About this guide

This is your course guide. It provides the basic but fundamental information about your course of study. This guide is yours for the duration of the course, we don’t re-issue it annually and if any information contained within were to change then we will write to you to explain so.

In particular, if any important aspects relating to your modules were to change then we will inform you in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Management of Changes to Modules and Courses. The teaching and support teams which you will get to know over time will refer to this guide – it will be useful to you and we advise you to make good use of it throughout your studies.

The Course Guide should be read in conjunction with the more general sources of information which relate to all students at the University. The Student Handbook is a very detailed reference point for all issues relating to your studies which aren’t specific to just your particular course. You might also want to refer to the Student Charter; the University’s Policies and Regulations and the University Assessment Handbook documents which will provide you with all of the information that we think you will need for your period of study here.

If you need additional information, or you simply want to discuss elements of any of these documents or other aspects of your course, find that there is something you need to know, please contact your Faculty Student Services:

Faculty Student Services

We can help with the administration and organisation of your time at University – from enrolment and module registration, tuition fee enquiries, attendance support, course management and lifecycle queries, extenuating circumstances, leave of absence, transfers and changes, assignment submission, SAMs appointments, assessment and result queries, right through to Graduation.

You can also come and talk to us for impartial advice and support if things are starting to go wrong and you’re not sure who else to talk to. The main thing to remember is that you are not alone. We see large numbers of students over the course of a year on a variety of issues, so please don’t be afraid to approach us.

We are here to ensure that your transition into Higher Education is as smooth as possible. Normal office opening hours are Monday-Friday 08:45-17:00.

You can contact us through the e:vision help desk, by phone or in person or by e-mail:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty of Arts (City Campus)</th>
<th>The MX Building MX 005</th>
<th>(01902) 321034</th>
<th><a href="mailto:FoAStudentServices@wlv.ac.uk">FoAStudentServices@wlv.ac.uk</a></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Help and Advice is also available from Student Support &amp; Wellbeing...</td>
<td>Contact us at the Alan Turing Building MI 001 for all enquiries and referrals... Services operate at all campuses by appointment.</td>
<td>(01902) 321074</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ssw@wlv.ac.uk">ssw@wlv.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(01902) 321070</td>
<td><a href="mailto:money@wlv.ac.uk">money@wlv.ac.uk</a></td>
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Welcome from the Course Leader

On behalf of the teaching and support teams from MA Popular Culture course, I would like to extend to you a very warm welcome to the University of Wolverhampton, and in particular your campus.

My name is Gabriela Steinke and I am the course leader for your MA Popular Culture course and alongside your personal tutor, will be your main point of contact over the duration of your studies. My contact details are below – please don’t hesitate to get in touch if you need any support or guidance.

The successes which you will achieve whilst at the University are based upon a partnership between the expertise and support from the staff here and the effort you put into learning. We welcome students who are eager to think for themselves, to take control of their own learning and who are ready to get involved in
developing the skills required in a highly competitive job market. Make the most of the wide range of opportunities available to you.

Studying at University can be difficult, and for many of you the transition into University life will be challenging. However we will support you throughout your course, particularly whilst you develop into an independent learner over the course of your first year with us.

We believe it is important that you are encouraged to make your own contribution to the effective operation and development of your chosen course. We hope that you might consider acting as a Course Representative during some of your time with us to help the University continue to improve your experience.

I would like to wish you every success with your studies. We look forward to working with you and hope that you enjoy your time with us.

Gabriela Steinke

Course Management and Staff Involvement

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Head of Department</td>
<td>Dr Frank Wilson</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:F.P.Wilson@wlv.ac.uk">F.P.Wilson@wlv.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>3478</td>
<td>MX103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Leader</td>
<td>Ms Gabriela Steinke</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:G.Steinke@wlv.ac.uk">G.Steinke@wlv.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>2476</td>
<td>MX103</td>
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Educational Aims of the Course

MA Popular Culture will introduce you to advanced level study of various aspects of popular culture, principally that produced and consumed in Britain since the late nineteenth century. It is an interdisciplinary programme, befitting the range of approaches and methodologies applicable to the area of study. Central aspects of the course include the role of popular culture in everyday life, the archiving and memorialising of popular culture, and popular genres. On completion of the course, you will be equipped with the contextual knowledge and analytical tools to advance your encounters with popular culture in a variety of careers and academic environments.

