

<b>Module code</b>	FLM506	<b>Level</b>	5
<b>Module title</b>	Directing for the Screen	<b>Credit value</b>	20
<b>Common/Core/ Elective</b>	Core	<b>ECTS Credits</b>	10
		<b>Notional learning hours</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Courses on which the module is taught</b>	BA (Hons) Film & Screen Production	<b>Teaching Period</b>	<b>Spring</b>

### 1. Module description

This is a practical introduction to Directing for the Screen. You will work with actors to understand the process of developing a character and bringing that performance to the screen.

You will learn how to break the script down; examining and following the preparations an actor would employ. You will delve into the intentions, objectives and obstacles of the characters; understanding the true meaning of the text and critically the potential of sub-text; the heart of a compelling performance.

You will develop a storyboard for a scene which you will then shoot. Utilising a camera, you will explore how lens choice, depth-of-field, point-of-view, eye-lines, camera motion/choreography can bring the narrative and scene to life.

### 2. Learning outcomes

*Upon successful completion of this module you will be able to:*

#### **Professional Development (MLO 03)**

Develop your skills as a director of narrative drama, using the observation and application of best practice.

#### **Decision-making (MLO 04)**

Analyse and reflect on different ideas, including your own, to inform the creative and practical decisions you make.

#### **Discipline Skills (MLO 08)**

Employ performance development knowledge and visual narrative techniques to complete a produced film.

### 3. Learning and teaching methods

The learning and teaching strategy for this module is designed to ensure that the learning outcomes set out above will be achieved. Seminars and practical exercises will be used to focus you on the task of being a director in narrative drama.

Classes will take place in dedicated spaces specific to the tasks being taught – classrooms, studios, workshops and editing suites.

You will be given the freedom to workshop ideas under supervision from your module tutors throughout the term and you will be working with actors throughout to realise your ideas in bringing scenes to life through performance and production.

In addition, you will learn collaboration, empathy and insight, through the skills of acting. This course will guide you to connect with your emotions to effect authentic communication and evoke emotional responses. You will learn through improvisation, how to get the very best out of your actor or non-actor in terms of natural, subtle performance.

You will also engage in being directed so that you understand what works and what does not work from experience, when it comes to you directing your actors. This experience of acting will be invaluable in learning how you respond to direction and what you like and do not like from a director, therefore informing your choices when you direct.

You will learn about how to channel and convey emotions and how to access a genuine and real voice that will convince an audience. Through workshops we will work on feeling comfortable with exposing emotions and conveying them in such a way that shows human intention and motivation. This module will be critical, reflective, and will help you connect with your emotions in a positive way, leading you to being a better director for the screen.

<b>Learning hours</b>	
<b>Directed learning</b>	<b>72</b>
Workshops/classes/Supervision	72
<b>Guided/Self-guided learning</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

#### **4. Assessment, formative feedback and relative weightings**

##### **Assessment 1: Portfolio**

**Weight (%): 30**

**Word Count or Equivalent: 2000 words**

You will create a portfolio containing all the necessary documentation to create a unique cinematic voice prior to shooting. This will include developing the visual subtext and defining strategies to create a truthful performance.

Your portfolio will be based on rehearsal and experimentation which will help you demonstrate how you have analysed and reflected on different ideas in order to inform your creative and practical decision.

##### **Assessment 2: Film**

**Weight (%): 70**

**Word Count or Equivalent: 5-8 minutes**

You will produce, direct and edit and a 5–8 minute film that is a manifestation of the portfolio you have developed for assessment 1. You will demonstrate your ability to employ performance development knowledge and visual narrative techniques through the choices you have made in the production, direction and editing of the film, which will shape your final produced film.

Each summative assessment will be preceded by an opportunity of formative assessment accompanied by formative feedback.

Mapping of assessment tasks for the module			
Assessment tasks	MLO3	MLO4	MLO8
1. Performance development	x	x	
2. Filmed performance			x

## 5. Indicative resources

Adler, S. (2000). *The Art of Acting*. New York: Applause Theatre Books  
 Barlow, A. (2008). *Handbook of Acting Techniques*. London: Nick Hern Books  
 Caldarone, M. (2004). *Actions: The Actor's Thesaurus*. London: Nick Hern Books  
 Greene, R. (2004) *The Art of Seduction* London: Profile Books  
 Longwell, D (1987) *Sanford Meisner on Acting*. New York: Vintage Books  
 Rabiger, M. & Hubris-Cherrier, M. (2013). *Directing, Film Techniques and Aesthetics*.  
 Tomaric, J.J. (2015) *FilmSkills Director's Craft: Master the art of directing actors and the camera* Createspace.  
 Wright Wexman, V. (Ed.) (2017) *Directing (Behind the Silver Screen Series)* I.B. Taurus.

Interesting links for ideas:

<https://www.creativedrama.com/2018/06/11/improvisation-starters/>

<https://teambuilding.com/blog/improv-prompts>

<https://www.liveabout.com/improv-locations-and-settings-2712996>

<https://dramatoolkit.co.uk/drama-games/category/improvisation>