

## Film 489 Research Project

**Trimester 1+2 2012**

5 March to 17 November 2012

**30 Points**

### TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	5 March to 19 October 2012
Mid-trimester break 1/3:	6 to 22 April 2012
Mid-trimester break 2/3:	27 August to 9 September 2012
Study week:	11 to 15 June 2012
Last piece of assessment due:	12 October 2012

### WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

### NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Coordinator: Dr. Miriam Ross

Email: [Miriam.Ross@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Miriam.Ross@vuw.ac.nz) Phone: 463 9655 Room: 83 Fairlie Terrace room 312

Office Hours: Tue 13.00-14.00 and Wed 13.00-14.00 Supervisors: tbc

### CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

There are no classes for this course but students must attend regular meetings with their supervisor, are required to be present at the following workshops and are expected to attend the Film and Media Studies Research Seminars (listed on page 9).

#### Workshops

Date	Time	Room Number	Workshop
Thu 8 March	4-5pm	85 Fairlie Terrace, Room 108	Introduction to Film 489

FILM COURSE OUTLINE 489

Thu 15 March	3-4pm	77 Fairlie Terrace, Room 208	Research and Methods
Thu 29 March	3-4pm	KK 216	Library and Database
Thu 26 April	3-4pm	KK 216	Endnote and Zotero
Thu 10 May	3-4pm	77 Fairlie Terrace, Room 208	Writing and Editing
Week 13, Trimester 2		TBC	Troubleshooting
Week 17, Trimester 2		TBC	Preparing Final Drafts

### COURSE DELIVERY

Students will be assigned a supervisor for their research project and will work with this supervisor to program a suitable course of study. There will also be a number of workshops and seminars that will provide students with advanced research skills and will give them the opportunity to discuss their project.

### COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be posted on Blackboard.

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

### COURSE PRESCRIPTION

This course gives students the opportunity to pursue an individual research project usually in the form of an extended essay, up to 10,000 words, with regular guidance and support from a supervisor. Practical and creative work may be included as part of a research project. A research project is a mandatory part of an Honours degree in Film. Students wishing to enrol for the BA(Hons) degree may consult with academic staff to discuss their areas of interest and must contact the Honours Co-ordinator, with a brief outline of their intended topic, at least two weeks prior to the final date for enrolment. Students wishing to include practical work will also need to discuss the resource implications before they enrol. Note: assessment for FILM 489 research essays or projects may often be based wholly on the completed essay or project. Alternatively, individual supervisors may allocate a portion of the final grade for work to be completed at set milestones throughout the period of enrolment. 100% internal assessment.

### COURSE CONTENT

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop a detailed academic project which addresses their own research question. The research that they undertake should be presented as extended essay and/ or creative/practical presentation. The project should be approximately 10,000 words in length. Students will meet with their supervisor on a regular basis to discuss the focus of their research question, the methodology or approach they take to their research, and the progress of their project through to final

submission. Students should conduct extensive research into their chosen topic. They should also draw on academic sources, such as scholarly books, book chapters, and articles from refereed journals. This will enable them to develop an informed critical response to the topic based on their research, and use these results as the basis of a coherent, well-supported argument.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Students who successfully complete this course will acquire advanced research and argumentation skills. They will be able to suitably identify relevant research questions and will be able to answer these questions within appropriate methodological frameworks. Students will develop their ability to present their findings in both verbal and written form. Their course of study will enhance their critical skills and will improve their proficiency at film analysis.

### **EXPECTED WORKLOAD**

The expected workload for a 30 point course is 300 hours over the year.

### **READINGS**

Students will determine appropriate readings for their research project through their own research and through discussion with their supervisor.

### **ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

The assessment for this course will be internal as well as moderated by an external examiner. Further information about assessment will be distributed during the course and placed on Blackboard.

The largest component of 489 is the individual research project that is developed and completed as a 10,000 word research essay in consultation with the supervisor. This is a theoretically informed piece of writing that should demonstrate that students are able to conceive and implement a project, to conceptualise and clarify a research question, and to cogently present the results of the inquiry. In order to accomplish the project students will be expected to meet a number of milestones and complete a compulsory presentation.

#### **Milestones**

1. Research proposal, with outline timetable, research question and methodology (Due date to be decided with supervisor)
2. First chapter/Literature review (Due date to be decided with supervisor)
3. Full first draft (Due date to be decided with supervisor)

## **Presentation**

**Due Date: Week 9/10 (TBC)**

**Length: 10 minutes**

**Location: TBA**

### Description:

In week 10 of Trimester 1 all FILM 489 students will give an informal, ten-minute presentation on their project to their peers. The presentations are an opportunity for students to share preliminary findings with others and receive feedback on their work. Further details will be made available through Blackboard.

