

FI366-15 Screening Venice (15 CAT)

26/27

Department

SCAPVC – Film and Television Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Alastair Phillips

Credit value

15

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study locations

Warwick Venice Centre Primary

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This intensive module, principally delivered at Warwick's specialised teaching facility in the Palazzo Giustinian Lolin, will offer you an immersive opportunity to apply different aspects of your previous teaching and learning experience to a series of applied workshop-style activities based around the multi-focal relationship between various historical, contemporary and future-facing screen cultures and the city of Venice. You will firstly engage with a series of critical and theoretical debates about the notion of the cinematic city and explore the long history of Venetian screen representation through both selected readings and viewings and group-based location focussed audio-visual workshops. The module will then move on to consider the live nature of the city as a place of artistic spectacle. We will engage with both the Venice International Film Festival (VIFF) and the Venice Biennale and explore the various ways in which modern-day screen cultures help mediate the city's identity as a site of contemporary global cultural activity. You will engage with emerging critical scholarship on film festivals and have an opportunity to explore the aesthetic, cultural, industrial, historical and intermedial dimensions of the world's oldest screen event of its kind. The final part of the module will consider the future of the city in terms of its various ecological and environmental aspects. You will be invited to explore the wider geographical dimensions of Venice and locate recent screen-based work in the context of various political and eco-critical debates. All aspects of the module will privilege group based critical thinking and learning opportunities, with the chance to individually explore different aspects of the

module's coverage in more detail through an assessed portfolio consisting of a written project accompanied by a piece of practical audio-visual work.

Module aims

- To develop students' awareness of the long history of Venice's relationship with cinema, both on- and off-screen.
- To integrate previously acquired skills of close textual analysis, historical enquiry and theoretical debate within a series of multi-faceted case-studies related to the study of the cinematic city.
- To explore the temporal and spatial flows which constitute the critical and experiential nature of Venice's engagement with screen cultures past, present and future.
- To provide students with the analytical confidence to deploy innovative modes of documentation outside the orbit of the conventional university classroom e.g. on-location 'visual notebook' footage, festival architecture and event programming, on-site exploration of specific cultural geographies and histories.
- To strengthen and deepen existing skills of collaborative, team-based learning and critical enquiry.
- To develop deeper and more experiential awareness of the applied nature of film and television studies re the environmental humanities and the international cultural industries sector.
- To develop students' inter-cultural awareness and global mindedness.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

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June

Day One (held at Warwick): intensive module induction

Late August to mid-September

Day Two: Venice as a Cinematic City (I), screening, seminar discussion, workshop, project discussion

Day Three: Venice and Cinema: the history and practice of the Venice International Film Festival + festival registration

Day Four: Venice International Film Festival field trip and critical projects (ii) + summary seminar discussion

Day Five: Venice and its Island Geographies: screenings, seminar discussion, workshop, project discussion

Day Six: field trip to the Venice Biennale + summary seminar discussion

October

Day Seven: Portfolio preparation workshop and tutorials

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Students demonstrate a critical awareness of the historical and theoretical debates regarding Venice's specific orientation as a cinematic city
- Students have tested and extended their knowledge on an experiential level through various collaborative on-site workshop and discussion activities.
- Students have acquired skills of collaborative working, critical reflection and inter-cultural awareness in a fast-moving and immersive learning environment.
- Students have gained skills of critical production in the form of the gathering and analysis of on-site audio-visual material and the retrieval and analysis of on-site event documentation.
- Students demonstrate critical and contextual thinking in the form of a series of real-life 'live' scenarios related to both the fields of academic study and the world of work.
- Students have developed a critical and conceptually informed approach to the application of filmmaking practices to the study of the specific urban-littoral environment of Venice.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Interdisciplinary

Students will be invited to engage with a range of other disciplines in combination with the core methodological approaches offered by Film and Television Studies. They will draw especially upon historical and cultural research, as well as aspects of urban geography and environmental sustainability. Students will also explore the value of practical filmmaking and field recording as methods for the investigation of urban space, film culture, and ecology.

International

The module will primarily take place in Venice, using the WarwickVenice Centre as a base, but will also engage with the Venice Film Festival, the Venice Art Biennale, and the Architecture Biennale. The module will be concerned precisely with the cultural, historical and geographical specificity of Venice as an Italian, European and international city.

Subject specific skills

This module is designed to recontextualise and develop the many subject specific skills introduced in the first two years of the BA degrees we offer in Film and Television Studies including audio-visual literacy and an advanced understanding of the critical, historical and theoretical frameworks underpinning the study of the moving image. The module will also open up and explore the intersection between Film and Television Studies and other practices related to place, geography,

ecology, architecture and the circulation of contemporary global culture.

Transferable skills

Critical and analytical thinking

Teamwork and collaborative problem solving

Audio-visual literacy

Independent research

Inter-cultural awareness

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	2 sessions of 1 hour 30 minutes (2%)
Seminars	7 sessions of 1 hour 30 minutes (7%)
Project supervision	1 session of 1 hour (1%)
Practical classes	2 sessions of 2 hours (3%)
Fieldwork	5 sessions of 3 hours (10%)
Other activity	8 hours (5%)
Private study	108 hours 30 minutes (72%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

- Study of films and literature around the history of screen representations of Venice during the Summer.
- Research and writing of essay for assessment.
- Editing and post-production of audio-visual piece for assessment

Other activity description

4 x 2-hour in-class screenings (separate to the screenings attended at Venice Film Festival, which are classed under 'Fieldwork')

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Portfolio	100%		Yes (extension)
A portfolio consisting of:			
1. A written critical project that focusses on a particular strand of the module, such as the Film festival, the representation of Venice on screen, or the use of the moving image and sound to explore the urban space of Venice.			
2. A piece of audio-visual work produced partly through fieldwork in Venice, and completed in the Autumn term at Warwick. This part of the portfolio will allow students to apply practical audio-visual skills to studying the unique urban and aquatic space of Venice, developing approaches to using sound and video as interrogative and essayistic modes of critical investigation, culminating in the production of an experimental documentary project.			
These two elements may focus on different topics, or they may approach the same topic, using the different modes in complementary way.			
The marks for the two components of the portfolio would be weighted at 60% and 40% of the total mark, with the balance to be determined by students in consultation with module tutors. The two possibilities would therefore be: 3000 word essay + audio-visual piece (4 - 6 min) OR 2000 word essay + audio-visual piece (6 - 8 min).			
Both written and audio-visual components are submitted together at the end of the Autumn Term. This allows time for the development of both aspects after the Venice field-trip, with guidance from module tutors during term-time at Warwick.			

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback via module feedback form

Availability

Pre-requisites

To take this module, you must have passed:

- All of
 - [FI114-15 Film and Television Analysis](#)
 - [FI204-30 World Cinema](#)

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 3 of UFIA-W620 Undergraduate Film Studies
- Year 4 of UFIA-W621 Undergraduate Film Studies (with Year Abroad)
- Year 4 of UFIA-QW26 Undergraduate Film and Literature (with Study Abroad)

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 3 of UFIA-QW25 Undergraduate Film and Literature
- Year 4 of UFIA-QW26 Undergraduate Film and Literature (with Study Abroad)