potential and application of digital technology for editorial and creative programme operations.
- knowledge of presentation for news programming and the skills needed for radio drama performance, direction and sound design.
- sound judgement in editorial decision making; news selection and priority, documentary research and programme structuring, live programme production in the magazine and news and current affairs formats, and presentation of popular radio formats and in the online publication context of multi-media.

Entrance requirements

You should normally have, or expect to gain, a first degree at 2.1 or equivalent level. You should also have some appropriate practical experience and be able to demonstrate an ability to work at this level. Alternatively, you may be a non-graduate with significant practical experience and the ability to work at this level. If you are not a graduate, or your degree is in an unrelated field, you may be subject to a qualifying examination.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of Creative Radio valued at 60 credits, Radio Journalism 45 credits, Media Law and Ethics 30 credits, Sound Story telling and Narrative Intertextuality 15 credits, Asking the Right Questions 15 credits and Radio Studies: A Cultural Enquiry 15 credits.

Creative Radio

Producing audio features; primarily in the documentary and dramatic form. 10 sessions during Autumn term and five sessions during second half of the Spring term. Week-day access to facilities during the Summer term. Full tutorial support during the Summer term.

Radio Journalism

Ten sessions on Local Radio Journalism in Autumn Term. Five sessions on national and international radio journalism are held in the Spring Term. Six further sessions develop advanced radio journalism skills in the context of multi-media followed by a short four-session course in digital video reporting. During the first five weeks of the Summer term, three sessions each week are devoted to running live rolling radio news broadcasting and the editorial management and focus on audio publication of the multi-media community news site, East London Lines. At other times the students are expected to complete at least three weeks of work experience/internship in a radio news/journalistic environment and obtain a pro-forma assessment by the supervising news editor.

Media, Law and Ethics

UK and US media law and ethics with reference to some other legal jurisdictions. Ten lectures/seminars in Autumn term, 5 revision lectures/seminars in the Spring term.

Radio Studies – A Cultural Enquiry

Exploring academically the cultural history and practice of radio. 20 seminars/lectures.

Sound Story Telling and Intertextuality of Narrative

This course explores the common aspects of sound narrative in different practice media. Ten two-hour workshops during the Spring term.

Asking the Right Questions

Researching skills for journalism. Ten two-hour lecture/seminars during the Autumn term.

Assessment

A portfolio of one 5-minute, and one 10-minute and one 15-minute radio programme; a portfolio of audio and multi-media reports, and self-analysis of significant editorial roles; one unseen 3-hour written examination paper (Media Law & Ethics); one essay of 4-5,000 words; one 20-page script suitable for 30-minute audio drama production adapted from film, prose, theatre or documentary source; a portfolio consisting of a research report, three pitches for journalistic treatment, and a main research task for journalistic radio production.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Tim Crook on 020 7919 7611 or e-mail t.crook@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Television Journalism

1 year full-time

This Master's programme enables you to learn the professional conventions of UK news and current affairs television journalism and relevant production skills. It encourages a critical understanding of television journalistic practice and an informed knowledge of the overall political and industrial contexts in which journalists are now working. The programme is both practical and skills-based but is taught within a theoretical framework.

By the end of the programme, you should be:

- familiar with techniques and practices appropriate to television journalism
- able to produce a portfolio of original television news and current affairs reports to a professional standard
- able to produce a portfolio of original print journalism work to a professional standard
- conversant with the wider ethical, legal and technological contexts of broadcast journalistic practice
- able to describe the qualities of your own work and of its cultural significance.

Entrance requirements

In addition to the application form (see general requirements), each completed application must include evidence of your writing abilities - either in the form of a draft ten page short script, or opening ten pages of a longer script; or a 10-page short story; and several 1-page ideas for a feature script you would like to develop and write on the course.

You should normally have, or expect to gain, an appropriate first degree in a relevant subject at 2.1 or equivalent level, and have some practical experience. Alternatively, you may be a non-graduate with relevant practical experience, and the ability to work at this level.

You must also demonstrate a strong interest in television production and journalism by submitting with your application samples of your television/journalistic work in English. If you are not a graduate, or your degree is in an unrelated field, you may be subject to a qualifying examination.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of Television Journalism Practice valued at 120 credits, Media Law and Ethics 30 credits, Asking the Right Questions 15 credits and Journalism in Context 15 credits.