## **Research Essay**

**Due Date: Friday, October 12, 3pm**

**Length: 10,000 words**

### Description:

In week 11 of Trimester 2, students must submit their Film 489 essay. Guidelines will be provided about correct formatting and presentation of this work.

### Assessment Criteria

- Fulfill the set task in clear, direct, relevant, complete and timely manner.
- Identify a clearly defined research question that forms the focus of your project.
- Sustain a coherent and logical argument that incorporates a critical reading of the independent research you have undertaken.
- Demonstrate a proficiency at textual analysis at an advanced level (where appropriate).
- Demonstrate a good understanding of the theoretical concepts and methodologies that inform your research paper.
- Demonstrate a high standard of written expression.
- Include accurate and complete references for all relevant sources using footnotes, a bibliography, and filmography.

### The marking process

The marking process for a 489 research essay is: a Film Studies staff member is appointed to mark the essay in consultation with the supervisor and the 489 coordinator. S/he marks the essay and writes a report. The student's supervisor then writes a short response to the report and the grade given. Both reports may be forwarded to the external Honours moderator and a final grade is determined at the Honours Examiners' Meeting.

### Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will enhance research and analytical skills, and the ability to sustain a persuasive argument. It will further develop written communication skills, as well as the capacity to present critical analysis of film and related areas.

### **ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS**

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your supervisor's name.

### **EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES**

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

### **MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Complete the milestones and presentation as agreed with your supervisor
- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)

### **CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

A class representative will be elected at the beginning of Trimester 1, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

### **STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY**

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM**

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## TURNITIN

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

## WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study).

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress). Most statutes and policies are available at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic).

**COURSE PROGRAMME**

Week 1	Date	Film 489 Introduction Meeting 4pm
Week 2	Date	Workshop 1: Research and Methods
Week 3	Date	
Week 4	Date	Workshop 2: Library and Database
Week 5	Date	
<b>Mid Trimester Break:</b> Friday 6 April to Sunday 22 April 2012		
Week 6	Date	Workshop 3: Endnote and Zotero
Week 7	Date	
Week 8	Date	Workshop 4: Writing and Editing
Week 9	Date	<b>Presentations due (TBC)</b>
Week 10	Date	<b>Presentations due (TBC)</b>
Week 11	Date	
Week 12	Date	
<b>Mid Year Break:</b> Thursday 5 July to Sunday 15 July 2012		
Week 13	Date	Workshop 5: Troubleshooting
Week 14	Date	
Week 15	Date	
Week 16	Date	
Week 17	Date	Workshop 6: Preparing Final Drafts

Week 18 Date

**Mid Trimester Break:** Monday 27 August to Sunday 9 September 2012

Week 19 Date

Week20 Date

Week 21 Date

Week 22 Date

Week 23 Date **Research Essay Due, Fri 12 Oct, 3pm**

Week 24 Date



**Film and Media Studies Seminars**

**Thursday 8 March**

12.00, 81 Fairlie Terrace Room 103

**Jane Hornibrook (Creative Commons Aotearoa, the Royal Society of New Zealand)**

**"Creative Commons and Open Scholarship"**

'Open access' involves a wide range of copyright practices, from the most restrictive use statements to placing work in the public domain. The debate is no longer just about the ability to freely 'access' materials, but about the ability to share or adapt them. Creative Commons is an infrastructure that scholars and publishers can use to observe open access in respect to sharing or allowing reuse. This session is an opportunity to learn about Creative Commons, find out how licences operate, and where to source the best reusable content. You can also hear about current developments in the world of open access across a range of sectors and discuss their implications for New Zealanders. Jane Hornibrook is the Public Lead of Creative Commons Aotearoa, at the Royal Society of New Zealand. Her background is in literature, publishing and disruptive technologies.

**Thursday 22 March**

12.00, 81 Fairlie Terrace Room 103

**Felicity Perry (PhD candidate, Department of Film, Television and Media Studies, University of Auckland)**

**Title TBC**

**Thursday 5 April**

12.00, 81 Fairlie Terrace Room 103

**Dr Trisha Dunleavy (Media Studies Programme, Victoria University of Wellington)**

**"New Zealand-Domiciled Screen Production: Institution, Industry, and Cultural Identity"**

**Thursday 3 May**

12.00, 81 Fairlie Terrace Room 103

**Dr Sally Hill (Italian Programme, Victoria University of Wellington)**

**Title TBC**

**Thursday 17 May**

12.00, 81 Fairlie Terrace Room 103

**Ass. Prof. Deborah Jones (Victoria Management School, Victoria University of Wellington)**

**"Glamour and Grind: Constructing film industry careers"**

**Thursday 31 May**

12.00, 81 Fairlie Terrace Room 103

**Dr Hannah Hamad (School of English and Media Studies, Massey University)**

**Title TBC**

Further seminars for Trimester 2 will be announced towards the end of Trimester 1