

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Alternative Media Production
2	Module Code:	MCLT329
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	Second Half Year
5	School:	Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	February 2015

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

Pre, Co, Post Module Code Module Title

9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
		FT	MCLT101	BA (H) Media
		PT	MCLT102	BA (H) Media

10 Overview and aims

This module offers a different perspective on writing and producing time-based media. It explores how film, video, sound and photography have been used in non-commercial ways since their inception. The module will provide you with the opportunity to produce a portfolio of audio-visual pieces, which complement your work in other areas of the course.

The principal aim of this module is to demonstrate how this field, and the cutting edge work produced, continues to inform and advance the language of audio-visual work in the commercial sector.

The development of independent and personal ideas is key to Alternative Media Practice. You will explore elements of time-based production; writing, camerawork, sound and editing in a more specialised way, and utilise a number of (new) software platforms, such as After Effects and Soundtrack. Individual projects might be developed in a broad range of genre from fictional narratives, to abstract explorations. The exhibition and dissemination of pieces will also be considered, from single and multiple screen installations, to mixed media artefacts, performance related projects and work developed for online distribution.

The module aims:

- To place all production into an historical, theoretical and technological context.
- To engage with new software platforms at level 3
- To be aware of the developments in divergent and experimental forms over the past hundred years, studying a wide range of examples from Vertov to Lynch, Brakhage to Viola, and Warhol to Snow, in addition to contemporary work in the field.

To be able to position your work in this context and also articulate how it impacts on work in more commercial areas.

11 **Module content**

This module focuses on the development of alternative modes of narrative structure in drama, documentary and experimental film, and any special technical and creative methods that inform them. Lectures will deal with the history and theory of alternative film and video practice, looking at a wide range of work by alternative filmmakers, video artists and performers: Brakhage, Anger, Witney, Svankmajer, Sharrits, Warhol, Snow, Viola etc. The practical element will encourage experimentation with form and content in the development, production, and exhibition of a time-based artefact, and lead to an examination of the alternative ways in which this work might be exhibited and distributed.

The link between theory and practice will be highly visible in this module, and while any practical work should be viewed as independent and self-explanatory, it is expected that students will be able to fully articulate the concept and its realisation

through a personal statement and production log.through a personal statement and production log.

12 Indicative reading

Shoot shoot shoot: British avant-garde film of the 1960s & 1970s/ Robert Wilson.

Experimental cinema: the film reader / edited by Wheeler Winston-Dixon and Gwendolyn Audrey Foster.

Visionary film the American avant-garde, 1943-2000 / P. Adams Sitney.

Abstract cinema / director/producer Keith Griffiths.

Experimental cinema in the digital age / Malcolm Le Grice.

Abstract film and beyond / Malcolm Le Grice.

Independent filmmaking / Lenny Lipton with an introduction by Stan Brakhage.

13 Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the key debates (historical and theoretical) in alternative film (video) production.
- Use acquired knowledge and practical skills to conceive, develop and produce alternative time-based narratives.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the role of technology in terms of media production, access and use.
- Demonstrate an understanding of specialized creative processes and practice through engagement in production practice.

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

- Produce work, which demonstrates the effective manipulation of sound, image and/or the written word.
- Structure experimental methods and approaches, as appropriate, with forms, conventions, languages, techniques and practices.
- Understand how alternative modes of production can impact on, and develop the language, in commercial and independent production.
- Work in flexible, creative and independent ways, showing self-discipline, self-direction and reflexivity.

14 Teaching and learning

Range of modes of direct contact

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars	
<p>A wide range of teaching and learning methods will be used on this module: lectures, screenings, technical workshops, tutorials, group and individual project work, and supervised independent learning. In addition there will be group presentations with tutor and peer appraisals.</p> <p>Times for tutorials outside contact hours will be made available by the tutors for the supervision of individual assignments.</p>	
Total contact hours:	39
<p><i>Range of other learning methods</i></p> <p>This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research</p>	
<p>Most of the lectures, seminars and workshops are designed to provide you with a springboard to your course work and it is expected that students will supplement this with independent study, typically through accessing the Media Practices workshop rooms and facilities.</p> <p>Increasingly, you will be using the virtual learning interface NOW, where they will be directed to various resources ranging from reading lists to online tutorials.</p>	
Total non-contact hours:	200

15	Assessment methods			
This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements in the module				
<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	
1	75%	Portfolio	Selected Project Work	
2	25%	Essay	Personal Statement	
<hr/>				
Diagnostic/formative assessment				
This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark				
Other forms of diagnostic / formative assessment throughout the year may include analyses of video material; individual and group presentations; individual and group project reports and group project appraisal / tutorials.				
Assessment criteria will be made explicit at the start of your project and will focus on				

the following areas: the idea, the form, the content, project management, and research. Individual work will be assessed in terms of critical analysis and reflection of an area of multimedia making links between wider media theory and practice.

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

A Portfolio of Selected Project Work (ten minutes long in all) may comprise of group exercises carried out during the module and individual project work for a major assignment.

Document management

16	Module Title:	Alternative Media Production	
17	Module Code:	MCLT32908	
18	Subject (JACS) Code		
19	Cost Centre		
20	School:		
21	Academic Team		
22	Campus		
23	Other institutions providing teaching	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>	
		Institution	%
23a	Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution- Please name Percentage not taught by NTU		
23b	Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU		
23c	Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU		
23d	Any other Non-UK organisation - Percentage not taught by NTU		
24	Date this version was formally approved by SASQC/DAG:		