

Course Summary: March 30, 2026

Film Practices BA Honours

- UCAS code: **P313**
- Full time
- 3 years

Explore the world of creative documentary film and become a highly skilled, imaginative and resourceful independent film-maker.

You are currently viewing course information for entry year: **2026**

Next start date:

- September 2026

Tuition fees (Year 1)

- Home: **£9,790**
- International: **£24,500**

Entry requirements and offers

- A-Level: **ABB**

- IB: **32 points**

UCAS Institution name and code:

- NEWC / N21

Undergraduate Open Day

Start your university journey. Find where you belong. Friday, June 26 (9:00-16:00)

Saturday, June 27 (9:00-16:00)

[Book your place now](#)

Course overview

This degree allows you to develop an advanced level of knowledge and skills in film-making. You'll gain a deep understanding of the relationship between documentary practice, film theory and the film industry.

You'll work on a range of individual and crew-based film projects, and develop sophisticated camera, sound, editing and storytelling skills.

Your studies are set in the context of world cinema and the international history of the cinematic documentary. You'll graduate with a portfolio of creative documentary and experimental non-fiction films.

You will learn from scholar film-makers in our state-of-the-art facilities and develop a range of professional skills to prepare you for your future.

Our film graduates have produced an array of documentary films. Many have been nominated and won some of the most prestigious documentary film awards in the UK.

These include the North East regional and national Royal Television Society Awards (RTS) and the Grierson Awards (The British Documentary Awards).

Your course and study experience - disclaimers and terms and conditions

Please rest assured we make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the programmes, services and facilities described. However, it may be necessary to make changes due to significant disruption, for example in response to Covid-19.

View our [Academic experience page](#), which gives information about your Newcastle University study experience for the academic year 2025-26.

See our [terms and conditions and student complaints information](#), which gives details of circumstances that may lead to changes to programmes, modules or University services.

Quality and ranking

Professional accreditation and recognition

All professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by their professional body.

Modules and learning

Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

Optional module availability

Student demand for optional modules may affect availability.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year. This usually happens in May.

To find out more please [see our terms and conditions](#)

You'll learn the essential skills of film-making and be introduced to film-making as a field of academic study. You'll be taught camera, audio and editing skills and will undertake a range of documentary film-making exercises.

This is complemented by screening-based modules exploring world cinema, both fiction and non-fiction as well as an introduction to film theory for practice.

Screening modules develop your ability to critically watch films as a scholar and film-maker. You'll be given a solid foundation from which to develop your critical appreciation of film as well as your own film-making.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Film Theory for Practice	20
Academic Skills for Film Practice	20
Introduction to Film Technologies	20
Introduction to World Cinema: Ideas, Art, Cultures	20
Starting out in Filmmaking	20
Introduction to the Documentary: From documentation to non-fiction film	20

You'll build your film-making and storytelling skills by undertaking more complex and advanced projects including a series of independent creative microfilms. You'll also complete a crew-based experimental non-fiction film.

You'll continue exploring film theory for practice by learning about the works of filmmaker-theorists from around the world, giving you the chance to build on your learning from Year 1.

You'll also learn about the structures of the UK film industry from the point of view of an independent filmmaker, preparing you to start considering career options.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Filmmaking: Ideas to Screen	20
Film Industry and Alternative Practices	20
Making a Short Documentary	20
Creative Documentary Practices	20
Optional Modules	Credits
Intersectional Approaches in Media & Cultural Studies	20
Student Exchange: Semester 1	60
Popular Culture: Futures & Fictions	20
Conflict and Crisis Reporting	20
Cities in East Asian Cinema: Culture, History and Identity	20
Exploring city life: urban studies in action	20

You only take the following modules if you are studying abroad:

Student Exchange: Semester 1

You make two films: a self-shot short observational documentary film and a crew-based documentary film (the equivalent of a written dissertation). You can also choose optional modules in media and cultural studies.

You will also have a chance to take an employability module on navigating film industry upon graduation. This module is built around industry guest speakers and field trips to film festivals.

You can also explore other academic interests in the School of Arts and Cultures or from across the University.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Observational Filmmaking	20
Film Practice Project	60
Optional Modules	Credits
Popular Culture: Futures & Fictions	20
Conflict and Crisis Reporting	20
Memory Matters: Mediating Present Pasts for the Future	20
Entering the Filmscape: Working as a Film Professional	20
Storytelling and Collective Psychology	20
Digital Politics, Communication, and AI	20
Feminist Approaches to Media Analysis	20
Cities in East Asian Cinema: Culture, History and Identity	20
Exploring city life: urban studies in action	20

Teaching and assessment

Teaching methods

Teaching methods range from lectures, seminars and workshops to screening-based classes. However, you learn film-making skills through doing, undertaking a variety of practical exercises, and film-making tasks. You're encouraged to learn from any mistakes, and are given creative freedom to explore, try, and experiment with your own film-making ideas.

