BA in Film and TV Production

STAGE 2

Module	VFX for Film and Television
Course code	BAFTP-VFT
Credits	5
Allocation of marks	70% Continuous Assessment
	30% Final Examination

MODULE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This module aims to establish a clear foundation for all digital image related understanding through practical demonstrations and historical contextualisation. Examination of landmark case studies and practitioners illustrate the artistry of visual effects and their diverse use within film and television, with special emphasis upon the increasingly widespread use of what is an at-times almost "invisible" art.

While this module builds upon digital image manipulation skills acquired in modules such as Digital Photography and Applications Technology undertaken at stage one of the programme, the goal of this module is to be less software specific, concentrating more on understanding the fundamental components that make up a digital image and how to manipulate them. Armed with this knowledge, the learner will be able to problem-solve difficult shots and will be better equipped to move with the rapidly changing landscape of visual effects software.

From the outset, emphasis is placed upon the importance of planning, correct on-set acquisition and other considerations that support an understanding of both digital cinematography and visual effects production. In this way, practical demonstrations consistently reinforce the relationship between the possibilities of visual effects and storytelling across a variety of film and television modes.

MODULE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this module, learners will be able to:

- Display a practical knowledge of industry-standard visual effects workflow from on-set to on-screen within both film and television contexts
- Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental building blocks of all digital imagery
- Confidently use industry standard software to manipulate and composite digital imagery
- Display a comprehensive knowledge of the history of special and visual effects
- Confidently use an expanded vocabulary to articulate the process of designing and generating visual effects

INDICATIVE MODULE CONTENT

- Acquisition for visual effects (camera considerations such as lens distortion, chromatic aberrations and other optical artefacts)

- Digital imaging (pixels, channels, components)

- Colour workflow (colour science, linear workflow, bit depth, gamma curves)

- Creating a matte (pulling keys/mattes, Roto)

- Compositing foundation

- Tracking/Matchmoving foundation

- Health and safety procedures for studio work