Programme Specification

Integrated PhD in Film Studies (2020-21)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	1
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Name of award	Integrated PhD in Film Studies
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education
	Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education
FHEQ level of final award	Level 8
UCAS code	
Programme code	7246
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	
Programme Lead	Tim Bergfelder

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The IPhD (Integrated PhD) is a four-year programme of study. In the first year you will follow taught modules in Film alongside MA students and undertake a series of assessments (essays and presentations). If these are completed successfully you will produce an extended research proposal and progress to Year Two. Your PhD status will be confirmed towards the end of Year Three if your work is progressing satisfactorily. This programme is an ideal pathway for those new to Film Studies and/or international students as it provides a detailed and intensive taught introduction to Film Studies and provides a series of possible ‘exit' points. You will receive regular supervision and training in research and communication skills - both generic and specific to your project. You will participate in fortnightly research seminars and are encouraged to contribute to conferences and symposia, both at Southampton and elsewhere.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are to:

- Develop your critical awareness of debates and issues in the field of Film Studies.
- Equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to undertake doctoral research in Film Studies;
- Develop your analytical, research and personal skills relevant to a range of careers in Film, the media, and academia;
- Support you to devise, implement and successfully complete a substantial research investigation (the PhD thesis), which will make an original contribution to knowledge in the field;
- Provide you with broad based training in research methods pertaining to the subject area;
- Encourage you to reflect upon different methodologies, and to use them effectively in your own work.
- Enhance your capacity for independent thought and research.
- Encourage you to produce written work and scholarship to high professional standards.
- Enable you to use and evaluate a wide range of research tools, including electronic information retrieval and subject-specific archival resources.

The programme comprises a taught element, incorporating research skills and subject specific knowledge; professional and transferable skills development; and a research project leading to submission of a PhD thesis.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

A1. critical debates and issues in Film Studies

A2. cultural and social implications of the above

A3. different research methodologies

A4. cultural and social significance of film and television as a form of mass communication and as art

A5. history of film and television industries

A6. contextual approaches to film interpretation plus in-depth knowledge of description, theory and research in an area pertaining to the history of film and/or television. This project MUST provide an original contribution to the knowledge in the subject area.

Teaching and Learning Methods

During Year 1 you will develop your knowledge and understanding of Film Studies and of its research methodology through taught modules involving tutor-led and student-led seminars, tutorials, and workshops. Thinking skills are developed through activities such as seminar discussion, oral presentations, tutorial consultations, and through essays. As well as the use of web-based resources, wide reading and evaluation of secondary sources indicated on module reading lists are actively encouraged. You will develop your autonomous capability as a researcher through individual projects and investigations, supported by module tutors; as the programme progresses you will take increasing responsibility for leading sessions, presenting your individual work, organising and leading workshop activities, and providing peer feedback and support.
Students progressing to M Phil/ PhD will produce a personal research proposal which will underpin your studies in Years 2-4.

During Years 2 and 3 you will further develop your knowledge and understanding through additional taught modules. You will refine your personal research proposal, conduct independent archival research (both locally and where applicable nationally and internationally), and apply your knowledge and understanding of research methods through detailed planning and implementation of a substantial independent research project. You will make formal and informal presentations of your work, defending it in critical discussion, and take part in a variety of workshops and seminars which will deepen your understanding of the field.

Throughout Years 2, 3 and 4 you will have the support of a supervisory team and will deepen your knowledge and understanding through regular tutorial meetings and critical discussion of your work with members of the team.

Assessment Methods

Formative assessment of your written and practical work is a substantial element of the learning and teaching process in Year 1, and you will have regular tutorials with module tutors to plan coursework and receive feedback. You will be allocated a personal tutor (normally your prospective research supervisor), and will have meetings with them to review progress and set learning targets.

All modules studied in Year 1 will also contribute to summative assessment of your general knowledge and understanding in the field. Most modules will be formally assessed through extended essays. Other non-assessed tasks may include; developing annotated bibliographies; undertaking a critical research review; undertaking and reflecting on oral presentations. In addition students progressing to M Phil/ PhD will need to draft and pass (with a grade of 70%) a formal proposal for an individual research thesis.

Your knowledge and understanding of your specialist research topic will be assessed through taught modules plus a variety of research related tasks during Years 2 and 3, and through the research thesis written during Years 2, 3 and 4. Progress relating to your research thesis will be assessed formatively by the end of Year 3 through an confirmation normally leading to confirming PhD registration. Summative assessment of the research thesis will include a viva voce examination with internal and external examiners.

