

FALMOUTH

UNIVERSITY

FILM & TELEVISION MA

Dear [NAME]

Welcome to Film & Television at Falmouth.

We're getting in touch with some important information about your course that will help you as you prepare to join us.

At the end of this letter, you will find a suggested reading list. It's not essential that you complete the reading before you start the course, but if you're looking forward to your studies and can't wait, we recommend these texts as inspiring reading.

You will also find a list of equipment that you should bring with you, as well as any other costs that you might incur throughout your course.

Your academic experience will be predominantly in person with some courses using a small amount of digital resources to support your learning. To engage in the digital learning activity, although you will be able to access IT suites on campus, you will benefit from a laptop to access the platforms and tools we use. You will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite, (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint) while you study at Falmouth.

If you are eligible for a loan from Student Finance and have not yet applied, please do so immediately to ensure the loan is approved before you enrol. Once you enrol you are liable for the tuition fees. You can find more information from the Student Loans Company at: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/student-loans-company. Advice on managing your finances whilst studying can be found on the University's website here: falmouth.ac.uk/study/student-funding/how-much-does-it-cost

Over the summer, you can join our Step into Falmouth Sessions. These online workshops are designed to provide advice and guidance on settling into university life.

They are scheduled to take place across three weeks in July and August. Some of them will also be also recorded so you can watch them back at a time that suits you. More information can be found at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/step-into-falmouth

We know there is a lot to think about before you start at university. So, the team is here to help. If you have any questions, just get in touch with Applicant Services on 01326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk

If you have any specific course related questions, do not hesitate to email me on anna.misiak@falmouth.ac.uk and nick.manley@falmouth.ac.uk

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable and creative time before the course starts and we're looking forward to welcoming you to Falmouth in September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Misiak', with a flourish at the end.

Dr Anna Misiak

Associate Professor in Film & Visual Culture
MA Film & Television Course Leader

Getting started

Your offer

If you have a conditional offer, your place is subject to meeting those conditions. This means we're waiting to receive your results or some more information before your place can be finalised. You can see these conditions using the Falmouth [Applicant Portal](#)

If you need to ask us anything about your offer, get in touch with our Applicant Services team on 01326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk

Enrolment and Student Terms & Conditions

You'll get an email two weeks before the start of term telling you how to enrol online. You'll need to enrol before the first day of term to officially register as a student of Falmouth University and receive your student loan, if you've applied for one.

When you enrol, you'll need to agree to and comply with the University's Student Terms & Conditions. These Terms & Conditions are important, and we encourage you to read them carefully, before enrolling. You can find them under 'Student Terms & Conditions' on our website www.falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations

Tuition fees (per year)

£9,900 per year - full-time UK

£19,300 per year - full-time EU/international

Your timetable

Your academic timetable shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. It will be published in early September. After you've enrolled, you can view it via the Student Portal at falmouth.myday.cloud/ or the Falmouth University App. You can download the app by searching the Google Play Store or Apple Store.

Term dates

You can find our term dates on the website at falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2023-24

Teaching and assessment will be throughout the full 15 weeks of the study blocks.

You'll begin your course on **Monday 25 September 2023**.

Your timetable will show you where you need to go and when on Monday 25 September and throughout the week.

This is the week when you'll meet your course mates, course tutors and University staff. There will be important inductions to both your course and the wider University facilities and services.

Essential pre-course preparation

Watching and reading

From now on, you should try to get acquainted with as many contemporary films and TV series as you can. Challenge yourself by watching different genres and types of film and TV work outside your usual viewing, particularly world cinema.

You should watch plenty of films over the summer. Challenge yourself by watching different genres outside your usual viewing, particularly world cinema. You'll be making short films at Falmouth, so seek out as many shorts as you can, try www.filmsshort.com and vimeo.com/channels/shortoftheweek, to get a sense of the format of the work you will be making at Falmouth. Seek out short and feature film scripts from screenwriters whose work excites you and where you can connect what's written, with the film itself. Again, many are online, start with www.simplyscripts.com. Read television reviews and features in newspapers and online and have a look at the critical studies in this academic television blog: www.cstonline.net to get a sense of the topics, shows and issues that are of interest at the moment.

For your academic preparation, try and read some of the books on our reading list below (we highly recommend the books by Lucy Tobin and Stella Cottrell as reading that you can use as a guidebook to your future university study at Falmouth). We also recommend a cookbook and for you to spend the summer extending your culinary skills before you arrive at university – a happy crew is a well-fed crew! Extend your reading to newspapers and current affairs publications to understand what stories are happening worldwide and consider how you can connect with that in your own work and writing. Also, take a look at some film and television trade publications ScreenDaily, Broadcast, Variety, Hollywood Reporter, and the BFI publication Sight & Sound. These will get you up to speed with who is making what, where and understand how cinema is discussed outside of the educational sphere. All have excellent free online resources.