The programme is a practical introduction to TV news journalism. In the first term you are taught in lectures, small group seminars and practical workshops for a period of approximately 12-15 hours. During the rest of the week, you are expected to work on individual and joint projects without supervision. In the second term, teaching time of 8-10 hours is usually concentrated on two or three days per week to allow more time for production. In the third term you are expected to work, with support, on your production for assessment.

Production components

News: in the first term you learn about news content; the establishment of a news agenda, newsgathering, researching and interviewing.

Television Production: you take a television production course which covers areas such as pre-production planning and research, camerawork, sound-recording, basic lighting, editing, post-production techniques, scripting, voice-production and studio-work.

Theory components

Theory is integrated into practice teaching where appropriate, but there is also an additional course of lectures, which provide a broader critical and theoretical framework.

Media Law and Ethics

This compulsory course outlines the principles and applications of media law concentrating on the UK but with reference to the USA and Australia and other countries. It also explores theories in Media Ethics and the Cultural Studies concerning the making of Media Laws and Media Regulation.

Assessment

You are assessed on: one 3,000-4,000-word essay related to Broadcast Journalism; one 3 hour unseen paper in Media Law and Ethics; a production portfolio comprising the research, planning, shooting and editing of original current affairs reports; assessment of coursework.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Peter Lee-Wright on 020 7919 7613 or e-mail p.lee-wright@gold.ac.uk.

Screen School MAs (Theory and Practice)

MA in Film and Screen Studies

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

The aim of the MA in Film and Screen Studies is to re-think film studies in the age of convergence. Over several decades, film has been supplemented with screen-based media such as television, the Internet, video games, installation art and much more, and digitisation has recently resulted in the fact that distinctions between media forms are harder and harder to draw. Acknowledging cinema's central place in modernity, we also need to do justice to these developments and to understand film as part of larger culture of screens today. This path-breaking programme seeks to reconsider film studies by opening up the range of objects explored and approaches employed in investigating both the present and the past of screen media.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of two compulsory core courses, each valued at 30 credits, a dissertation of 60 credits and optional courses to the value of 60 credits. Courses are taught through a combination of lectures, seminars and tutorials.

The idea of Screen and Film Studies responds to the convergence of media forms and platforms of delivery. As individualised modes of screen culture have grown, screens have proliferated in public space; from the back of aeroplane seats to the ubiquity of electronic screens in city centres.

Responding to this transformation, Screen and Film Studies identifies three key frames through which to examine the transformation of distinct cultural forms and practices. First, what are the new modes of dissemination of screen cultures, and how do they impact on and constitute our understanding of public and private space? Second, what is the effect of convergence on forms of screen culture itself? How is the narrative and auratic form of film, and the immediate and sequential axes of television, affected by new modes of dissemination; and what new hybrid cultures are produced? Third, what forms of engagement do we have with screen culture, and how does it transform our perception of what is

real and what is fictional, of what is proximate and distant, of what is present and past? The programme is comprised of two compulsory core courses, four course options, and a Dissertation.

Core Courses

New Developments in Screen and Film Theory: The Magic and the Real

The first compulsory core course is taught via seminar format in the Autumn term. The course functions as a foundation to the subject and offers students a map of the key debates in screen studies around the realistic and/or fantastic qualities of the screen based media. In this course, we return to the origins of the idea and practice of cinema in a fascination with the real and the magical. Historians of the cinema conventionally associate its appeal with the Lumière Brothers and Georges Méliès, but these fascinations continue beyond celluloid to reality TV, surveillance cameras, and so on. By examining the real and the magical in their various screen incarnations, we hope to achieve a better understanding of the range of Screen Studies, in terms of objects, approaches, and issues.

Screen and Film Studies II: Screen Cultures

Screens are now a dominant presence and interface in culture in a number of suggestive ways. Public space is characterised by screens of information, advertising and surveillance that affect the ways in which we perceive, use and move through spaces. The spectacular scale of the cinematic screen is giving way to micro screens, the attributes of a personalised and mobile life-style. The discrete identity of media objects is increasingly lost to a convergence of forms within the computer terminal. This course explores our relationship to these transformations, through the work of Marc Auge and his concept of non-place, theories of remediation and immediacy, and Lev Manovich's idea of the computer screen as a layered interface which we access as randomly as we do memories. This course requires you to use London as a research site, and encourages you to visit galleries, museums and archives. It also encourages you to engage in the use of the internet to explore particular screen cultures. Films referred to in sessions will be on the reserve desk for your use during the term.