What makes this programme distinctive?

This is one of very few courses of this nature in the country. It draws on internationally acknowledged expertise in the fields that contribute to the programme.

Course Structure

September (Full-Time)
### Course Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Contributing Modules</th>
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</table>
| **PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCLO1)** | 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work  
7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period  
7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema  
7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media  
7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy |

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: 1. to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. 2. to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate,
to propose new hypotheses.

**PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCLO2)**
- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939

**PGCert Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGCCLO3)**
- Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**PGCert Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGCCLO4)**
- Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**PGCert Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGCCLO5)**
- Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.
- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**PGCert Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGCCLO6)**
- Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: 1. the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility 2. decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations 3. the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.
- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**PGDip Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGDCLO1)**
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice with a conceptual understanding that enables the student: 1. to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline 2. to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate,
Estranged from the mundane, the intellect soars. The restless mind, ever curious, seeks to propose new hypotheses.

**PGDip Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGDCLO2)**

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939

**PGDip Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGDCLO3)**

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**PGDip Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGDCLO4)**

Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7FP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**PGDip Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGDCLO5)**

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**PGDip Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGDCLO6)**

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: 1. the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility 2. decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations 3. the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7FI006 Screening Horror: Trauma, Fear and Fantasy in Film
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP003 Crime of the Century - Murders and the Media
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939
- 7PP006 Science Fiction and Fantasy

**Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1)**

Provide evidence of a high level of self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, as well as in planning and implementing tasks.

- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7FI003 Space, Place and Culture in Contemporary American Cinema
- 7HU001 Dissertation
- 7PP001 Youth Subcultures and National Identity in Post-War Britain
- 7PP002 The Sacred and the Profane in Popular Culture
- 7PP004 Theories and Concepts for the Analysis of Popular Culture
- 7PP005 Popular Consumerism in Britain, c. 1850-1939

**Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2)**

Demonstrate a high capacity for independent analysis, synthesis and scholarly engagement.

- 7EN004 Corpus 2: Post-1900 Writers and their Work
- 7EN006 Connectivities 2: Literature, Genre and Period
- 7FI002 Picturing Britain: Aesthetics, Discourse and Culture in British Cinema
Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)
Contextualise and synthesise various methodologies, theories and analytical tools relevant to postgraduate English studies.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)
Contextualise and synthesise various methodologies, theories and analytical tools relevant to postgraduate English studies.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 5 (MACLO5)
Analyse closely, interpret, and show the exercise of critical judgement in the understanding and, as appropriate, evaluation of forms of popular culture.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 6 (MACLO6)
Show critical awareness of how texts produce and reflect cultural change and difference.

PSRB
None

Employability in the Curriculum

The programme is diverse and multi-disciplinary. As this is a postgraduate course with a popular part-time route, many of the students are already working in the cultural and educational industries, and the course is being utilised to improve professional knowledge and practice. All modules on the programme include some consideration of the commercial exploitation of popular culture, either in history or current practice. Students can - and some have - chosen to concentrate on these areas more explicitly in their assignments and dissertations.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

All modules are delivered principally through weekly seminars. Tutors supply directed reading and activities. Individual modules may also include, variously, online forums, reading logs, collaborative activities, presentations, assessment plans, creative work. The dissertation is researched and written with the guidance of a supervisor from an appropriate discipline.
During the course of their studies students will engage with a wide variety of materials, analysing and evaluating them through various approaches. A recurring aspect of their engagements with popular culture will be a consideration of the increasing digitalisation of archived materials. They will also become increasingly aware of the commercial determinants for the cultural industries, and the internationalisation of contemporary popular cultural forms.

The Masters is awarded upon successful submission of a dissertation on the student’s chosen topic. Throughout the taught portion of the award, the standard assessment for each module is a long essay, which befits the postgraduate academic rigour of the degree programme across all its modules. Some modules employ an additional assessment method, and these vary in both nature and weighting depending on their particular function within the module’s assessment regime and teaching methodologies. Each of the assessment methods is supported by the pedagogical approaches of the various modules, and are designed to test the particular modes of knowledge and enquiry fostered by the course content.

