

Nottingham Trent University Course Specification

Basic Course Information

1.	Awarding Institution:	Nottingham Trent University
2.	School/Campus:	Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies
3.	Final Award, Course Title and Modes of Study:	BSc (Hons) Film Production Technology Full time
4.	Normal Duration:	3 years
5.	UCAS Code:	P317

6. Overview and general educational aims of the course

A career in Film Production Technology involves maths, science, art and computer skills, as well as good communication skills, ability to multi task and the ability to work as part of a team. Film production is a highly technical process and involves a large team of individuals each with their own specific skillset and as such the BSc (Hons) Film Production Technology course will give you the opportunity to pursue a career in this area of the creative industries.

The course aims to create ambitious graduates who are equipped with the relevant skillset for entry into the film industry by ensuring the industry's voice is embedded at the heart of the curriculum. Employability will be an integral element of the course and you will receive training on the latest industry software and hardware combined with ample opportunities throughout the programme to undertake appropriate work based learning.

You will experience different roles and specialisms across the entire film production process but will also be encouraged to develop a specific area of expertise so you get the breadth of experience, but also taste the depth of specialism. As such your personal interests will be at the heart of the student experience and should allow you to flourish.

The BSc (Hons) Film Production Technology has been designed to meet the demands of the industry and you will develop a broad base of technical skills such as camera operation, sound recordist, picture editor, lighting technician, digital imaging technician and camera technician. The curriculum design is focused on the development of a range skills working with the hardware and software technologies associated with film production. For example, you will learn about depth of field, f-stops, iris control, digital camera sensors, kelvin temperature scale, OHMs law, white balance, compression and the management and manipulation of digital audio and video assets.

You will learn to understand how films are financed and how production budgets are devised whilst also working with live briefs in order to develop your ability to deliver work to deadline. This will also develop your approach to problem-based learning working within the parameters required to manage and deliver film products effectively.

You will spend time studying the industry so you are able to keep up to date with developments in your chosen field, through magazines, blogs, and software documentation. You will study the history of film to get a sense of the industry before the introduction of digital filmmaking in order to help understand where we are now, culturally as well as technologically, which will help you to open new insights into current practice whilst enabling significant critical, creative analysis and evaluation of work.

The integration of problem solving and technical resource management and intensive tuition in increasingly complex software and hardware will increase your experience of creating and experimenting with a range of different techniques and production processes so you are prepared with the new entrant skills demanded by the film industry.

7. **Course outcomes**

Course outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of your course if you take advantage of the opportunities for learning that we provide.

Knowledge and understanding

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Utilise systematic enquiry within the field of creative media technology and apply findings to your own work.
- Demonstrate critical and conceptual understanding of the theories and practices involved in film production.
- Investigate key economic aspects of the domestic and international film industry with specific reference to the production, distribution, exhibition and sustainability of film products.
- Reflect on your professional practice taking account of the context in which it occurs.

Skills, qualities and attributes

By the end of the course you should be able to demonstrate:

- Initiate and formulate solutions in relation to current and future technologies within the global media industry.
- Exercise initiative and personal responsibility in your learning and development.
- Apply diagnostic, analytical and creative technical skills which can be applied to traditional and new innovative methods of filmmaking.
- Develop an understanding in the essential artistic, scientific and technological principles underpinning film production.

8. **Teaching and learning methods**

Within individual modules the delivery of the material encourages increasing levels of skill development and student participation, ensuring that, as you progress through the course, you become a more confident and independent learner. We aim to include a range of methods of delivery that may include;

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Workshop
- Group tutorials
- Academic Tutorials (ATs)

- Presentations and Pitches
- Team working
- Independent learning
- Visiting industry professionals

All the modes of delivery are structured to develop on-going abilities and skills through exploring ideas and problem solving. The course will offer a broad range of assessment methods.

You are encouraged to take responsibility for your own learning. All related module information can be accessed on NTU's Online Workspace (NOW) to support your learning.

9. **Assessment methods**

Assessment is conducted according to the School 'Assessment and Feedback Principles and Guidelines' policy. This policy ensures the academic standards and their appropriateness, are made clear to you.

Assessments for each module place an emphasis on portfolio building and each portfolio for each module will contain a range of evidence such as practical work, production management evidence, reflection, evaluation, research projects, presentations and written work.

Each assessment undertaken will enable you to experience a variety of technological roles within Film Production whilst enabling you to experience industry standard working practices and software. The varied assessment tasks have been designed to prepare you for the range of skills you require to work in the global film industry.

Assessment is clearly defined in module specifications and module guides. Informal formative feedback is provided in tutorials, seminars and individual surgery sessions or via online methods. You will receive formal formative feedback about your work written in response to the learning outcomes during the module at appropriate points, i.e. when you are best placed to be able to act on that feedback. Formative feedback is completed within 21 days and will be returned to you via NOW (NTU's online workspace). Summative feedback occurs at the conclusion of each module and is completed in line with NTU regulations.

10. **Course structure and curriculum**

The course is structured in a modular manner, over three years of study. The following modules make up the programme of study.