Options

These vary from year to year; the following have been offered recently: Political Economy of the Mass Media; Political Communications; Screen Cultures; Music as Communication, Promotional Culture; Media Audiences and Media Geographies; Media, Ethnicity and Nation; Strategies in World Cinema; Embodiment and Experience; Cinema and Society; Music as Communication and Cultural Practice.

You may also take one option outside the Department (but within Goldsmiths) and one outside Goldsmiths within other University of London departments where we have developed cross-listing agreements. These include SOAS, Birkbeck, and Queen Mary. Your option profile is discussed with the Programme Convenor to ensure you have an appropriate balance of subject-specific topics. Option courses are taught primarily through lectures, seminars and tutorials and take place in the Autumn or Spring terms.

Assessment

Two short essays for Screen Studies I, one 5-6,000-word essay for Screen Studies II and each option course (3-4,000 for 15 credit options), plus a 12-15,000-word Dissertation.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Pasi Valiaho on 020 7717 2965 or e-mail pvaliaho@gold.ac.uk.





MA in Filmmaking

1 year full-time (January entry)

The MA in Filmmaking is an integral part of the Goldsmiths Skillset Media Academy and is housed in a new purpose-built media facility. The course developed in response to the re-emergence of the short film format as an important popular art form in the early twenty first century. It is a collaborative programme, which offers a broad church of specialization in six filmmaking craft areas. It is important to note that the curriculum is not designed according to the traditional Writer-Director led film production model; neither is it an MA in each of the individual specialist subjects. In addition to your specialist area, you attend classes in related disciplines and collaborate with students across the specialisations on film projects.

The MA in Filmmaking helps you develop your creative and intellectual skills whilst exploring your interest in the practice of contemporary fiction filmmaking. The degree is distinctive in that it focuses on the practical, analytical and creative aspects of filmmaking from a range of perspectives, rather than solely from the perspective of the filmmaker as auteur. For this reason, the programme allows you to specialise in one of several filmmaking craft areas: Cinematography, Sound Design, Editing, Producing or Directing.

The programme is aimed at film practice graduates and existing filmmakers wishing to develop their filmmaking skills to a professional level with a high degree of intellectual precision. Film theory graduates will also be considered if they demonstrate aptitude for practical filmmaking.

The course is structured around the making of short films in small production teams. You work on at least one film per term in your specialist role, culminating in a major production towards the end of the degree. This framework is designed to stimulate collaborative practice by providing you with a breadth of filmmaking knowledge combined with a high level of expertise in one of six key filmmaking roles. You choose your specialisation at application stage in order to ensure a balance of key roles in each filmmaking team.

Twenty-four students are accepted onto the programme, four in each of the six specialist areas: Film Producing/Cinematography – Camera/Cinematography – Lighting/Sound Design /Film Editing/Film Directing. You are allocated a place in one of four teams of six specialist filmmakers, and remain in this team for the duration of the course. The programme operates in two streams: Stream 1. Producing, Directing and Editing/Stream 2. Sound Design and Cinematography.

The programme runs from January to December. Shooting exercises are photographed on Super-16mm film and Red One digital video. Completed graduation films are premiered at BAFTA, prior to being entered into worldwide film festivals.

Entrance requirements

On application, prospective students MUST outline their first AND second choice of specialist roles. You must submit a showreel of recent film work (moving image on DVD/other media on CD) with your application, and we require at least one reference before considering an applicant.

We recommend that you apply early in the academic year, by 14th February if you intend to apply for funding, April-August for all other applicants. Admission is normally by interview except for those students residing outside the UK.

Applicants should normally hold an appropriate first degree in the humanities and be able to demonstrate a keen interest, as well as some practical experience, in at least one of the specialist filmmaking roles offered on the course. Applicants without a first degree are also considered based on significant filmmaking experience, and a commitment to reflecting on their own media practice.

What do you study?

The MA consists of a practical filmmaking course valued at 150 credits and Narrative in Practice valued at 30 credits. You are expected to pursue additional research in your particular specialism, and there is further access to shooting equipment and post-production facilities.

