

Marking Criteria for Short Films (UG Level)

Written components submitted alongside films are marked according to the School's general criteria of assessment.

It is important to remember that the final mark for your work is based on a variety of factors (including, where relevant, consideration given to issues discussed in accompanying critical essays).

80+

Originality and intellectual/ creative content

Outstanding. The film is highly original in its approach to themes and/or aesthetics. Markers would recommend that the film be submitted to student film festivals (including the RTS Awards) and other professional standard competitions.

Use of secondary scholarship

There is substantial evidence that the film contains a sophisticated and critically informed approach to practice.

Structure

The film's overall structure is expertly balanced, in a manner extremely appropriate to the film's subject.

Technical elements

Technically, the film is of an exceptionally high quality. There is evidence of extremely good use of one or some of the following: staging, lighting, composition, cinematography, colour, editing, and sound. The film exhibits virtually flawless mastery of the technical aspects of the cameras and editing equipment employed. The film displays an assured and precisely controlled sense of direction (in relation to actors' performances or dealing with the subjects of a documentary).

Presentation

Use of titles, credits and (where appropriate) subtitling is outstanding.

70-79

Originality and intellectual/ creative content

Excellent. The film is original in its approach to themes and/or aesthetics. At the higher end of this range, markers would recommend that the film be considered for submission to student film festivals.

Use of secondary scholarship

There is clear evidence that the film contains a critically informed approach to practice.

Structure

The film's overall structure is very well balanced, in a manner highly appropriate to the film's subject.

Technical elements

Technically, the film is of an extremely high quality. There is evidence of excellent use of one or some of the following: staging, lighting, composition, cinematography, colour, editing, and sound. The film exhibits excellent control of the technical aspects of the cameras and editing equipment employed. The film displays an assured sense of direction (in relation to actors' performances or dealing with the subjects of a documentary).

Presentation

Use of titles, credits and (where appropriate) subtitling is excellent.

60-69

Originality and intellectual/ creative content

Good or very good. The film displays some originality in its approach to themes and/or aesthetics. At the lower end of the classification, it may draw on a more routine set of ideas, themes or stylistic techniques.

Use of secondary scholarship

There is evidence that the film contains a critically informed approach to practice.

Structure

The film's overall structure is generally well balanced, in a manner appropriate to the film's subject.

Technical elements

Technically, the film is of a high quality, although some inconsistencies may creep in. There is evidence of good use of one or some of the following: staging, lighting, composition, cinematography, colour, editing, and sound. The film exhibits competence with the technical aspects of the cameras and editing equipment employed. The film displays a relatively assured sense of direction (in relation to actors' performances or dealing with the subjects of a documentary).

Presentation

Use of titles, credits and (where appropriate) subtitling is good.

50-59

Originality and intellectual/ creative content

Adequate. The film employs a relatively routine set of ideas, themes or stylistic techniques. There is little sense of originality or freshness in terms of film form and style.

Use of secondary scholarship

There is limited evidence that the film contains a critically informed approach to practice.

Structure

The film may have problems with structure and the central narratological or thematic thrust of the film may be unclear.

Technical elements

Technically, the film is of a reasonable standard, though inconsistencies and errors may creep in. The film makes reasonable use of one or some of the following: staging, lighting, composition, cinematography, colour, editing, and sound. The film exhibits adequate use of the technical aspects of the cameras and editing equipment employed. There may be flaws in direction and/or continuity.

Presentation

Use of titles, credits and (where appropriate) subtitling is adequate. Some inconsistencies may creep in.

40-49

Originality and intellectual/ creative content

Poor. The film shows little or no originality in relation to ideas, themes or stylistic techniques.

Use of secondary scholarship

There is no real evidence that the film contains a critically informed approach to practice.

Structure

There are significant problems with structure and the central narratological or thematic thrust of the film may be unclear.

Technical elements

Technically, the film is poor. Poor use of the following outweighs instances of adequate use: staging, lighting, composition, cinematography, colour, editing, and sound. The film exhibits poor use of the

technical aspects of the cameras and editing equipment employed. There are inconsistencies and errors in continuity and direction.

Presentation

Presentation is poor. There may be serious errors in titles, credits and (where appropriate) subtitling.

0-39

Originality and intellectual/ creative content

Very poor. The film shows no originality in relation to ideas, themes or stylistic techniques.

Use of secondary scholarship

There is no evidence of any critically informed approach to practice.

Structure

There are serious flaws in the structure and the film has little sense of a central narratological or thematic thrust.

Technical elements

Technically, the film is very poor. Use of the following is below adequate in most or all cases: staging, lighting, composition, cinematography, colour, editing, and sound. The film exhibits very poor use of the technical aspects of the cameras and editing equipment employed. There are many inconsistencies and errors in continuity and direction.

Presentation

Presentation is very poor. There are serious errors in titles, credits and (where appropriate) subtitling.
