

**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification
Studio 3 – Sound and Video (Narrative and Abstract Forms)**



Image Credit: Alexandra Bell, 2021. *Deora*, BDes Sound for Moving Image Class of 2023.

Please note that this course specification is correct on the date of publication but may be subject to amendment prior to the start of the 2026-27 Academic Year.

Course Code	HECOS Code	Academic Session
USMIST301B		2026-27

Course Title	Studio 3 – Sound and Video (Narrative and Abstract Forms)
Course Contact	Dr. Jessica Argo

Credits	30
SCQF Level	9
When Taught	Stage 3, Semester 2

Associated Programmes	BDes Sound for Moving Image
Lead School	School of Innovation and Technology (SIT)
Other Schools	N/A
Date of Approval	Programme Approval February 2024

Course Introduction

This course builds on the experience in creative studio learning and practices, providing an opportunity for students to choose to conceive, plan and create an original video/moving image work in a chosen narrative, documentary or experimental/abstract forms. Students will explore the pioneers and contemporary vanguards of these fields of filmmaking and are guided through production and post-production techniques of increasing complexity, as they learn to shape their own stories.

Course Aims

The course aims to enable students to advance and develop their personal practice and expressive voice based on an understanding and experience of the essential processes involved in sound recording and production.

In this course, students are expected to further explore their engagement with and learning of professional workflows and tools applicable to sound recording, editing, mixing and synchronisation for a film output in a self-directed project.

Through this extended practical project, students will increase confidence in communicating professional workflows, with a critical understanding of industry standards and delivery methods.

Students will also further develop skills and confidence self-directed working, including project planning and management, and in communicating ideas to peers and staff audiences, in accessible and meaningful ways

Course Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Apply and justify the use of professional tools and workflows for audio-visual production and post-production in a self-directed project.

- Design and develop a soundtrack to communicate concepts and build multi-sensory narratives to enhance an original moving image sequence. Develop audio-visual production work following professional and ethical approaches for narrative or abstract audio-visual work.
- Demonstrate an ability to critically reflect on, analyse and communicate project outcome and processes to peers and diverse external audiences, in a structured and accessible manner

Indicative Content

This course will cover key topics in sound production for the moving image such as:

- Audio-visual production management and documentation
- Audio-visual narrative forms and abstract expression
- Project management and planning
- The anatomy of the soundtrack
- Self-directed audio-visual production, including camera operation, lighting and audio
- Broadcast Environments, Processes, Techniques and Workflows
- Ethics for film-making and audio-visual production
- Post-production - Picture Editing
- Post-production – Sound

Description of Learning and Teaching Methods

This course is primarily studio-based, supported by lectures, tutorials and practical lab/workshop sessions.

Students will be required to engage with a range of key texts and papers to provide a deeper contextual underpinning for the practical techniques and methods developed in studio practice and through practical tutorials, workshops and fieldwork.

Students will also be supported with scaffolded learning in theory, analysis of techniques seen in diverse fields of filmmaking, and practical workflows, as they explore and expand their vision and grow their expressive voice in sound and moving image.

Teaching Assistants support learning with practical support sessions, supporting students as they gain experience in working with a range of audio-visual equipment, software and workflows.

Indicative Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
30	300

Description of Formative Assessment and Feedback Methods

Students are supported in their learning through a range of formative assessment activities as they progress through the course. These include:

- Engagement in scheduled peer review sessions where students can present work in progress for feedback from peers and tutors
- Regular feedback from tutors through in-class discussion and verbal feedback from tutors on work in progress

Where student projects require ethical approval, or Health & Safety review, submission of relevant documentation is required for week 6.

Description of Summative Assessment arrangements

This Course has two summative assessment components:

Self-directed film

Students need to submit an original, self-directed, audio-visual work of between 5 to 10 minutes duration.

Conceptual Statement and planning documents

This is accompanied by a 1000-word audio-visual statement, and a portfolio of the planning and related documents used to support the production of the film. This can include, as appropriate:

- Storyboards and/or scripts
- Gantt charts or other time management/planning documentation
- Source lists for 3rd party assets

Students are awarded an aggregate grade based on the weighted grade of the two components.

Submissions will be assessed and moderated in line with the GSA Code of Assessment. Reassessment opportunities where a student has not passed the course are outlined in the Code of Assessment.

Description of Summative Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week
Self-directed film (5-10 minutes)	60%	12
Conceptual Statement (1000 words) and portfolio of planning documents	40%	12

Exchange/Study Abroad

Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?	Yes
Are all the students on the course taught wholly by distance learning?	No
Does this course represent a work placement or a year of study abroad?	No
Is this course collaborative with any other institutions?	No
If yes, then please provide the names of the other teaching institutions	

Reading and On-line Resources

The course indicative Reading and on-line resource list is accessible via [Resource Lists](#) (see section "Studio 3 Narrative and Abstract Forms":

This list will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect course content and subject developments.