Filmmaking Course (Compulsory)

The Filmmaking course is the core course in the programme. It consists of practical hands-on workshops in key filmmaking crafts, alongside creative and critical development of ideas. It comprises of lectures, screenings, small group seminars, workshops, group exercises, group projects and individual tutorials. Most of the specialised sessions are run by visiting professionals from the film and television industries. The Spring and Summer terms are the most teaching intensive in terms of hands-on filmmaking classes; preproduction for the main projects takes place during the summer break; and the Autumn term is devoted largely to production and postproduction of the main film projects.

Narrative in Practice (Compulsory)

This course is for both screen practitioners whose creative work involves narrative and for screen studies students interested in theoretical issues arising from the narrative process. We look at broad issues - what narratives are, how they differ from non-narratives, what forms they may take (fiction and non-fiction), and what functions they serve in our own and one or more other societies. We look at elements of narrative creation: character, conflict, structure, plot and we look at the ways in which different aspects of screen productions, particularly editing and sound design, contribute to narrative impact. The speakers are a mix of practitioners who work in the screen industries and theorists who study narrative in traditional, alternative, cross-cultural and new media forms. Examples are drawn from a range of fiction and non-fiction sources, depending on the speakers' own interests, and include short films, documentary and feature films, television drama and news, games and online media.

Attendance

Essentially, the programme is full-time during term time. You must attend the two compulsory taught courses and must also be prepared to devote a significant amount of additional time to the practical filmmaking projects. Generally, formal practice teaching takes place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Outside of timetabled classes, you are expected to work individually and in groups on campus. Often you will find yourself in pre-production for one project, while shooting another, while in post-production for another.

Assessment

You are assessed on your contribution to your major film project and on your ability to critically reflect on your work. You are expected to submit a collaboratively produced piece of narrative film of between 7-20 minutes in length; and a 5,000-word essay illustrated by a portfolio of related production paperwork. For Narrative in Practice you are assessed on a formal academic essay about related theoretical issues of 5-6,000 words, which may include up to 2,000 words of scene analysis.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Gerry McCulloch on 020 7919 7246 or e-mail g.mcculloch@gold.ac.uk.

2'30"

105

OUT OF THIS WORLD 7sec

News Theme 2.12

END STING 6 SECONDS

INTRO MUSIC 50 SRS. KEEP

35"

NEWS STING R4 STYLE 17 SEC OCT 91

BONIFEX 3 ADS. KEEP. WH. SMITH / FISH / NGO ALBUM. 1'20" SAPPHIRE



“I feel constantly challenged and inspired by the arty and creative atmosphere you feel around campus. Its “edgy” location constantly shows you how real London is, and I love it.”

Carolina, MA in Screen Documentary

MA in Screen Documentary

1 year full-time

This Master's programme provides you with access to the equipment, skills and creative and intellectual stimulation to enable you to realise your potential as a documentary filmmaker.

The programme encourages a practical and theoretical understanding of the politics, aesthetics and ethics of documentary production and the nature and diversity of documentary practices, in contemporary society.

By the end of the programme, you should be:

- familiar with a range of documentary production techniques and practices and the means by which they may be realised
- able to develop a personal approach to documentary production
- able to produce an original short documentary to a professional standard
- conversant with a body of theory which relates to your approach and work
- able to describe the qualities of your own work and of its cultural significance.

Entrance requirements

In addition to the application form (see general requirements), you must also submit a short (1-2 page) treatment of a documentary idea with your application, which gives an indication of style as well as content. Admission is normally by interview.

You should normally have, or expect to gain, a first degree in the arts or humanities at 2.1 or equivalent level. You should also have some relevant film/video production experience. Alternatively, you may be a non-graduate with relevant practical experience, and be able to demonstrate an ability to work at this level.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of a Final project valued at 90 credits, a Coursework log valued at 45 credits, Representing Reality 30 credits and Issues in Media and Culture, 15 credits.

Television Documentary Production

The taught components of this core course are both practical, with the aim of enabling you to acquire the technical skills needed to complete your final

projects, and theoretical, with the aim of exploring the aesthetic, ethical and ideological implications of documentary production techniques.

The course includes work on the following: programme planning and production research; camerawork, sound and lighting techniques and editing; interviewing, scripting, writing commentary; budgeting and archive work. You work on the production of short feature items in the first half of the course, before beginning work on your final project. This core course is supported by two theoretical courses.