Please note:

PG Diploma: Students exiting the programme at PG Diploma level will be expected to achieve all the below learning outcomes at FHEQ Level 7, with the exception of elements shown in italics
MPhil: Students exiting the programme at MPhil level will be expected to achieve all the below learning outcomes at FHEQ Level 7 with some evidence of achievement at FHEQ Level 8.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

B1. design and execute effectively an advanced independent research project within in the field of Film Studies.

B2. engage critically with complex ideas and theories in Film Studies and express them succinctly.

B3. evaluate different research methods in Film Studies and apply them

B4. integrate theoretical concepts with the analysis of film texts.

B5. analyse the relationship between cinematic texts and various contexts (history, aesthetics, society, economics/industry).

B6. demonstrate an understanding of film as one of the most important mass media since the late 19th century, and its impact on social developments in a variety of cultural contexts

B7. demonstrate awareness of the intellectual development of Film Studies as a discipline and its relationship to other disciplinary traditions in the Humanities and beyond

Teaching and Learning Methods

Activities particularly designed to enhance these subject specific skills include tutor-led and student-led seminars and tutorials, workshops, and group and individual projects, undertaken from Year 1 onwards. To support you in design and conduct of your PhD project from Year 2 onwards, you will receive support from a supervisory team through regular individual tutorials, make regular presentations of your work in different forums, and engage in critical discussion about it.

Assessment Methods

You will be asked to demonstrate your subject-specific skills through participating in individual and group presentations, class exercises, essays and the thesis. Extended essays and oral presentations will assess your critical understanding of the main epistemological and methodological traditions in film, studies research. Group and individual projects, workshop tasks and presentations will assess your practical research skills. The PhD thesis will assess your ability to plan and manage all aspects of a major independent research project which makes an original contribution to knowledge in film studies. Progress relating to your thesis will be assessed formatively by the end of Year 3 through the confirmation procedure. Summative assessment of the research thesis will include a viva voce examination with internal and external examiners.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

C1. communicate ideas and arguments in a variety of written formats, to professional standards.

C2. communicate ideas and arguments orally and in the context of formal presentations, both in academic contexts and in other public engagements.

C3. identify, select and utilise a wide range of printed and electronic sources.

C4. demonstrate interpersonal skills while working with others in the investigation of problems, and in the presentation of arguments and evidence.

C5. demonstrate self-confidence and self-awareness both in collaborative activities and independent research, as well as respect for the ideas and work of others.

C6. lead discussion in seminars, and in other professional contexts (e.g. at conferences) effectively to achieve relevant feedback from the (peer) group.

C7. evaluate the usefulness of your primary and secondary sources.

C8. structure your own ideas and arguments lucidly and cogently

C9. edit and revise your written work.

C10. demonstrate originality in your own research and writing.

C11. manage deadlines and the effective use of your time.

C12. demonstrate verbal and linguistic skills to a high professional standard.

C13. utilise technology and audio-visual material effectively in oral presentations.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Your transferable and generic skills are developed through the emphasis of the programme on active participation, independent learning and personal initiative. You are expected to spread your net widely, reading and researching beyond the parameters of individual modules. Your ability to take responsibility for your work is aided by activities such as oral presentations, coursework essays, and the thesis supported by one-to-one supervision. Through the thesis you will demonstrate your ability to use your initiative in identifying a significant area for study, working independently on it and managing any problems that emerge along the way.

Assessment Methods

Regarding formative assessment: Through the mechanism of the Faculty of Humanities “Research Activities Record”, and in consultation with your supervisory team, you will evaluate your personal needs for skills development, and plan and document a range of activities undertaken to address these.

Regarding summative assessment: At the end of Year 1 you will submit for formal assessment an extended research proposal; at the end of Year 2 you will make a formal oral presentation of your project. During Years 2 and 3 you will create an “Advanced Skills Portfolio” documenting your mastery of a range of transferable skills which will also be formally assessed.

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note in some instances modules have limited spaces available.

Part I

Typical Course Structure

This 4-year full time Integrated PhD programme consists of a menu of taught modules and research supervision. Through these activities you will earn a total of 60 ECTS (120 CATs) at FHEQ Level 7 and 210 ECTS (420 CATs) at FHEQ Level 8 in line with the QAA Framework for higher education qualifications (see http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/qualifications-frameworks.pdf

The taught modules comprise both research skills /methods and content modules. The taught modules follow a core plus options structure, and are drawn from a range of postgraduate modules in Film Studies and Film and Cultural Management offered in the Faculty of Humanities (HUMS).

