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If you have any questions about courses, applications or student life at Bristol, please contact the Enquiries Team.

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Film and Television



Undergraduate study



Courses

Single Honours

BA Film and Television

three years 4M5N

MArts Film and Television with Innovation

four years 4M50

Joint Honours

BA Film and English

three years 6T3X

BA Film and French

four years 2LK6

BA Film and German

four years 4F29

BA Film and Italian

four years 4L92

BA Film and Portuguese

four years 4PP8

BA Film and Spanish

four years L288

BA Theatre and Film

three years 4KDU

Why study film and television at Bristol?

The University of Bristol has a long-standing reputation for innovation and excellence in the study of film and television, being the first university in the UK to introduce film and television studies to its drama curriculum in the 1960s.

As a student in our Department of Film and Television, you will explore the history and aesthetics of film and television through an exciting mixture of traditional academic study and filmmaking, guided by leading scholars and practitioners.

Bristol is distinctive for the way in which we blend historical and theoretical study with practice-based investigations of film and television. You will have the opportunity to develop and extend your interests across a broad spectrum of subjects and approaches and through a variety of teaching methods.

You will benefit from our high-specification 214-seat cinema – the Winston Theatre – and from access to our 39-seat screening room, digital filmmaking equipment, production studios, animation suites, design workshop, sound rooms and edit suites. In your final year you will have the chance to undertake a supervised independent practical project and a work placement or industrial study in the creative industries.

We have a lively postgraduate community, and our undergraduate students frequently benefit from the experience of collaborating with their filmmaking projects. A number of our BA students have gone on to study on our MA programmes and research degrees.

Besides the core focus on film and television, you will also have the opportunity during your time here to contextualise your studies by taking options beyond your department. You may choose to take units in related or broader subject areas or in a foreign language. You will also take part in the Bristol Futures programme, which builds knowledge and experience in the fields of innovation and enterprise, global citizenship and sustainable development.

‘Bristol has a massive creative industry. I am interested in a career in arts academia, so being submerged in so much culture from day one has allowed me to cultivate an artistic standpoint, to engage more with the world and cultures around me, and to realise my artistic potential.’

Leah (BA Film and Television)

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2020. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2019). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, bristol.ac.uk/ug-study, for the latest updates.

What will you study?

The film and television curriculum progresses from introductory units, which use specific topics to teach you how to analyse film and television, to more advanced units that cover significant historical movements, contemporary practices and the theoretical concepts that underpin, inform and shape film and television.

First-year units equip you with the key skills and approaches you will need in order to specialise in later years. Core units introduce key aspects of film and television form, and develop analytical and essay-writing skills. Production skills units develop your practical skills in film production, equipping you for practice-based option units.

You will be introduced to key concepts of cinematography, sound and editing by using production resources that include Premiere Pro edit suites and digital HD cameras. Units such as Filmmaking through Hitchcock and Filmmaking Fundamentals allow for the application of these skills and provide an introduction to learning through practice. Tutorial sessions allow you to explore key issues raised by creative work in a small-group setting and develop presentation skills.

In the second year, core units focus on histories of film and television. You will also choose from a variety of optional units, which can be practice-based or seminar-based, or include a mixture of both approaches. Indicative units include Film and TV Comedy, British Cinema and Television and Animated Film.

In the final year, options are more specialised, allowing you to deepen your critical expertise and extend your skills in filmmaking. For the final independent study units you will produce, under the supervision of an assigned tutor, a ten-minute screen work and a written dissertation, and you will also undertake a work placement or industrial study in the creative industries.

Joint honours students spend half their time in the Department of Film and Television and the other half in the partner department. Students studying film and a modern language spend their third year abroad and return to Bristol for their fourth and final year of study.

Teaching and learning in film and television at Bristol provide an education at the forefront of the subject, closely integrated with the acquisition of the key skills and attributes sought by employers for a very wide range of careers. Our diverse range of assessments ensures that you gain a thorough training in advanced research, analysis and sharing your ideas in a number of ways.

We will ensure that you graduate with experience in formal writing, presentation skills, and using digital formats and other media to present knowledge, ideas and arguments. You will be experienced in working individually and in groups, and in making connections with and communicating to audiences beyond the University.

Teaching is delivered by a mixture of small-group tutorials, lectures, seminars and practical workshops. Film and television production resources are extensive and enable the practical exploration of the medium at an advanced level. Assessment is carried out through a combination of essays, seminar presentations, creative practice, industrial placement or study, and critical reflection on practical work.

Please give close consideration to the choice between the single and joint honours degree courses; both offer a distinct degree and student experience. The joint honours degrees with English or a modern language include some opportunities for practical work, although these are less extensive than Single Honours BA Film and Television. You will take mandatory units but your choice of options will depend on the schedules of your partner department.

In 2017, Bristol was named a UNESCO City of Film. The city is a popular filming destination and a world leader in film production, education and training.



'I have always enjoyed the external speakers who come in to share their experiences, deepening the interface between academia and industry.'

Talhah (MArts Film and Television with Innovation)

Careers and graduate destinations

The skills that arts students traditionally bring to the workplace are valued in every part of the employment market. Our students go on to succeed in careers as diverse as the subjects they study here – commerce, tech startups, law, accountancy, theatre, museums, publishing, the charity sector, journalism, politics, education and international relations, as well as sectors not immediately associated with arts disciplines, such as engineering and IT.

The Bristol Skills Framework enables our students to recognise their development in academic writing, problem solving, group work, and individual and group presenting. We will equip you with the tools to market your skills, your achievement and your potential in whatever career path you choose to pursue after you graduate.

Our students develop excellent transferable skills, which are highly sought after by employers. Graduates have gone into film production, research, broadcasting, arts administration and education, as well as finance and related business sectors.

We host frequent masterclasses and talks with industry figures, which in the past have included directors, producers, visual effects artists and animators; these are specifically careers-oriented and help students understand the inner workings of the film and TV industry.

Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey 2016/17. Find out more at bristol.ac.uk/careers/be-inspired.



Graduate employers

One Tribe TV
Cats on the Roof Media
Atlantic Pictures
The Edge Picture Company
FoR Films



Career destinations

Production Runner
Production Associate
Junior Researcher
Account Manager
Project Coordinator

Making your application

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-film for more information about our courses.

Typical offer for BA Film and Television

A-levels AAB (contextual BBB).

IB Diploma 34 points overall (contextual 31) with 17 at Higher Level (contextual 15).

Our contextual offer is a grade reduction of up to two grades below the standard entry requirements, made to applicants from under-represented groups. Find out more at bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers.

GCSEs No specific subjects required.

Selection process UCAS.

For other accepted qualifications, and for our English language requirements, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-film.

Application advice for film and television courses

Our courses are suitable for those with an interest in both practice and theory in film, television or related media. Successful candidates will clearly demonstrate a commitment to the study of film in an academic context. For example, you may provide evidence of reading beyond the A-level syllabus, or the development of a specialised interest within the subject area.

You should also be able to provide evidence of motivation and achievement in the fields of media-related arts beyond the formal syllabus. You may have written regular film reviews, for example, or attended a summer school. The appropriateness of the course to your own interests and ambitions should also be in evidence.

Further information

Find out more about the Department of Film and Television: bristol.ac.uk/film.

This information is correct at the time of printing (May 2019), but we recommend you check the University website for the latest information: bristol.ac.uk/ug20-film.



Read more about how we support you when you are here:

bristol.ac.uk/students