Representing Reality

Consisting of ten lectures followed by seminars, this course will explore the documentary form from the combined perspectives of Screen Studies and Visual Anthropology. It will consider documentary production in its various social and historical contexts and across different distribution platforms (from the cinema to the art gallery), and deal with current debates about documentary ethics and aesthetics. Taught by a range of Lecturers from the Media and Communications and Anthropology Departments, it will encompass both Anglophone and international (including Chinese) documentary traditions, and historical examples from the early Soviet avant-garde to contemporary 'reality' TV.

Issues in Media and Culture

Please see page 20 for details.

Final project

The final project is to produce a 15-20 minute documentary. There are no regulations as to content and form, apart from it being an original piece of work. We give recognition to adventurous or difficult subjects, and to formal experimentation, as well as to technical and 'craft' competence and professionalism. Production of these documentaries starts in March for delivery during the Summer term.

Assessment

You are assessed by: one 3-4,000-word essay on Issues in Media and Culture; the final project; coursework log; and one 5-6,000-word essay on Representing Reality.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Tony Dowmunt on 020 7919 7765 or e-mail t.dowmunt@gold.ac.uk.

MA in Script Writing

1 year full-time

This programme focuses on the creative, analytical and professional aspects of script writing, in the context of the contemporary film, television and radio industries. The MA Script Writing is accredited by Skillset (further to the Department's accreditation as a Skillset Media Academy) and currently receives funding to support some student bursaries. For more information, please visit the Skillset website at www.skillset.org.

The programme is aimed at those who already have some writing experience, but who want to develop professional skills and expertise as screen or radio script writers. It is designed to develop your own writing and distinctive voice, and to enable you to pitch for employment and production funding in a highly competitive industry. You complete the programme with a feature film or equivalent television or radio script. You also gain knowledge of the film, television or radio industries and some of the contacts necessary to market your projects. The short scripts written on the course are eligible for the Goldsmiths Short Script Competition open to the whole college. Each year four scripts are chosen for MA Filmmaking student production.

Entrance requirements

In addition to the application form (see general requirements), each application must include evidence of your writing abilities – either in the form of a draft 10-page short script, or opening ten pages of a longer script; or a 10-page short story. In addition, you must include several 1-page ideas for a feature or equivalent projects you would like to develop and write on the programme.

You should normally have, or expect to gain, a first degree at 2.1 or equivalent level, and have a proven commitment to creative writing. Alternatively, you may be a non-graduate with significant practical experience. If you are not a graduate, or your degree is in an unrelated field, you may be subject to a qualifying examination.

What do you study?

The MA is composed of Scriptwriting Portfolio valued at 90 credits, a Reflection Essay 15 credits, Sound Story telling and Narrative Intertextuality 15 credits, two from Short Form Script, Script Editing, Narrative in Practice, Cinema and Society, Screen Cultures, each 30 credits.

Long Form Script (Scriptwriting Portfolio)

As the major creative writing component to this programme, this module is designed to give you the skills and understanding required to develop your Treatment for a feature film or equivalent television or radio script. The course is taught mostly with workshops, in which you present and discuss your own work with other students in a supportive environment. There are also class exercises, lectures, screenings, master classes, seminars and individual tutorials. Starting in the Spring Term, the course then develops the treatment into a second draft feature script (or its equivalent).

Issues in Media and Culture

Please see page 20 for details.

Sound Story Telling and Intertextuality of Narrative

This course explores the common aspects of sound narrative in different practice media, and critically investigates to an advanced standard how audiogenic techniques transfer intertextually between radio, prose, theatre, and film. Lecture/seminars, handouts and Web resources will look at the complex debates and issues encountered through the practical experience of adapting scripts between visual and sound storytelling. Ten two-hour workshops during the Spring term. Twenty contact hours.

Two of the following courses:

Narrative in Practice

This course is for both screen practitioners whose creative work involves narrative and for screen studies students interested in theoretical issues arising from the narrative process. We look at broad issues – what narratives are, how they differ from non-narratives, what forms they may take (fiction and non-fiction), and what functions they serve in our own and one or more other societies. We look at elements of narrative creation: character, conflict, structure, plot and we look at the ways in which different aspects of screen productions, particularly editing and sound design, contribute to narrative impact. The speakers are a mix of practitioners who work in the screen industries and theorists who study narrative in traditional, alternative, cross-cultural and new media forms. Examples are drawn from a range of fiction and non-fiction sources, depending on the speakers' own interests, and include short films, documentary and feature films, TV drama and news, games and online media.