You will be allocated an academic advisor from the start of the programme, normally your future lead research supervisor. During Year 1, your taught modules will be coordinated by the Coordinator of the respective MA programme. You will meet regularly on a one to one basis with your tutor/ supervisor from the beginning of the programme. Your supervisor will be joined from Year 2 onwards by other member(s) of your supervisory team, and they will support the planning and carrying out of your research project and the production of your thesis. They will also support your personal self-evaluation and skills development activities using the HUMS Research Activity Record, and oversee the production of your Advanced Skills Portfolio during Years 2 and 3.

You will register from the beginning of the Integrated PhD as a PhD student. Progression to Year 2 of the programme is conditional on successful completion (an average of 60% across all modules) during Year 1 of HEQ Level 7 modules comprising 60 ECTS (120 CATs), and on formal submission of a satisfactory research proposal, achieving a minimum mark of 70% (5000 words: 7.5 ECTS (15 CATs) at FHEQ Level 8. Thereafter, confirmation of your PhD registration is dependent upon successful completion of further assessed modules and Advanced Skills Portfolio (totalling 45 CATs/ 22.5 ECTS points at FHEQ Level 8 in addition to the confirmation requirements of a standard PhD. The confirmation process for I PhD registration will normally take place between months 30-33 of your candidature.

While you can normally expect to complete the full programme within the minimum 4-year period of full time study, a further writing up period of up to one year is allowed. The PhD thesis must finally be submitted within 5 years of first registration.

Year 1
FHEQ Level 7: 60 ECTS/120 CATs
FHEQ Level 8: 7.5 ECTS/15 CATs

In the first year you will study 4 core modules as follows, plus a portfolio of options adding up to a further 30 ECTS/60 CATs.

In addition to the taught modules, you will also complete an extended research proposal (5000 words) for formal submission and assessment at the end of Year 1 (FHEQ Level 8: 15 CATs / 7.5 ECTS points, FILM8001). You will need to pass the proposal with a minimum of 70%, and also need to pass the taught modules with a minimum average of 60%. You will gradually build up your skills across the various stages of the programme. The taught modules, the 5000-word presentation in Year 1, and the Advanced Skills Portfolio (FILM8002) in years 2 and 3 provide a series of skill inductions which build upon each other.

Intermediate exit point, end of Year 1: Having completed the taught element of Year 1 successfully (having passed 60 ECTS/120 CATs with an average mark of at least 60%), it is possible either to exit with a PG Diploma, or to transfer to an MA programme (MA Film Studies or MA Film and Cultural Management if the taught option modules have comprised FILM6034 and/or FILM6033). The requirements for the MA are completed by undertaking a dissertation of 15,000 words (FHEQ Level 7 30 ECTS/60 CATS) for submission at the end of Year 1.

Year 2 and Year 3
(FHEQ Level 8: 60 CATs/ 30 ECTS points by the end of year 3)

All taught modules taken in Year 2 and 3 must be passed with an average of 60%

To be admitted to Year 2, you will have passed the taught elements of Year 1, and you will have submitted a satisfactory extended research proposal for formal assessment (7.5 ECTS/15 CATs FHEQ Level 8). Having finalised your proposal, during Year 2 you can expect in addition to undertake substantial development of your literature review and theoretical framework, to formulate your research questions and to plan the structure of your thesis. Between months 18 and 21, you will be expected to pass a progression review in the form of a panel led by staff not involved in your supervision. By this time you will need to be able to give a clear idea of the scope, aims, and direction of your thesis and articulate this in a document circulated to the panel prior to the viva event.. This progression review is equivalent to the First Year progress review of a PhD student on a non-Integrated route

Two further taught modules relevant to your research project and to your wider professional interests will also be taken in Years 2 and 3, selected from the list of option modules given above (15 CATs/ 7.5 ECTS points). The assignment will be marked at FHEQ Level 8, thus a higher level of originality and intellectual engagement will be expected in comparison with students taking this module at FHEQ Level 7. The taught module will be complemented by workshops, one-to-one supervision, and seminars leading to formal assessment at D level through specially tailored assignments in the form of short conference papers or articles for possible publication.

