

MA/MFA Scriptwriting

Programme specification

1. Programme details

Item	Information
a) Programme name (incl. pathways):	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
b) Programme code(s)	730156A
c) Programme credit value(s)	180 CATS 90 ECTS
d) Programme author(s)	Naz Sadoughi
e) Entry requirements	You should have (or expect to be awarded) an undergraduate degree of at least 2:2 standard in a relevant/related subject. You might also be considered if you aren't a graduate or your degree is in an unrelated field, but you have relevant experience and can show you can work at postgraduate level
f) Academic year effective from	2026-27

2. Programme Aims & Overview

Aims

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's geared towards developing each student's own writing and distinctive voice, to enable the student to pitch for employment and production funding in a highly competitive industry.

Overview

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 ScreenSkills. 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's geared towards developing each student's own writing and distinctive voice, to enable the student to pitch for employment and production funding in a highly competitive industry. Each student will complete the programme with a feature film or equivalent television or radio script, and will also gain knowledge of the film, television or radio industries and some of the contacts necessary to market their projects.

The programme is embedded in the Department's ethos of diversity and interdisciplinarity. This is reflected in the combination of practice and theory which allows us to challenge norms and engage with real-world issues.

3. External reference

Item	Information
a) FHEQ Level of Award:	7
b) UCAS Code(s):	N/A
c) HECoS Code(s):	(100443) Media Production
d) QAA Benchmark group:	N/A

4. Awards

Item	Information
a) Awarding institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
b) Teaching institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
c) Home School:	MCCS
d) School(s) also involved in teaching of the programme:	1. None 2. None 3. None If other, name here:
e) Entry awards:	<input type="checkbox"/> Foundation Cert <input type="checkbox"/> CertHE <input type="checkbox"/> DipHE <input type="checkbox"/> PGCert <input type="checkbox"/> PGDip
f) Interim exit awards:	<input type="checkbox"/> Foundation Cert <input type="checkbox"/> CertHE <input type="checkbox"/> DipHE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PGCert <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PGDip
g) Final awards:	MA/MFA

5. Delivery

Item	Information
a) Language of study:	English
b) Valid intake points in year:	<input type="checkbox"/> January <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sept/Oct <input type="checkbox"/> Other If other, specify:
c) Mode of study:	On Campus Indicate the overall balance of teaching modes in the rows below. Row d) shows total hours of directed learning, with e) and f) showing how this is broken down in in-person vs. online learning, in hours and percentages.
d) Total hours directed learning/year	280

Item	Information	
e) In-person hours	280	100%
f) Online hours	0	0%
g) Pace of study:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full time <input type="checkbox"/> Part time	
h) Duration of programme	Full time: MA 1 year, MFA 2 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> years <input type="checkbox"/> months Part time: <input type="checkbox"/> years <input type="checkbox"/> months	
i) External accreditation:		
j) Apprenticeship Standard:	N/A	

6. Programme Learning Outcomes

Also, see the [curriculum map](#) at the end of document.

For UG exit awards, Learning Outcomes must be achieved in the level indicated below:

- CertHE = Level 4
- DipHE = Level 5

Learning outcomes are grouped in categories of:

- **Declarative learning** - knowledge, thinking & facts (D1-3)
- **Functional learning** - application of knowledge, thinking & facts (F1-3)
- **Professional and transferable skills and behaviours** (P1-3)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

	Learning Outcome	Level	Graduate Attribute
D1	Develop and apply a practical and wide-ranging understanding of how stories are told for different platforms, audiences and marketplaces via case studies each week	7	Diversity of perspective
D2	Demonstrate through creative practice a detailed understanding of the techniques of script writing, including format, the writing of action lines, and the technique of 'show don't tell'.	7	Collaboration
D3	Analyse and critique stories created by other writers through the study of produced screenplays.	7	Diversity of perspective
F1	Identify story components parts (such as concept, character, genre and target audience) and reimagine them in a new form	7	Diversity of perspective
F2	Demonstrate understanding of and ability to apply skills in creative and critical thinking to original script work.	7	Political in the personal
F3	Develop and apply a range of conceptual, critical and evaluative skills.	7	Diversity of perspective

	Learning Outcome	Level	Graduate Attribute
P1	Deploy advanced communication and discussion skills in written and oral contexts.	7	Collaboration
P2	Research different market places and their audiences both domestically and internationally and apply an understanding of this in your practice.	7	Responsible agency
P3	Work successfully in groups as well as independently to realise objectives.	7	Collaboration

7. Programme Structure

For Undergraduate programmes (UG), each level must amount to at least **120 CATS** (60 ECTS).

Postgraduate (PGT) programmes must amount to at least 180 CATS (90ECTS), with exception to interim exit awards.

Programmes are staged in **Phases**, where each Phase relates to an exit award.

Compulsory modules must be taken by all students.