Film practice modules will be delivered in purpose-built facilities with access to the latest industry-standard film-making equipment.

Assessment methods

You'll be assessed through a combination of:

- Assessments
- Assignments – written or fieldwork
- Coursework
- Degree show
- Dissertation or research project
- Essays
- Examinations – practical or online
- Group work
- Practical sessions
- Presentations
- Projects
- Reflective report/journal
- Seminar tasks/exercises

Skills and experience

Practical skills

You will have the opportunity to experience all key aspects of film-making and of working as solo film-makers and in crews.

Through a diverse range of structured learning opportunities, you'll develop the skills and creative sensibility needed to work in roles such as:

- director
- editor
- soundperson
- producer and
- cinematographer

Business skills

You get the chance to attend field trips to film festivals such as Aesthetica Film Festival in York, Glasgow Short Film Festival, and Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival. You'll engage with the local North East film industry through field trips, cinema events, and guest sessions.

Research skills

You will learn a variety of research skills, including traditional essay writing as well as critical reflection on your film practice. You will develop film-based research skills through a variety of film-making experiences and by screening your work to a public audience.

These skills culminate in a film-based dissertation, where you work in crews to create a festival-ready creative documentary film – a great calling card for you take into the industry or postgraduate study.

Opportunities

Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences,

make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

You can choose [the student exchange module](#) in your second year. This will allow you to spend the first semester of second year on a student exchange.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

Work placement

Apply your practical skills, increase your confidence and gain real-life work experience to accelerate your career. Take a 9-12-month industrial placement in the UK or abroad. Work placements usually take place in stage 3 of your studies and extend your degree by one year.

[Find out more about work placements.](#)

Facilities and environment

Facilities

As a student of Film Practice at Newcastle University, you will join a vibrant community in the [School of Arts and Cultures'](#) Media, Culture, Heritage department.

You will be based in the Armstrong Building and Film@CultureLab, right at the heart of our city-centre campus. You'll be close to all of Newcastle University's amenities, as well as being just a five-minute walk to Newcastle's main street, Northumberland Street.

You'll have access to:

- professional-standard video and audio equipment, studio space and AV-editing facilities
- specialist computing facilities, including industry-standard software, such as Adobe Creative Suite

- a mobile studio suite

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Support

You'll have the support of an academic member of staff as a personal tutor throughout your degree to help with academic and personal issues.

You will also benefit from the expert knowledge and skills of our dedicated team of technicians.

Peer mentors will help you in your first year. They are fellow students who can help you settle in and answer any questions you have when starting university.

Your future

Our graduates are equipped with the practical and transferable skills needed to pursue careers across the film, media and creative industries. For example, in production, post-production, creative, marketing, distribution and film exhibition sectors.

The first cohort of graduates completed their degree in 2019. Many have gained employment in areas of the film industry, including within major UK post-production studios and commercial video production.

Some have begun careers as independent film-makers or cinematographers, while others are continuing their education at postgraduate level.

Build your network

Build your knowledge and networks in the film industry by learning from our industry guests.

Our guests include established and emerging film directors and producers, cinematographers and editors, as well as impact producers from organisations such as:

- North East International Film Festival
- Tyneside Cinema
- Star and Show Cinema
- North East Screen
- Amber Collective
- BBC Academy
- Aesthetica Film Festival
- Berwick Film Festival
- Glasgow Short Film Festival

Where a film degree could take you

Careers support

Our Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

Recognition of professional qualifications outside of the UK

If you're studying an **accredited degree** and thinking about working in Europe after you graduate, the best place to find current information is the [UK Government's guidance on recognition of UK professional qualifications in EU member states](#). This official resource explains whether your profession is regulated in another country, what steps you need to take, and which organisation you should contact.

Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:
www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate
- Watch videos about student life in Newcastle by visiting our YouTube channel at **www.youtube.com/@newcastleuni**
- Watch a virtual tour of our campus at
<https://youtu.be/vJUfHcqB7l8?si=8lUrf7kTxXbgdfr1>
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person
www.ncl.ac.uk/openday
- Contact us online at **www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

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<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/student-welcome/student-contract/>

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