Get ready for BA(Hons) Filmmaking

I hope that you are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your Programme Leader and one of your Level One module tutors, I would like to warmly welcome you onto **BA(Hons) Filmmaking**. I have provided some information below that will help you prepare for the coming year. I look forward to meeting you.

Vanessa Bewley
Programme Leader

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with more details.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the enrolment process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival

You can find everything you need to know about enrolment, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

Enrolment

Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Enrolment for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Enrolment website.

ID card - upload your photo now

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

Start your learning

Click here to download a map of the City Campus; the home of BA Filmmaking therein is G Block.

Read around your subject, engage with the industry and get watching

In order to get the most out of BA Filmmaking you should ensure that you are keeping up to date with industry news. If you don't already, keep your eye on industry news sites and podcasts and look at what's happening at the major film festivals this summer. You should read about film, and watch as much good stuff as you can. This is of course all subjective – but rather than set a list of films to watch my suggestion to you is to start to watch films from different countries and different eras. Your generation is unique in that you can easily access films from the 1890s to the 2020s online, so please do. Try also to get to the cinema this summer to think about how audiences react to films and what the communal viewing experience means to you. Do ensure that you look at fiction films and also documentaries. If at all possible, get along to a film festival if there's one near you this summer – you should also be able to attend Encounters in Bristol in Semester 1. Whatever you are watching, you should start to think critically about what you are watching, and you should take the perspective of a creator – not just a consumer.

We are a Screenskills accredited course and this site is a great place to start to familiarise yourself with the Film and Television industry – go to Screenskills.com to find out more!

You might also want to start thinking about stories and people that interest you. Throughout your first year you will be expected to come up with ideas for films, so coming along with some interesting characters or scenarios might be helpful. In order to get used to what makes a good short film, we really recommend that you start looking at short films – Shortof theweek.com is a great place to start. Ask yourself – what makes a good short film? Which examples did I like or loathe – and why?

You might also want to explore the Library web pages to see the wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

As soon as your UWE credentials are valid, you should be able to access electronic texts via the library, as well as the Kanopy viewing platform.

Be prepared

Access support

Check the information on our Disability web pages so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped

You do not need to bring any particular filming equipment with you to campus. You will be trained to use the filmmaking equipment that we have here for your use.

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

Many students will bring a laptop but don't feel you need to upgrade before the course begins. You may prefer to wait to see whether or not this is necessary, and to find out exactly what specs may be best for you. (If you need to, you can borrow a laptop from the University, but this will be on a short term basis and numbers are limited.) You may find it useful to bring along a hard drive, but again if you prefer you can buy one from the art shop on campus. This has the benefit of allowing you to spend your art shop allowance (£80) which you'll get when you arrive.

WINDOWS

	Minimum	Recommended
Processor	Intel®, AMD, or ARM processor with 64-bit support	
Operating system	Windows 10 (64-bit)	
RAM	2 GB	4 GB or more
Hard disk space	4 GB of available hard-disk space; additional space is required for installation	
Internet	Internet connection	

MACOS

	Minimum	Recommended
Processor	Multicore Intel® processor with 64-bit support or M1 Apple Silicon processor	
Operating system	macOS Sierra (version 10.12) and later | Big Sur 11.0 (Apple M1 silicon)	
RAM	4 GB	16 GB or more
Hard disk space	4 GB of available hard-disk space; additional space is required for installation	
	The Creative Cloud desktop app won't install on a volume that uses a case-sensitive file system	
Internet	Internet connection	

International students

The Global Student Support Team offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the course, please contact your Programme Leader:

Vanessa Bewley via email at Vanessa.Bewley@uwe.ac.uk

Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026