Take a listen to The Cinematologists podcast via www.cinematologists.com, hosted by our own Professor Neil Fox. It's a regular in the Top Ten cinema podcasts, is one of Mark Kermode's favourite listens and features many of Falmouth's School of Film & Television staff and students discussing cinema with filmmakers and critics. Also take a look at MAI, a leading online journal run by Associate Professor Anna Misiak at Falmouth, a leading online journal that features leading scholars and our own students discussing visual culture and representation www.maifeminism.com. Other great resources to familiarise yourself with include the superb BAFTA Rocliffe series online www.bafta.org/supporting-talent/rocliffe and guru.bafta.org/crafts/screenwriting. We're accredited by www.screenskills.com and they have some great resources. To start with, have a look at their structure charts, which show typical roles in film and TV production www.screenskills.com/starting-your-career/

Materials and equipment costs

A laptop will be an essential piece of equipment along with a reliable broadband connection. Many of our students make use of Macs but we don't have a preference on the course.

All filming equipment will be provided by SOFT and you will have free access to our stores.

Optional reading list

We highly recommend these texts as preparatory reading over the summer. They will help you to be best prepared for studying at university.

Cottrell, Stella. 2019. *The Study Skills Handbook*. London: Palgrave. RRP £15.99

Recommended by our academic skills team – this book covers everything from managing your time and taking notes to working with others and developing as an academic writer and critical thinker.

Phillips, Rachel. 2017. *Student Eats*. London: Ebury Press RRP £12.99

Each year, we recommend a cookery book. We really like Rachel's approach to cheap, healthy ingredients – she's a recent graduate too, so speaks from experience.

The following texts will provide a useful framework for your studies in your first study block, as well as make for helpful preparatory reading. All of these textbooks are available from the campus library (www.library.fxplus.ac.uk), either in print or electronic form and are recommended for our students for research.

We usually read excerpts from these (as well as other texts) for our seminar debates and ask students to use them as a springboard for their research and practical projects.

If any of the titles in particular catches your attention before the course starts, you are more than welcome to obtain your own copy and, of course, read the text in its entirety.

- ASHNER, Steven & Edward PINCUS., 2013. *The Filmmaker's Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide for the Digital Age*. London: Plume. RRP £40
- BLOCK, Bruce., 2001. *The Visual Story*. Oxford: Focal Press. RRP £25.50
- BROWN, Blain., 2016. *Cinematography: Theory and Practice*. 3rd Edition. New York: Routledge. RRP £38.60
- BROWN, WILLIAM., 2018. *Non-Cinema: Global Digital Film-making and the Multitude*. New York: Bloomsbury. RRP £66
- BROWNING, Gary et al. 1999., *Understanding Contemporary Society: Theories of the Present*. London: Sage. RRP £30
- CARTER, Cynthia, Linda STEINER & Lisa MCLAUGHLIN (eds.), 2014. *The Routledge Companion to Media and Gender*. London and New York: Routledge. RRP £41
- COWGILL, Linda J., 2005. *Writing Short Films: Structure and Content for Screenwriters*. 2nd Edition. New York: Random House. RRP £18
- DINES Gail & Jean M. HUMES (eds.), 2018 *Gender, Race and Class in Media: A Critical Reader*. 5th Edition. London: Sage. RRP £48.50
- DUNLEAVY, Trisha. 2017., *Complex Serial Drama and Multiplatform Television*. New York: Routledge. RRP £19.50

- KATZ, Steven D., 2019. *Film Directing Shot by Shot: 25th Anniversary Edition: Visualising from Concept to Screen*. Studio City: Michael Wiese Productions RRP £19.50
- KEAST, Greg., 2015. *The Art of the Cut: Editing Concepts Every Filmmaker Should Know*. Honolulu: Kahala Press. RRP £7
- LIGHT HONTHANER, Eve., 2010. *The Complete Film Production Handbook*. Oxon: Focal Press. RRP £43
- LOBATO, Ramon., 2019. *Netflix Nations: The Geography of Digital Distribution*. New York: New York University Press. RRP £20
- MALONE, Alicia., 2018. *The Female Gaze: Essential Movies Made by Women*. New York: Mango. RRP £14.31
- MCDONALD, Kevin & Daniel SMITH-ROWSEY (eds.), 2018. *The Netflix Effect: Technology and Entertainment in the 21st Century*. New York & London: Bloomsbury. RRP £20
- MCERLEAN, Kelly., 2018. *Interactive Narratives and Transmedia Storytelling*. New York: Routledge. RRP £28
- MEEK, Michele., 2019. *Independent Female Filmmakers: A Chronicle through Interviews, Profiles, and Manifestos*. London: Routledge. RRP £22.20
- SCHELL, Hester., 2016. *Casting Revealed: A Guide for Film Directors*. New York & London: Routledge. RRP £31.20
- STOREY, John (ed.), 2018. *Cultural Theory and Popular Culture*. 8th Edition, London: Pearson. RRP £31.50
- STRADLING, Linda., 2010. *Production Management for TV and Film: A Professional's Guide*. London: Methuen. RRP £15.60

Please note that we may run **optional** trips for MA students to visit film & TV industry facilities in London and locally, as well as attend Berlinale. The approximate costs of such trips would range from 200 GBP to 1000 GBP, depending on duration.