

Graduation Short Film Project – Final Submission Rubric and Passing Requirement

To pass the course, the student must achieve a **minimum of 80/100**, demonstrating consistent creative intention, technical competence, and narrative coherence across all assessed areas.

Total: 100 points

Minimum Passing Grade: 80 / 100

Criterion	Points	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Insufficient
Theme & Story	20	Compelling, original concept with clear thematic focus and emotional depth. Narrative choices are confident and purposeful.	Clear and developed concept; story is coherent and engaging with minor weaknesses.	Understandable but conventional or underdeveloped; limited thematic depth.	Unclear, incoherent, or poorly articulated concept and story.
Screenwriting & Narrative Structure	15	Precise inciting incidents and plot points; character arcs that drive the narrative; dialogue that uses subtext; and a 'show, don't tell' approach that prioritises visual narration over exposition	Structurally sound with logical progression; some scenes lack precision or economy.	Basic structure with pacing issues, weak characterization, or overreliance on exposition.	Structurally weak, confusing, or incomplete screenplay.
Directing & Film Language	20	Confident command of cinematic language; camera, blocking, composition, and performance direction are intentional and expressive.	Mostly effective directorial choices; visual and performative elements support the story.	Functional but illustrative direction; limited expressive intent.	Lack of coherence or control in directing; unclear storytelling or tone.
Cinematography & Art Direction	15	Aesthetically consistent and technically strong; expressive use of light, colour, framing, and movement supports narrative meaning.	Technically sound visuals with general coherence; stylistic intent partially realized.	Basic technical competence; inconsistent or inexpressive visual choices.	Significant technical or aesthetic weaknesses undermine visual clarity.
Sound Design & Music	15	Clean, balanced, and intentional sound; dialogue, ambience, and music are narratively integrated.	Mostly clear and supportive sound with minor technical or conceptual issues.	Functional but uneven sound; noticeable issues in clarity or balance.	Poor sound quality or inappropriate sound choices detract from the film.
Editing & Rhythm	10	Strong narrative rhythm and continuity; editing enhances emotional and dramatic impact.	Effective editing overall; occasional pacing or transition issues.	Serviceable editing; limited rhythmic or narrative sophistication.	Editing disrupts flow through poor pacing or continuity.
Overall Coherence & Professional Standard	5	All elements work cohesively; high level of craftsmanship and production discipline.	Largely cohesive with minor inconsistencies.	Complete but weakly integrated work.	Fragmented or unfinished project.

Course Instructor Assessment Checklist

Criterion	Max Points	Points Awarded	Checklist (✓ where applicable)	Justification / Evidence
Theme & Story	20		<input type="checkbox"/> Original and coherent theme	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Clear thematic focus	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Emotional and/or intellectual engagement	
Screenwriting & Narrative Structure	5x3=15		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Integrity (clear inciting incident, rising action, and climax)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Writing: Narrative is told through action rather than dialogue.	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Effective pacing	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Purposeful Dialogue Characterisation: Multidimensional characters with distinct voices.	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Formatting: Adherence to professional industry standards.	
Directing & Film Language	20		<input type="checkbox"/> Intentional camera and blocking	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Casting and performance direction supports narrative	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Consistent tone and style	
Cinematography & Art Direction	15		<input type="checkbox"/> Technical competence	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Visual consistency and VFX	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Expressive use of light, colour, framing	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Set design and location supports narration	
Sound Design & Music	15		<input type="checkbox"/> Clear dialogue	

Criterion	Max Points	Points Awarded	Checklist (✓ where applicable)	Justification / Evidence
			<input type="checkbox"/> Balanced sound mix	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sound supports narrative and rhythm	
Editing & Rhythm	10		<input type="checkbox"/> Narrative continuity	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Effective pacing	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Purposeful transitions	
Overall Coherence & Professional Standard	5		<input type="checkbox"/> All elements integrated	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Completed to a professional standard	

Instructor Total: /100

Jury Assessment Checklist (Departmental Screening Day)

Criterion	Max Points	Points Awarded	Checklist (✓ where applicable)	Comments / Rationale
Theme & Story	20		<input type="checkbox"/> Clear and engaging narrative	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Thematic coherence	
Direction & Film Language	20		<input type="checkbox"/> Consistent cinematic language	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Effective performance direction	
Cinematography & Art Direction	15		<input type="checkbox"/> Visual clarity and consistency-V/Fx	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic intention evident	
Sound Design & Editing	25		<input type="checkbox"/> Clear and balanced sound	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Editing supports narrative rhythm	
Overall Impact & Coherence	20		<input type="checkbox"/> Elements work as a unified whole	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Sustains viewer engagement	

Jury Member Score: / 100

Jury Member Name & Signature: _____

Date: _____