Level Four (120 Credits)

- Audio-Visual Film Technologies (20 Credits)
- The Evolution of Film Technology (20 Credits)
- Film Project Management (20 Credits)
- Applied Film Technologies (20 Credits)
- Post Production Technology for Film (40 Credits)

Level Five (120 Credits)

- Advanced Film Technologies (20 Credits)
- Short Film Development (20 Credits)
- Short Film Production (20 Credits)
- Industry Practice (20 Credits)
- Advanced Post Production Technology for Film (40 Credits)

Level Six (120 Credits)

- Exhibition (20 Credits)
- Digital Film Production (40 Credits)
- Special Effects (20 Credits)
- Technology Investigation (40 Credits)

You will study towards 120 credit points in each year of study. The first year of study focusses on introductory material to establish a base level understanding of theoretical principles and practical processes. Your second year of study will expand your technical understanding of the core subject disciplines, whilst also introducing you to new contexts and working practices. During the second year of study you will participate in an 'Industry' based module, designed to introduce you to the television industry workplace, through a 'live' client brief. This will provide you with an opportunity to put into practice the skills acquired in your other modules within an industry setting.

The four modules that you will study in your final year are specifically designed to complement each other through providing opportunities for you to demonstrate your ability to research innovate creative solutions and to experiment and expand your knowledge of software and hardware. The aim of these four modules is to ensure you graduate with the knowledge and skills applicable to a career in the television industry. You are expected to respond with increasing responsibility and awareness of appropriate technical and creative requirements. This is an important feature of the course and means that by the end of the academic year you have presented a body of work, which in its critical and conceptual form combines both individual aspiration and skill, with a clear sense of professional alignment, career trajectory and direction

The assignments completed across all modules of the course are designed so that you will have developed a core set of skills by the end of your studies that will prepare you for work in industry. Additionally, the work you complete as part of your studies will form an ongoing collection of work that demonstrates your developing professionalism in the subject area, thus helping support your entry into industry or further study after graduation.

As an NTU student studying at CICT you will have access to a wide range of resources including the wider NTU facilities such as the library and the student's union.

11. Admission to the course

Entry requirements.

For current information regarding all entry requirements for this course, please see the 'Applying' tab on the NTU course information web page.

12. Support for learning

You will be assigned a named personal tutor at the start of your year who will run personal tutorials and who will act as a guide in more personal matters and your module leaders will be available to offer guidance and support where necessary.

It is recognised that there may be times when a student's performance in an assessment is adversely affected by circumstances beyond their control, this is called an Exceptional Circumstance. You can notify us of an Exceptional Circumstance at any time during the academic year through the University's online Notification of Exceptional Circumstance's procedure (NEC) which can be found within the Academic Appeals section of the University's Student Handbook. Please speak to your Course Leader for advice on what to do next.

CICT is committed to assisting you to achieve the best results possible during your studies and will provide you with a wide range of academic help and advice. A comprehensive learner support system is in place and additional advice and support is also available from the university and student union and this can be tailored to meet your needs.

13. Graduate destinations / employability

Academic Tutorials are designed to help focus your individual career plan. These sessions, designed by your tutors are supported by Careers Service. The Industry Practice module will help align your own exit trajectory with the assignment work you will be completing during the course.

Employability will be an integral element of the course with training on the latest industry standard software and hardware combined with ample opportunities throughout the programme to undertake appropriate work based learning. The integration of problem solving and diagnostic testing and intensive tuition in increasingly complex software and hardware will increase your experience of creating and experimenting with a range of technical production processes so a confident, creative, innovative, technically savvy graduate is prepared with the new entrant skills demanded by the film industry.

Typical job roles in industry might include:

- Camera Operator/Technician
- Production Management
- Sound Recordist
- Digital Imaging Technician
- Video Editor
- Audio Editor
- Lighting Technician

Many roles in industry operate on a freelance or self-employed basis and the course aims to equip you for these working models through professional industry based projects and specific business skills workshops and seminars. Graduates seeking to enter the industry in a freelance capacity are well placed to successfully do so.

<p>14. Course standards and quality</p>
<p>There are well-established systems for managing the quality of the curriculum and ensuring that the courses remain current. Also, External Examiners are appointed to each course and report on the appropriateness of the curriculum, the quality of student work and the assessment process.</p> <p>CICT reviews, defines and updates its courses and modules with dialogue between staff and students an important part of this ongoing, reflective process. Whilst there are good informal relationships between staff and students, there are also formal channels for gathering and responding to student feedback which comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student/Staff Liaison Committee • Formal module evaluation, undertaken by questionnaire • Course Student Representatives, elected by the student group, represent students who attend the Course Committee meeting. <p>Feedback from CCM's is discussed by the School Academic Standards and Quality Committee (SASQC). Your contribution to this process is important and you will receive feedback on issues raised.</p>
<p>15. Assessment regulations</p>
<p>This course is subject to the University's Common Assessment Regulations (located in Section 16 and 16A of the NTU Quality Handbook). Any course specific assessment features are described below:</p> <p>There are no course specific assessment features.</p>
<p>8. Additional Information</p> <p>Collaborative partner(s):</p> <p>Course referenced to national QAA Benchmark Statements: THE ACCREDITATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence Third Edition September 2016</p> <p>Communication, media, film and cultural studies 2016 Benchmarks</p> <p>Course recognised by: N/A</p> <p>Date implemented:</p> <p>Any additional information:</p>

Key features of the course:

Designed to provide graduates with the core skills required to work in the film industry.

Teaches advanced computer skills working with industry standard post production software combined with a detailed understanding of the mathematical and scientific principles that underpin this subject area.

Programme is designed around employability – students develop industry facing skills combined with creativity, good communications and organisational skills.

Integration of problem solving and diagnostic testing and intensive tuition in increasingly complex software and hardware will increase student's experience of creating and experimenting with a range of different production processes.