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| Creative Industries: Television and Film HN, Milton Road Campus  |

**Information and Task Sheet**

**Course Information**

**Year 1: *Basic skills***

The *HNC Creative Industries: Television and Film* course gives students a wide range of basic production skills in camera, sound, lighting and editing. Later in year 1 we will cover research, production management, shooting, directing and editing of individual projects.

Alongside the technical and creative aspects, we also include units on essential theory such as law, employment skills, critical analysis and research.

**Year 2: *Advanced skills***

In the second year the course extends and refines the skills acquired in the first year. By this stage it is expected that students will have an idea of where in the industry their interests lie and there will be an element of self-direction towards individuals’ goals. There is still however a strong emphasis on writing, researching and directing both drama and documentary.

**Vocational training and student productions**

The HNC is designed to equip students with the professional and personal skills required by the industry. It is a vocational course — training for work — and as such we are fairly demanding in our expectations with the lecturer acting as client/ executive producer giving students detailed and specific briefs.

Projects may be an advert, an educational video or a documentary on a themed topic or local subject. At the end of each year the students are given a wider choice of what to make for their final project, whether drama or factual.

*You will also be expected to make presentations to your class and to find subjects and generate ideas for programmes. This will entail introducing yourself to people you do not know and convincing them to participate in your programmes. We realise that not everybody is suited for this type of work: are you?*

**Timetable and calendar**

While the course is termed full-time, actual contact time with a lecturer is usually fourteen hours a week, the rest of the time being taken up with production work. We try to leave at least one day a week free because we know most students need to work to pay the bills.

Assessments are spaced throughout the year rather than being end-loaded. Certain weeks will be designated as shoot weeks where students can work on each other’s projects without missing scheduled classes.

**Evidence of Suitability for the Course**

**a. Qualifications and Conditions**

We normally look for two Highers as a minimum entry requirement, preferably with one being English, though we will consider mature students who may have varied life experience. In the case of applicants who are reliant on alternative certification as a result of the cancellation of exams we would expect the equivalent.

Since our course has a large practical element we are unable to offer students a place on the strength of academic qualifications alone. We place considerable emphasis on the applicant’s interests and experience. You will also need to be enthusiastic and self-motivated.

**b. The Portfolio**

We would also like to see evidence of your creative work. This could be a video you have shot or worked on or it could be a portfolio of artwork or a piece of creative writing. You will need to make this available online and provide a link to allow us to view it. *See question 2*

**c. The Written Task**

*Please see the Written Task form that follows the questionnaire.*

**Questionnaire**

*We understand that you have already provided the information asked for below on your college application form but as the lecturers who are assessing your form may be doing do from home, providing this information here will speed up our response to your Written Task and get back to you sooner.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Name:*  |   |
| *Date of Birth:*  |   |
| *Preferred contact number:*  |   |
| *Email:*  |   |

You are to write about your abilities, interests and ambitions. We expect our students to have knowledge of the media and current affairs. You should be paying attention to developments in the media industry itself (broadcast media and technological developments and any recent issues that the industry has been affected by in the wider social and political climate).

1. Why have you applied for this particular course?

1. What creative work have you done or been involved in? This could be video, sound, music, photography, art, animations, scripts, etc. It could have been as part of previous coursework or in your own time, as a hobby. Please provide a link to the best of these.

1. What experience do you have that would indicate your suitability for this course and for working in this industry? For example, any sports, hobbies or paid or voluntary work you may have done.

1. What television programmes do you regularly watch and why?

1. What film or film-maker do you admire and why?

1. Tell us about a current development in the media. This question is not concerned with programmes or films on screen. Instead we want to know if you are aware of developments in media technology, politics or social trends around the creation or consumption of media.

**The Written Task**

We would like some indication of your ability to produce creative work. You are to produce five original, viable ideas for programmes (one from each of the following genres) then expand the idea you consider to be best:

* Human Interest
* Current Affairs
* The Arts
* Reality TV
* Drama series or sit-com

1. Write a brief synopsis of the five programme ideas, approximately 100 words each.
2. Give an appropriate channel, time slot and target audience for each programme.
3. Expand the idea you like best into a proposal of approximately 300 words which describes clearly the focus of this one programme, detailing contributors, locations, the style of the programme and a suggested running order or structure.

**If you’re not sure what any of these genres are you should research them.**

We are looking for a unique angle, a programme idea that makes us think, “I haven’t seen that before, that sounds like a great idea for a programme.” You don’t have to budget it but it should be affordable for a local (Scottish) broadcaster or production company to produce.

Your answers here will also give us an indication of your ability to interpret instructions.

**Human Interest**

**Current Affairs**

**The Arts**

**Reality TV**

**Drama series or sit-com**