Imperial College London

Programme Information		
Programme Title	Programme Code	HECoS Code
MSc Science Media Production	V5UJ	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
MSc	1 Calendar Year (12 months)	Full-time	Annually in October	90	180
The PG Certificate/PG Diploma are intermediate awards and are not available for entry. All students must apply to and join the MSc.					

Ownership			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Non-Faculty
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication
Associateship	N/A	Main Location(s) of Study	South Kensington Campus
External Reference			
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points		N/A	
FHEQ Level		7	
EHEA Level		2nd Cycle	
External Accreditor(s) (if applicable)			
External Accreditor 1:	N/A		
Accreditation received:	N/A	Accreditation renewal:	N/A
Collaborative Provision			
Collaborative partner	Collaboration type	Agreement effective date	Agreement expiry date
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Specification Details			
Programme Lead		Dr Robert Sternberg	
Student cohorts covered by specification		2021-22 entry	

Date of introduction of programme	October 01
Date of programme specification/revision	September 2021

Programme Overview

The MSc in Science Media Production produces graduates who have an informed, critical and creative approach both to their own forms of audio-visual practice and to understanding the relationship of science to contemporary society and its treatment on film and radio. It combines academic and practical modules in order to prepare students for careers in television and radio production.

This course is for those who want to train to work specifically in the broadcast media or film and who would prefer to undertake a production project rather than a research dissertation. Academic study is focused on audio-visual production and students undertake a practical television or radio production project. An internship or work placement forms part of the course.

This course can only be taken full-time over one calendar year.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be able to:

- reason independently to challenge accepted opinions regarding the relationship between science and society;

- use a range of historical, philosophical and sociological sources to contextualise and critique examples of science communication;

- integrate insights from the humanities, the social sciences and lay knowledge to contribute to contemporary debates about science in the media and other public fora;

- analyse and distinguish the ways in which meaning is constructed in radio, film and television;

- critically appraise how media form incorporates power relations, ideological positions and ethical dilemmas;

- operate as a reflexive practitioner, applying theoretical understandings to practical media production in radio and television;

- work independently and as part of a team in a media production environment;

- pitch creative content ideas to editors and craft content to engage specific audiences;

- create original factual audio and audio-visual content to a professional standard;

- design, plan and execute a substantial media production project.

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial College degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement	The minimum requirement is normally a 2:1 UK Bachelor's Degree with Honours (or a comparable qualification recognised by the College).
Non-academic Requirements	N/A
English Language Requirement	Higher requirement IELTS score of 7.0 overall (minimum 6.5 in all elements).
Admissions Test/Interview	Applicants are asked to complete two short aptitude assignments to be submitted with their applications. Details can be found at: http://www.imperial.ac.uk/science-communication-unit/apply/ . All shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by two members of staff.

The programme's competency standards documents can be found at:
http://www.imperial.ac.uk/science-communication-unit/apply/

Learning & Teaching Approach

All teaching on the programme is highly interactive, with students actively participating in all classes. Teaching sessions include a mix of traditional 'front-of-class' lecturing, facilitated class-wide discussions, group discussions and group activities. You will learn from your peers on the course as well as from staff and there will also be opportunities to meet with science communication practitioners.

Practical modules and the final project will include individual or group support from staff.

Group sizes vary, depending on the activity, but will typically be between two and five students for assessed project work. Class sizes also vary, from about 10 up to about 55.

You will also undertake a considerable amount of independent study, including preparatory reading, independent research and project work. Some modules will also require group work outside the scheduled class times.

Overall Workload
Your overall workload consists of face-to-face sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the optional modules you choose to study, the following gives an indication of how much time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the programme. At Imperial, each ECTS credit taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is 2250 hours per year.

During term time, you can expect to spend about two or three days a week in scheduled sessions and the rest of your study time in independent study or group work. We also encourage students to spend some time on relevant extra-curricular activities to broaden your experience base.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods

All assessment is through coursework. For academic modules this is in the form of 2000 word essays. You will complete seven such essays in the first two terms. The practical module is assessed through two pieces of project work – a factual audio production and a short film. The final project is assessed through the submission of the final production. (See module specifications for further details of assessments.)

Academic Feedback Policy

Provisional marks and detailed written feedback on assignments will be emailed to you as soon as the first marking is complete, normally within two weeks of submission of the assignment. Informal group-wide feedback may also be given through the lecturer's comments during class discussion and class presentations. Informal verbal feedback on progress on project work will be provided in classes or tutorials.

Written feedback is also provided for the final project and will normally be emailed to you after the Examinations Board has met in December.

The College's Policy on Academic Feedback and guidance on issuing provisional marks to students is available at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Re-sit Policy

The College's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/

Mitigating Circumstances Policy

The College's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/

Additional Programme Costs		
This section should outline any additional costs relevant to this programme which are not included in students' tuition fees.		
Description	Mandatory/Optional	Approximate cost
Any costs incurred during on-location recording.	Optional	Variable

Programme Structure

Year 1 – FHEQ Level 7
Students study all modules.

Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective	Group*	Term	Credits
LCCM0086	Science and its Social Contexts	Compulsory		1	10
LCCM0104	Intro to Film Form	Compulsory		1	10
LCCM0092	Documentary Film	Compulsory		2	5
LCCM0094	Narrative	Compulsory		2	5
LCCM0098	Sound, Sign, Meaning in Radio	Compulsory		2	5
LCCM0257	Science Media Production Practical Projects	Core		1, 2, 3	25
LCCM0258	Science Media Production Final Project and Work Placement	Core		3, summer	30
				Credit Total	90

* 'Group' refers to module grouping (e.g. a group of electives from which one/two module(s) must be chosen).

Progression and Classification

Award and Classification for Postgraduate Students

Award of a Postgraduate Degree (excluding MRes)
To qualify for the award of a postgraduate degree a student must have:
1. accumulated credit to the value of no fewer than 90 credits at level 7 or above of which no more than 15 credits may be from credit level 6;
2. and no more than 15 credits as a Compensated Fail;
3. met any specific requirements for an award as outlined in the approved programme specification for that award.

Classification of Postgraduate Taught Awards
The College sets the class of Degree that may be awarded as follows:
1. Distinction: The student has achieved an overall weighted average of 70% or above across the programme.
2. Merit: The student has achieved an overall weighted average of above 60% but less than 70%.
3. Pass: The student has achieved an overall weighted average of 50% but less than 60%.

a. For a Masters, students must normally achieve a distinction (70%) mark in the dissertation or designated final major project (as designated in the programme specification) in order to be awarded a distinction.
b. For a Masters, students must normally achieve a minimum of a merit (60%) mark in the dissertation or designated final major project (as designated in the programme specification) in order to be awarded a merit
c. Modules taken at level 6 as part of the programme specification for a named postgraduate award will contribute to the determination of pass, merit or distinction for any taught postgraduate award and are included in the calculation of the overall weighted average.

Programme Specific Regulations
N/A

Supporting Information
The Programme Handbook is available at: https://www.imperial.ac.uk/science-communication-unit/
The Module Handbook is available at: https://www.imperial.ac.uk/science-communication-unit/
The College's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements
The College's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance
The College's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations
Imperial College is an independent corporation whose legal status derives from a Royal Charter granted under Letters Patent in 1907. In 2007 a Supplemental Charter and Statutes was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. This Supplemental Charter, which came into force on the date of the College's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established the College as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine". www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters/
Imperial College London is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS) www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/
This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is primarily intended as a reference point for prospective and current students, academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement, for its assessment by internal and external examiners, and in subsequent monitoring and review.

Modifications			
Description	Approved	Date	Paper Reference