Option modules – you must choose one or more of the options available to this programme at this level and point. The option modules available from this list may vary from year to year, depending on student numbers and staff availability. Selection takes place during your studies, not before

Phase 1 (FT)

Module Name	Code	Credit	Level	Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Short Form Script	MC71106B	30	7	Compulsory	1	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Adaptation & Script Editing	MC71107B	30	7	Compulsory	2	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Long Form Project	MC71067B	60	7	Compulsory	3	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Scriptwriting Philosophy (Essay) and Practice (Portfolio)	MC71071C	30	7	Compulsory	3	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
MFA Independent Practice	MC7XXXA	180	7	Compulsory	1-2-3	N/A	MFA Scriptwriting

Module Name	Code	Credit	Level	Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Queer Crip Decolonial Feminisms	MC71232B	30	7	Option - Shared	1	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Film Craft Fundamentals	MC71169A	30	7	Option - Shared	1	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Strategies of World Cinema	MC71065B	30	7	Option - Shared	1	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Media & Culture in the Middle East	MC71183A	30	7	Option - Shared	1	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Embodiment & Experience	MC71051C	30	7	Option - Shared	2	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Mediating the City	MC71042D	30	7	Option- Shared	2	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Music as Communication & Creative Practice	MC71050A	30	7	Option- Shared	2	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Experimental Media	MC71153B	30	7	Option- Shared	2	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Activist Film & Social Change	MC71168B	30	7	Option- Shared	2	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting
Digital Audiovisual Media	MC71237A	30	7	Option- Shared	2	N/A	MA/MFA Scriptwriting

Module Name	Module Code	Credit	Level	Module Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
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8. Learning, Teaching & Assessment

Learning & Teaching methods

Teaching will comprise workshops, practical labs, lectures and seminars. The teaching is on campus to give you the best learning experience, with online tutorials made possible. You are expected to attend all of your timetabled learning activities.

Specifically, this programme will be taught in the following ways:

A variety of teaching methods will include lectures, seminars, screenings, discussions and individual tutorials to cover all of the above Knowledge and Skill Outcomes. The tutorials providing individual feedback which are important for supporting students in the application of their knowledge and understanding to their own work.

In addition, the following teaching strategies are particularly relevant to specific outcomes:

1. Workshops with constructive feedback from fellow students in a supportive environment, for achieving cognitive and thinking and subject-specific outcomes.
2. Invited industry guests for the acquisition of subject-specific skills.
3. Pitching sessions with industry professionals.
4. Peer to peer feedback.
5. Unrehearsed script readings for achieving the majority of cognitive and thinking and subject specific outcomes.

Assessment modes and approaches

You will be assessed in a range ways throughout your course. These will be both Formative (for feedback and development), and Summative (required to pass and progress to the next level). Summative assessments are compulsory.

Feedback is a crucial part of your learning and development in this programme. You will receive feedback both on your Formative (work in progress) tasks/assessments, and your Summative (graded) assessments. This feedback will help the assessment to be a part of your learning, not just a test. It may be verbal, written or video based. Please engage with this feedback to improve your future work.

Specifically, this programme will be assessed in the following ways:

Module	Assessment Type	Submission	Learning Outcomes	Credits
Long Form project	Coursework	Long form Project – 90-100 page feature length script or 60 Page TV pilot + series bible or 90 minute Radio Play	all	60
Short Form script	Coursework	Short Form script - 10-15 page Short film script	all	30
Adaptation & Script Editing	Coursework	Novel/short story adaptation Treatment and 10 pages of adapted script	all	30

Scriptwriting Philosophy and Practice	Essay/Portfolio	A 4000-word Essay which will include reflection, philosophical/theory and industry components. Portfolio Segment – is an eight-page document which includes, treatment, writer’s statement, character bios, synopsis and mood board	D1, D2, D3 , F3, P1, P2, P3	30
Optional Module	From a selection of modules on offer			30

Assessment diet (number of assessments for compulsory modules)

Mode	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Total
Coursework	0	0	0	0	3	3
Exam	0	0	0	0	0	0
Live	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portfolio (multi-modal)	0	0	0	0	1	1
Practical / multimedia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Written	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	5	5
Of which...	Individual:	5	Group:	0		

9. Other information

Item	Information
a) Assessment regulations	https://www.gold.ac.uk/gam/taught-programmes/assessment/
b) Placement opportunities	NA
c) Programme-specific requirements	NA.
d) Programme specific costs and resources	NA.
e) Employability and potential career opportunities	

10. Academic support

There is a range of support available to you to give you the best possible chance of success in this programme.

Please see your tutors and student portal/VLE for details of what's available and how to access this support.

11. Curriculum map

Programme Learning Outcomes assessed by each module:

Module name	Code	Type	D1	D2	D3	F1	F2	F3	P1	P2	P3
Short Form Script	MC71106 B	Compulsory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Adaptation & Script Editing	MC71107 B	Compulsory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scriptwriting Philosophy (Essay) and Practice (Portfolio)	MC71071 C	Compulsory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Long Form Project	MC71067 B	Compulsory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Queer Crip Decolonial Feminisms	MC71232 B	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Film Craft Fundamentals	MC71169 A	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Strategies of World Cinema	MC71065 B	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Media & Culture in the Middle East	MC71183 A	Option - Shared									
Embodiment & Experience	MC71051 C	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mediating the City	MC71042 D	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Music as Communication & Creative Practice	MC71050 A	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Experimental Media	MC71153 B	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Activist Film & Social Change	MC71168 B	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Module name	Code	Type	D1	D2	D3	F1	F2	F3	P1	P2	P3
Digital Audiovisual Media	MC71237 A	Option - Shared	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MFA Independent Practice	MC7XXX A	Compulsory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>