

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	Digital Film Production
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 6
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	120/240/360 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits Level 6: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and Part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	3 years full-time
Intended Award	BA (Hons) in Digital Film Production
Named Exit Awards	BA Digital Film Production DipHE Digital Film Production CertHE Digital Film Production
Entry Requirements ⁴	112 UCAS Points (or above); BBC at A Level; DMM at BTEC; Merit at T Level; Pass in Access to HE Diploma; GCSE English and Maths (4 or above)
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk (Ipswich Campus)
UCAS Code	P300

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the BA (Hons) Digital Film Production course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2027-28 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

With a diverse approach to the moving image, the BA (Hons) Digital Film Production degree explores both creative and professional aspects of filmmaking. It combines the main elements of production, screenwriting and film theory, and provides students with the creative, technical, critical and entrepreneurial skills needed to begin a professional career.

Students gain confidence in every production role, from developing and writing documentary treatments and screenplays to editing and audio post-production. There is also a strong focus on professional practice throughout the degree. Students undertake placements and make films for internal and external clients to develop a CV that gives them a distinct advantage in the job market.

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information about mode of study and maximum registration periods can be found in the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#).

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#).

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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The mix of practice and theory in the course prepares students for work across a variety of sectors and for postgraduate study.

Course Aims

The course aims have been derived from the QAA Revised Benchmark Statement for Communication, Film, Media and Cultural Studies (2024).

1. Offer an integrated approach to theoretical, critical, practical and creative work in film, relevant to students' futures in work or further study
2. Provide students with the knowledge and skills required for employment, both within the film industry and within general graduate-level employment
3. Engage critically with the analysis, theory and history of film in ways which complement, inform and underpin creative digital film practice and production
4. Develop the practical, critical and conceptual skills involved in the making of creative video work
5. Provide opportunities to initiate, negotiate, deliver and reflect upon independent research, including critical and practical projects
6. Develop a range of subject-specific and generic skills to facilitate the continuing growth of professional and personal identities and the capacity for lifelong learning

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the BA (Hons) Digital Film Production course will have been judged to have demonstrated to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 4/5/6 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

1. Demonstrate knowledge of an expansive range of film movements, genres, technologies and modes of film practice from a variety of different periods, peoples, and places, including orthodox and unorthodox forms
2. Understand and apply a wide variety of critical and theoretical approaches to the study of film, and analyse, interpret and evaluate key film texts through close reading
3. Carry out sustained, independent critical enquiry and research, drawing on appropriate academic sources, formulating appropriate research questions that inform practice and understanding that research is not a neutral process
4. Identify and work confidently within key roles, production processes and professional practices, demonstrating a high-level of awareness and self-reflection in relation to their own creative processes and practices through engagement with negotiated digital film production tasks
5. Demonstrate a range of advanced technical competencies in specified aspects of digital film production through the production of short films informed by a growing engagement with relevant economic, cultural, commercial, theoretical and/or critical contexts, issues, and debates
6. Display an established capacity to innovate, experiment and generate creative work independently, within groups and based on engagement with constructive criticism
7. Collate, critically evaluate and synthesise (incomplete) ideas and information from a range of academic and professional sources in order to formulate complex and

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2024\)](#)

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cogent arguments and express them effectively in written, verbal and/or non-verbal communication, visual or other forms

Course Design

The design of this course has been guided by the following QAA Benchmarks:

- Communication, Film, Media and Cultural Studies (2024)

Course Structure

The BA (hons) in Digital Film Production comprises modules at levels 4, 5 and 6.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

	Module	Credits	Module Type ⁷
Level 4			
	Foundations of Film: Story Structure, Analysis and Production	30	R
	Foundations of Film: Development, Screenwriting, Representation and Production	30	R
	Foundations of Film: Production, Sound and History	30	R
	Foundations of Film: Sound, Production and Post-Production	30	R
Level 5			
	Filmmaking Theory and Practice: Audio-Post, Docu Pre-Production and Fiction Development	30	R
	Filmmaking Theory and Practice: Audio-Post, Documentary and the Short Screenplay	30	R
	Filmmaking Theory and Practice: Research Methods and Avant-garde and Drama Pre-Production	30	R
	Filmmaking Theory and Practice: Avant-garde and Drama Production and Post-Production	30	R
Level 6			
	Development and Research	30	M
	Development and Pre-Production	30	R
	Final Project and Professional Practice	60	M
	Professional Practice Skills	0	R

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a BA (Hons) Digital Film Production. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for:

⁷ Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the [Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards](#)

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- a BA Digital Film Production on the successful completion of all mandatory modules at levels four and five, and the level six modules Final Project and Professional Practice Part One and Final Project and Professional Practice Part Two.
- a DipHE Digital Film Production on successful completion of 240 credits, including all mandatory modules at levels 4 and 5.
- a CertHE Digital Film Production on successful completion of 120 credits, including all mandatory modules at level 4.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at the University of Suffolk, Ipswich Campus. Students studying full-time on the BA (Hons) Digital Film Production degree are likely to have approximately 10 hours of taught study at level 4 and 5, and 6 hours at level 6 per week. The contact hours will be a mix of interactive lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials, and screenings, and students will also be required to complete 80 hours of work placement or professional practice projects at level six. Students will be expected to find their own placement(s), but the University of Suffolk has a number of industry links, and students will receive guidance to secure the necessary placement(s) and/or professional practice hours. Students will normally be expected to undertake 25 to 30 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used in the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be approximately 25 to 30% coursework (including essays, scripts, production documents, reports, presentations, group work, reflective learning journals, reflective reviews and research projects), and 70 to 75% practical assessments (including short films, commercial content, and practical tests).

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects and bring specialist knowledge to the delivery of modules.

Course Costs

Students undertaking BA (Hons) Digital Film Production will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK/EU	£10,050 per year
Part-time UK/EU	£2,512.5 per 30-credit module
Full-time International	£16,500 per year
Part-time International	£4,125 per 30-credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students will be required to have external hard drives and memory cards, amounting to approximately £250 at the start of the course, and to replace these items if they break during the course.

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Students are likely to incur additional book costs of approximately £100 to £400 (or more) per year. The cost of books will depend on whether students choose to buy new or used books or to source them from libraries. Students either need their own computers or can use the on-campus computers and software.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered in accordance with the Framework and Regulations for Undergraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University, and is published on the [website](#).