Finally, the “Advanced Skills Portfolio” is also submitted for formal assessment at FHEQ Level 8 (15 credits/ 7.5 ECTS points) by the end of Year 3. The role of the Portfolio is to document the development of your transferable and generic skills. Following self-assessment of your skills development needs using the Research Activities Record, you will work towards completion of this Portfolio. To achieve this you will be expected to attend an appropriate selection of research training activities offered by the Faculty of Humanities during Years 2 and 3, and to play an active part in the activities of the discipline’s PGR community, including its student discussion group and the Faculty’s annual student conference. The Portfolio itself will comprise e.g. records of presentations or conference papers given, publication plans, of teamwork activities undertaken, of personal development activities such as CV writing or careers consultations, plus reflective evaluations of the activities described.

Year 3 and Year 4 (Research Thesis: 360 Credit Points/ 180 ECTS points)

During Years 3 and 4 the main focus of your Integrated PhD will be your individual research project. By the end of Year 3 you should have compiled most of the necessary data for your research and should have made progress on your writing to such an extent that you have at least two chapters ready in draft form. An important goal for this year is the formal assessment of your progress through the Confirmation procedure at months 30-33.

Intermediate exit point, end of Year 3: Students who wish to exit with an MPhil (FHEQ level 7) should complete the taught element and submit a thesis (normally not exceeding 50,000 words). The difference between and MPhil and PhD is outlined in paragraph 3 of the Code of Practice for Research Candidature and Supervision.

Students who progress to the end of Year 3 but fail to complete the taught element (including professional/transferable skills training) may submit a thesis at MPhil level or transfer to an appropriate Master’s level programme.

In Year 4 you will work throughout on completion of your PhD thesis with the support of your supervisory team. You will be expected to submit the completed thesis (75,000 words) at the end of Year 4 (or no later than September of the following year). You will be offered training and preparation for the PhD viva examination, which is normally held 6-8 weeks after submission.

Throughout Years 3 and 4 you will be expected to continue your participation in the activities of the Faculty's PGR community, including presentation and discussion of your own ongoing research and that of others. An ongoing programme of workshops and seminars will be provided by the Faculty and the Discipline in which you will further develop your transferable skills, e.g. developing your professional career plan and vocational applications of your research.

Alternative exit, end of Year 4: A PhD candidate who fails to satisfy examiners on submitting a thesis or at the viva may be given permission to apply within a specific time for the award for the degree of MPhil.
This may be allowed without re-examination, subject to any minor amendments of the thesis that may be required by the examiners, or it may be subject to re-examination of the revised thesis.

Part I Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
FILM8001	Extended Research Proposal	7.5	Compulsory
FILM6030	Preparation for the Dissertation	7.5	Compulsory

Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
FILM6032	Classical Film Theory and Textual Analysis	7.5	Core
FILM6028	Post-Classical Film Theory: Film History and Cinephilia	7.5	Core
FILM6029	Research in Film Studies	7.5	Core

Part I Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
FILM6045	Auteur filmmakers: case studies in cinema	7.5	Optional
FILM6033	Current Issues in Film Distribution and Exhibition	7.5	Optional
FILM6046	East Asian Action Cinema	7.5	Optional
FILM6034	Film Policy: National and Global Contexts (Research)	7.5	Optional
FILM6036	Film Studies Individually Negotiated Topic	7.5	Optional
FILM6031	Screen Stars in Context	7.5	Optional
FILM6044	The Holocaust in American Film	7.5	Optional

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes*** and ***Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes*** Any exemptions or variations to the University regulations, approved by AQSC are located in ***section VI of the University Calendar***.

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme.
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff/Student Liaison Committees, School Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation.
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the *Quality Handbook.*

Career Opportunities

Career destinations for this programme are found in academic, in leadership positions in educational settings, both in management and in programme delivery, e.g. at tertiary level. In general, a PhD will enable you to further develop the key skills employers seek such as: time management; problem solving; team work; deadline and project management; cultural awareness; working independently; using your initiative; relationship-building; critical thinking and research analysis. Above all, you will learn to communicate your ideas and enthusiasm for your research to a wide range of audiences.

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Dr Austin J Fisher – Bournemouth University

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Computer discs or USB drives	Students are expected to provide their own portable data storage device.
Hardware	It is advisable that students provide their own laptop or personal computer, although shared facilities are available across the University campus.
Laboratory Equipment and Materials	All laboratory equipment and materials are provided.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	Where possible, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitted on line. However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will be asked to provide a printed copy. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: http://www.southampton....ions/students/printing/
Software Licenses	All software is provided
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-today stationary items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc.). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.