Script Editing

This course develops editorial and analytical skills to complement the creative ones developed in the others. The course requires you to become familiar with the script development processes in film, television and radio. The course is taught by weekly seminars and practical workshops, some of which are led by industry professionals.

Short Form Script

This course helps you understand the basic elements required for the construction of short fiction scripts for screen or radio. You then use this knowledge to develop one of the ideas you brought to the course to write your script. The course is taught by a weekly one-hour seminar followed by a two-hour workshop. Each script receives a reading from professional actors at the end of the course. All short scripts are eligible for entry into the Short Script Competition for production from MA Filmmaking students.

Cinema and Society

This course looks at the rise of visual culture from the inception of cinema to the present day. Beginning with its founding myth, the historic screening of Lumière's Arrival of the Train in 1895 at The Grand Café, and ending with a study of the place of popular film in our lives today, we will explore the various ways in which the moving image affected consciousness.

Screen Cultures

Screens are now a dominant presence and interface in culture in a number of suggestive ways. This course explores our relationship to these transformations, the ways in which our bodies are re-positioned by screens, our modes of expression and communication are affected, and our experience of time and space is reworked.

Assessment

You are assessed on your portfolio, which consists of your long form treatment and second draft feature script or equivalent, your 4,000-word Reflection essay on this script, linked to issues in Media and Culture and a radio script adapted from a source text. In addition, depending on your options, your portfolio could also include a 10-12 page short script or script-editing proposal and coverage. Other courses are assessed by 5-6,000-word essays.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Dr Julian Henriques, 020 7919 7365 or e-mail j.henriques@gold.ac.uk



MPhil and PhD

We offer research supervision in all fields of Media and Communications. We welcome applications from a diversity of intellectual backgrounds.

Current research

Please go to www.gold.ac.uk/media-communications for details on staff and their research interests.

Entrance requirements

We prefer you to have a Masters degree, or to be studying for one at the time of your application. However, we will consider applicants with a good undergraduate degree – please enquire about your eligibility.

We recommend that you apply as early in the academic year as possible; there are also fixed deadlines for specific funding sources. Admission normally requires face-to-face (or, in exceptional circumstances, telephone) interview.

Registration and study

Initially, you register for a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) programme to train you in the research methods you will need to complete a PhD. You can apply to upgrade to PhD registration when you have satisfactorily completed an agreed part of the research and training programme; this usually happens before 24 months if you are studying full-time, or before 36 months if part-time. You should aim to complete and submit your PhD thesis within an agreed period, usually three to four years for full-time students, and four to five years for part-time. If you decide not to upgrade to PhD registration, you can submit your thesis for an MPhil after two years if you are studying full-time, or after three years if part-time. With the agreement of your supervisor, you can change your registration from full to part-time or vice versa; the necessary form is available from the Registry Programmes Office.

North American applicants especially should note that the British system does not include preparatory taught classes or examinations as part of the MPhil/PhD programme, except for an initial course in research methods.

Research supervision

You are assigned members of staff qualified to supervise your research throughout your period

of registration. You usually have a main supervisor, although in some cases joint supervision is agreed, and two members of staff are involved in the supervision. Supervision involves regular meetings throughout the period of study, and ideally involves the development of an intensive intellectual relationship between you and your supervisor, from which both parties gain.

Research training programme

As a first year research student, you are expected to attend a variety of courses introducing you to research methods. You are required to present your work at the PhD workshop sessions held jointly with the University of Westminster and the London School of Economics. You are also encouraged to attend workshops, conferences and visiting speakers hosted by the department.

In addition, you are able to sample the wider range of activities taking place in the department and enjoy the interdisciplinary emphasis of the college as a whole.

Facilities

Research students in the Department have a dedicated open access computer room. In addition you have access to Goldsmiths' Graduate School, containing an open-access computer room and other facilities. The School hosts a series of seminars and other activities during the year, which are open to all postgraduate research students and staff in the College. The Graduate School Office is based in the Whitehead Building 117. Our staff oversee research students' progress and well-being and co-ordinate the generic training courses for postgraduate research students, whilst the Graduate Study Space is based in Whitehead Building 144.

Assessment

Examination is by thesis and a viva voce. The thesis normally is written but candidates may present their research in some other form with an accompanying written report.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Professor David Morley on 020 7919 7621 or e-mail d.morley@gold.ac.uk.

