Programme Specification

Programme award and title: MLitt in Film Studies and Creative Practice

SCQF Level: 11
SCQF Credit Value: 180

Educational aims of the programme:

The purpose of the programme is for students to develop a sophisticated understanding of the core theoretical and analytical concepts and debates underpinning film and media studies and the context of cinema and creative cultures more generally, and they should be able to relate those concepts to specific instances. Students should be able to articulate why and how we might interpret and analyse cinema and other media cultures, in a manner that also considers the wide implications of such discussions in terms of history, ideology, form, aesthetics and policy. In addition to the core modules that offer a grounding in film analysis and film theory, the programme will offer a pathway on creative practice that allows the student to choose from a broad range of modules examining a range of issues within film, media and creative studies that may include: cultural theory, media relations, media rights, film and television policy, genre, digital cultures, screen representation, audiences, as well as media practices such as scriptwriting and film journalism, within a broader analysis of creative practice. The Creative Practice pathway enables students to complete a Creative Project, which includes a reflective essay, on an agreed topic of interest in film, media and creative studies in place of the dissertation.

Intended programme learning outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding
- This programme aims to provide students with a broad conceptual base for the understanding of key concepts in the study of film, as well as contemporary creative practice.

Subject-specific skills and other attributes
- Students will learn to analyse film and cinema within the context of the broader issues and debates currently informing film studies, including the retheorization of concepts such as narrative, spectatorship, realism, genre, national and transnational cinema, ideology, and their contemporary articulation in the field of film and cinema studies. In addition the creative practice pathway offers consideration of film and media industries and policies, creative practices such as scriptwriting and film journalism, and digital cultures.

Generic skills (e.g. information skills, communication skills, critical, analytical and problem solving abilities) and other attributes
- Communication skills (oral, in the form of seminar presentations, and written, in the form of essays and the dissertation); critical skills (in the context of discussing and critically reviewing primary and secondary works in the field) and analytical skills (in the context of the analysis of a film or group of films being studied, or a film industry or film audiences). The Creative Project will develop skills of project management and applied creative practice analysis.

Learning, teaching and assessment strategies:

Outline (e.g. one or two paragraphs) on overall approach taken to develop and assess learning outcomes, including any distinctive features
- Students will benefit from a wide range of expertise within the Department of Film, Media and Journalism and the School of Languages, Cultures and Religions. Teaching will be lecture, screening
and seminar-driven, giving students ample opportunities for discussion and active engagement with the visual and written texts being studied. Unlike many programmes in Film Studies, this programme revisits current debates in film and cinema studies through a reconsideration of cinema in the light of recent developments in film, media, cultural and reception studies. Assessed coursework gives students direct experience in doing literature searches, compiling bibliographies, and analysing sources, as well as producing original analyses of individual or small groups of films, or film industries, practices or audiences, all of which are essential skills for their final project and beyond.

Ther Creative Practice pathway foregrounds recent debates in film, media and cultural studies in particular through an examination of creative practice through critical production studies, analysis of media production, understanding of media rights and policies, and consideration of developments in digital media and media cultures. The final Creative Project allows students to further these skills by working on applied research on an agreed topic relating to creative practice.

### Further details:

**Entry requirements:** [http://www.external.stir.ac.uk/postgrad/index.php](http://www.external.stir.ac.uk/postgrad/index.php)

**Programme structure:** [http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/](http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/)

**Relevant Subject Benchmark statement (if applicable):** [http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/default.asp](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/default.asp)

**Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework:** [http://www.scqf.org.uk/the_framework.asp](http://www.scqf.org.uk/the_framework.asp)

**Introduction/revision date:** Autumn 2010