

# FALMOUTH

## UNIVERSITY

### FILM BA(HONS) WITH PLACEMENT YEAR

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Dear [NAME]

Welcome to Film 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](http://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](http://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](http://falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/step-into-falmouth)

Over the summer, if you have any questions, you can join the Student Mentor team on Discord to talk about the course, living in Cornwall and what to expect at Falmouth. Our mentors are already studying on your course, so ask them anything you like. Find them at [falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/mentoring](http://falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/mentoring). Alternatively, email your name and your course to: [studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:studentmentors@falmouth.ac.uk) and they will be in touch.

Over the next few weeks, we'll email you more important information about your course and life at Falmouth. If you're going to be away or out of contact, make sure you ask someone to check your emails and reply on your behalf.

We know there is a lot to think about before you start at university. So, we're here to help. If you have any questions, just get in touch with Applicant Services on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email [applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk)

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable summer and we're looking forward to welcoming you to Falmouth in September.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Canning', written in a cursive style.

**Dr Laura Canning**  
Course Leader, Film

## 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 on your UCAS Hub

<https://accounts.ucas.com/account/login>

If you need to ask us anything about your offer, get in touch with our Applicant Services team on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email [applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto: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 undergraduate student loan.

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](http://www.falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations)

### Tuition fees (per year)

2023-2024 full-time UK: £9,250

2023-2024 full-time International: £17,460

2023-2024 placement year: £1,850

### Term dates

You can find our term dates on the website at [falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2023-24](http://falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2023-24)

Study Block 1 starts on Monday 18 September.

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

### 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/](http://falmouth.myday.cloud/) or the Falmouth University App. You can download the app by searching the Google Play Store or Apple Store.

### Welcome Week

Your timetable will show you where you need to go and when on Monday 18 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, in addition to social activities organised by the University and Students' Union.

## Suggested watching/listening/reading

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](http://www.filmsshort.com) and [vimeo.com/channels/shortoftheweek](https://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](http://www.simplyscripts.com).

Take a listen to The Cinematologists podcast via [www.cinematologists.com](http://www.cinematologists.com), hosted by our own Associate 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 our colleague Dr Anna Misiak at Falmouth, a leading online journal that features leading scholars and our own students discussing visual culture and representation [www.maifeminism.com](http://www.maifeminism.com). Other great resources to familiarise yourself with include the superb BAFTA Rocliffe series online [www.bafta.org/supporting-talent/rocliffe](http://www.bafta.org/supporting-talent/rocliffe) and [guru.bafta.org/crafts/screenwriting](http://guru.bafta.org/crafts/screenwriting). We're accredited by [www.screenskills.com](http://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/media/3233/tv-business-a2-web.pdf](http://www.screenskills.com/media/3233/tv-business-a2-web.pdf)

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 well-fed crew is a happy 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.

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.

Tobin, Lucy. 2015. *A Guide to Uni Life*. Bath: Trotman. RRP £9.99  
This terrific book walks you your first day at University, through to managing your money, keeping healthy and making the transition to university life.

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

Each year, we recommend a cookery book. Life at university is far more than just study – you’ve moved home, are living independently, and meeting hundreds of new people as committed to the cinematic arts as you are – life skills are important. We really like Rachel’s approach to cheap, healthy ingredients – she’s a recent graduate too, so speaks from experience.

### **Would be nice to have**

The following texts will provide a useful framework for your studies and make for helpful preparatory reading over the summer. If you choose to purchase your own, don’t worry about getting the latest edition, used copies are readily available, have much of the same content and are often a lot cheaper. All of these textbooks are available in the University library, either in print or electronic form:

Abushwasha, F. 2014. *Rocliffe Notes: A Professional Approach for Screenwriting & Filmmaking*. Oldcastle Books, Harpenden. RRP £19.99

Abushwasha, F. 2019. *Rocliffe Notes: A Guide to Low-Budget Filmmaking*. Oldcastle Books, Harpenden. RRP £13.99

Cottrell, S. 2017. *Critical Thinking Skills*. London: Palgrave. RRP £17.99

Fitzgerald, J. 2012. *Filmmaking for Change: Making Films that Transform the World*. Studio City: Michael Wiese Productions. RRP £19.99

Hope, T. 2014. *Hope for Film: from the Frontline of the Independent Cinema Revolutions*.

Berkeley: Counterpoint. RRP £10.99

Lumet, S. 1996. *Making Movies*. London: Bloomsbury. RRP £13.75

Nelmes, J. (ed.) 2012. *Introduction to Film Studies*. London: Routledge. RRP £29.78

## **Equipment and costs**

A laptop will be an essential piece of equipment along with a reliable broadband connection (if you are living in University accommodation you will have this). You will also need access to a camera phone.

## **Professional placement**

You can access support from the University Employability team to help you prepare and search for placement opportunities. Usually, students undertake paid placements so you should be able to earn whilst you are working. Depending on where your placement is, you will need to be prepared to factor in costs such as accommodation, costs of travel, etc. If you are unable to find a suitable placement, you will be able to transfer to the 3-year version of the course.