MRes in Media and Communications

1 year full-time or 2 years part-time

An MRes in Media and Communications gives you the opportunity to pursue a specific research project in greater depth than on the general Masters' programmes. Although you are expected to complete a limited range of taught methods courses, the main examined component of the MRes is a 20,000-word Dissertation and two 5-6,000-word essays. An MRes is often used as a stepping-stone to PhD study and gives you an indication of the demands of study for higher research degrees.

Entrance requirements

You should normally have, or expect to gain, a first degree of at least upper second class standard in an appropriate subject which in general will include social sciences and humanities. If your degree is in an unrelated field, you may also be considered subject to a qualifying examination (which any candidate may be required to take).

Assessment

Examination is by thesis.

Find out more

If you have specific programme queries, once you've read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact Professor David Morley on 020 7919 7621 or e-mail d.morley@gold.ac.uk.



Contact us

We hope you have found this booklet informative. If you have specific questions about the content of our programmes, please contact the Department of Media and Communications on +44 (0)20 7919 7615, e-mail media-comms@gold.ac.uk.

If you have questions about entry qualifications, admissions, or arranging interviews, please contact us as follows:

Course Enquiry Unit

telephone +44 (0)20 7078 5300

fax +44 (0)20 7919 7509

e-mail course-info@gold.ac.uk

We can supply information in alternative formats for people with a visual impairment or dyslexia. Please contact Admissions on +44 (0)20 7078 5300, e-mail admissions@gold.ac.uk for further details.

Did you find this booklet helpful?

We would welcome any comments you have about the content or design of this booklet. Please e-mail ext-comms@gold.ac.uk, or write to Communications and Publicity, Goldsmiths, University of London, New Cross, London SE14 6NW, stating the name of the booklet. All information is treated in the strictest confidence and will in no way affect any application you make to Goldsmiths; no personal data is kept on file.



Disclaimer

The information in this Prospectus was correct in October 2011. Prospectuses are as far as possible accurate as at the date of publication, but the College does not intend by the publication of a prospectus, or any other advance degree programme information, to create any contractual or other legal relation with applicants, accepted students, their advisers or any other person. Nor is it responsible or liable for the accuracy or reliability of any of the information in third party publications or websites referred to in a prospectus. The College is unable to accept liability for the cancellation of proposed programmes of study prior to their scheduled start, although it will take reasonable steps to transfer students affected by the cancellation to similar or related programmes of study. The College undertakes all reasonable steps to provide educational services including teaching, examination, assessment and other related services, set out in its prospectuses and programme literature ("Educational Services"). However, except where otherwise expressly stated in writing, the College cannot accept liability or pay any compensation where the performance or prompt performance of its obligations to provide Educational Services is prevented or affected by "force majeure". "Force majeure" means any event which the institution could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events may include (but are not limited to) war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, terrorist activity, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, pandemic flu, interruption in power supplies or other services for any reason, fire and all similar events outside the control of the College. Please visit www.gold.ac.uk/regulations/general-regulations/current/disclaimer for our most up-to-date disclaimer.

Terms and conditions

All students are subject to Goldsmiths' Regulations (published at www.gold.ac.uk/regulations). When you accept an offer to study at Goldsmiths you undertake to comply with these Regulations, with Goldsmiths' Charter, Statutes and Ordinances (www.gold.ac.uk/governance/ordinances and www.gold.ac.uk/governance/charter-statutes), with the Statutes and Regulations of the University of London (available from the University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU), and with relevant legislation in force at the time. Please note that a student who has not received the official written offer of a place from the Goldsmiths Admissions Office (or UCAS, GTTR or SWAS as appropriate) may not be admitted to, or enrolled on, a programme of study.

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This booklet is printed on 9lives Offset, which is manufactured from 100% recycled fibre.
Content: 100% recovered fibre. TCT bleaching.
Manufacturing accreditation: ISO 9001, ISO 14001.
Product certification: FSC 100% recycled, NAPM recycled approved



Goldsmiths has joined the Carbon Trust's Higher Education Carbon Management programme, and is participating in the national 10:10 campaign, demonstrating a commitment to cutting carbon emissions. Goldsmiths' efforts in the field of carbon management and emission reduction have been recognised by the government.

Our Mission

We offer a transformative experience,
generating knowledge and stimulating
self-discovery through creative, radical and
intellectually rigorous thinking and practice.

Goldsmiths

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