A minimum of a second class Honours degree (2:1 preferred) or equivalent in a Media or Communications subject such as Film and Television, Broadcast Production, or Journalism. Applicants without these formal qualifications but with significant appropriate work experience are encouraged to apply.

Applicants will be required to submit a written proposal of 600 words for an original factual television programme.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
IELTS - 6.5 with 6.0 minimum in each skill. If you don’t meet the required score you may be able to register for one of our pre-sessional English courses. To register you must hold a conditional offer for your course and have an IELTS score 0.5 or 1.0 below the required standard. View our range of pre-sessional courses:
stir.ac.uk/27l

Semester 1: All students take core modules Introduction to Television Development, Specialist Factual and Business of Television. Introduction to Television Development involves generating ideas and creating content in response to an industry-set brief. You will be introduced to development with input from experts in the field.

Semester 2: All students take core modules Factual Formats and Access Documentary Development. Access Documentary Development is a practice-based module running through spring and summer, which sees students work in groups to develop and produce an access-led documentary film. Students will also undertake work-based learning on the Television Industry Experience module.

DISSertation
The final project of the year will draw together all elements of the course as students produce short documentaries developed with guidance from industry professionals.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Course Director: Kate Smith
Telephone: UK +44 (0) 1786 467974
Email: kate.smith@stir.ac.uk
stir.ac.uk/1jq

"We look forward to strengthening our partnership with the University of Stirling and recognise the value which the course will provide for the students as well as the creative industry.”

STV
Stirling's MSc Factual Television is unique in Scotland. Designed and delivered in collaboration with broadcasters and television companies, it combines development and production of factual television in a focused, hands-on programme of study. During this Masters year, you will learn how to generate ideas, how to grow sparks into compelling proposals and how to sell them to broadcasters. You’ll be taught by industry-experienced academics and practicing professionals. You’ll learn development, production and post-production skills. And you’ll learn how to sell your skills and take your first steps into the industry.

There has never been a better time to be starting out in TV in Scotland. Channel 4’s new regional hub in Glasgow, increasing numbers of programmes being made out of London and the new BBC Scotland channel mean unmatched opportunities for new entrants to the business. With unparalleled links with the factual TV industry, our MSc Factual Television is the ideal springboard to a career in TV.

Stirling production graduates have secured placements, paid internships and work at the BBC, STV, Raise the Roof, Firecrest Films, Terr Television, Lion Television and many more independent companies. Stirling students have won fifteen national awards for factual production work in the last decade.

Hand-on experience is at the heart of what we do in production at Stirling. Our coursework mirrors professional practice in the industry; teaching includes masterclasses, workshops and pitching panels with experienced practitioners.

The course will cover key areas of factual TV:
- programme development
- documentary
- factual formats
- specialist factual

Within these modules, you’ll explore ethical issues of representation, consent, trust and editorial control while learning about the business of factual content.

You’ll build up your practical skills with a series of creative challenges:
- developing ideas in response to industry briefs
- pitching ideas
- getting feedback from staff and visiting professionals

You’ll also develop and produce filmed pieces as part of the Access Documentary module. Alongside practical projects, you’ll develop essential career skills through an industry experience module. You’ll be supported in researching and securing a placement, developing your own network of contacts and making the first steps towards work.

This course could be for you if:
- you’re already studying for a media degree and would like to develop your skills further
- you’re bursting with ideas for new content and have a vision for factual TV
- you’re working in production and would like more insight into editorial, ethics, development and commissioning

We welcome students applying straight from undergraduate programmes in media-related subjects as well as those who have built their interest through training, voluntary or paid work. We also welcome applications from people who are returning to Higher Education after a period away. Applicants will be considered on a case-by-case basis, so anyone considering the course should contact the Course Director directly before applying.

The University of Stirling has built a reputation for outstanding production teaching and sector-leading collaboration with the TV industry. We have excellent relationships with broadcasters and independent production companies; many of our graduates have built successful broadcast careers in this country and beyond.

In the past few years, students have gained placements, internships and employment with a wide range of leading companies. Work produced at Stirling has won a host of accolades, including seven Royal Television Society awards since 2011 and four consecutive wins at the Scottish Student Journalism Awards.

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