Reference Points

Quality Code - Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards. Including:

Qualifications Frameworks
Characteristics Statements
Credit Frameworks
Subject Benchmark Statements – see below

Quality Code - Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act (2010)

The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (QAA, 2008) provides generic level descriptors for Masters qualifications which have been used to inform the pathway outcomes for the full MA. Masters Degree Characteristics (QAA, 2010) has also been consulted. Masters subject benchmarks have not been produced for any arts or humanities subjects. Undergraduate subject benchmarks have been consulted, but as this is an interdisciplinary award drawing on the academic heritage, teaching staff and modules from many areas, it is impossible to prioritise one set of subject benchmarks; the following have been consulted, and are contributory in the development of the course: Communication, media, film and cultural studies; English; History; History of art, architecture and design/Art and design. The course outcomes drawn from the subject benchmarks are typically those that recognise interdisciplinarity within discipline boundaries, and are appropriately modified to reflect the specificity of this course. All statements within the course learning outcomes are drawn from The framework for higher education qualifications (QAA FHEQ) unless otherwise noted.

Academic Regulations Exemptions

None

Support with your studies

University Learning Centres are the key source of academic information for students providing access to:

- Physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.)
- Study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suits them best: Social areas, quiet and
• A wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-journals and subject databases
• Academic skills support via the Skills for Learning programme
• Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing.
• Dedicated Subject Pages to enable you to explore key online information sources that are recommended for their studies.
• Physical access to local libraries both in UK and overseas via SCONUL and WorldCat agreements

We also strongly advise you to download the “MyWLV” student app. MyWLV is a single point of personalised access to the variety of systems the University offers. This includes pulling through relevant information (e.g. deadlines, timetables) and linking to underlying systems.

Course Specific Support

As this is a multi-disciplinary course, each module has its own methodologies and approaches, and students are supported in developing these skills as and when necessary. More generic guidance and skills are introduced to the students through the Theories and Methodologies module, and by the judicious allocation of experienced supervisors for the dissertation.

Contact Hours

In higher education, the term ‘contact hours’ is used very broadly, to refer to the amount of time that you spend learning in contact with teaching or associated staff, when studying for a particular course.

This time provides you with the support in developing your subject knowledge and skills, and opportunities to develop and reflect on your own, independent learning. Contact time can take a wide variety of forms depending on your subject, as well as where and how you are studying. Some of the most common examples are:

- lectures
- seminars
- tutorials
- project supervisions
- demonstrations
- practical classes and workshops
- supervised time in a studio/workshop
- fieldwork
- external visits
- work-based learning (including placements)
- scheduled virtual interaction with tutor such as on line, skype, telephone

In UK higher education, you as the student take primary responsibility for your own learning. In this context, contact time with teaching and associated staff is there to help shape and guide your studies. It may be used to introduce new ideas and equip you with certain knowledge or skills, demonstrate practical skills for you to practise independently, offer guidance on project work, or to provide personalised feedback.

Alongside contact time, private or independent study is therefore very significant. This is the time that you spend learning without direct supervision from, or contact with, a member of staff. It might include background reading, preparation for seminars or tutorials, follow-up work, wider practice, the completion of assignments, revision, and so on.

Course Specific Health and Safety Issues
Everyone in the Faculty is required to read and adhere to the Codes of Practice and Operational Procedures for the areas of the Faculty they work/study in. Codes of Practice are available within the Faculty of Arts Health & Safety Canvas course. Please familiarise yourself with the codes appropriate to your study location. Please also note, all potentially hazardous Faculty facilities require the successful completion of one or more formal induction sessions before access to those facilities can be granted. Your module tutor and or course team will be able to advise you on which modules / areas of study require specific additional inductions.

### Course Fact File

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<th>Hierarchy of Awards:</th>
<th>Master of Arts Popular Culture</th>
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<td>Postgraduate Diploma Popular Culture</td>
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**THE UNIVERSITY OF OPPORTUNITY**

Published: 17-Oct-2017 by Karen Cooper