



University of
Staffordshire



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Your place
of possibility

WELCOME TO CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Animation Film & Media Music & Sound

We're your gateway to the creative industries. Unleash your talents and bring your future to life with our practical, real-world courses. Make your own movie and screen it at film festivals. Compose, record and mix music for commercial release. Or master character animation for working in feature or short film production, VFX, advertising and more.

Whatever you feel passionate about, we've got a degree for you.

We offer next-level teaching, hands-on and personalised learning, and all the support you need to succeed.

From using our shoot studios and post-production labs to bring films, music videos and more to life, through to composing soundtracks in our recording studios, you'll have access to professional facilities.

We'll encourage you to experiment, find your personal voice and collaborate across disciplines, using traditional techniques and cutting edge technologies.

You'll learn from academic staff with a wealth of industry expertise, including theatre directors, music producers and award-winning authors. And through our connections, you'll make valuable contacts within the media and creative industries.

It means you'll graduate with lots of practical experience and an engaging portfolio that will act as your calling card for career opportunities.



**FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT OUR CREATIVE
INDUSTRIES COURSES**



Bringing your place
of possibility to life

THIS IS YOUR PLACE

6TH FOR MEDIA

Guardian League Tables 2024

9TH FOR FILM PRODUCTION

Guardian League Tables 2023

TAUGHT BY LEADING
EXPERTS IN THEIR
FIELD

SHOWCASE TO
INDUSTRY
PROFESSIONALS

FANTASTIC
GRADUATE
OUTCOMES

LIVE STUDIOS • CONTROL ROOMS
• MAC LABS • ANIMATION LABS
• VIRTUAL PRODUCTION STUDIO
• MOCAP STUDIO • TV CENTRE



WHY CHOOSE UNIVERSITY OF STAFFORDSHIRE

Find your gateway to industry
and a future full of possibilities.
An amazing community,
where amazing things happen.
All built around you.



Leading modern courses

Right from the beginning, we've been at the cutting edge of industries and driving change. Building a bridge between the classroom and real-world practice. Learn the skills for the future on our career-focused courses.

Next-level teaching

We teach in the best way and champion new-fashioned ideas. Pushing boundaries and using hands-on, personalised learning. Championing digital innovation, including the latest virtual production and motion capture techniques. Immerse yourself in our simulation spaces, taking you from crime scene to courtroom or ambulance to operating theatre.

Personalised support

Get all the support you need to achieve real success. Whether you have a worry about money, your studies, your mental health or a personal issue, we're here for you every step of the way.

Gateway to careers

With our unique industry connections, you'll unlock your potential. Unleash your entrepreneurial skills as you take on projects, explore placements or exhibit your work at shows, and gain the skills for whatever comes next. You can even become a student consultant, marketing your expertise to employers.

Inclusive community

Become part of our open, inclusive and welcoming community. An environment that's big on personality and full of character. A place where you'll feel empowered and inspired. Where everyone is valued and you can be you.

A hub of creativity
and collaboration
for Creative
Industries students.

CADMAN STUDIOS

Conveniently located on the College Road site of our main Stoke-on-Trent campus, the studios mirror contemporary professional practice and were recently the focus of a multi-million-pound transformation to ensure they offer the latest TV, film, media, sound and music facilities.

Whichever Creative Industries course you choose to study, you'll access a range of state-of-the-art studios and labs, featuring the latest equipment, digital technology and specialist software. Ideal for hands-on learning, ensuring you graduate with the skills and experience you need to succeed in your future career.

MUSIC LABS

Specialist computer labs for music composition and post-production.

MUSIC STUDIOS

Music recording facilities consisting of control rooms and live rooms.

TELEVISION STUDIO

High definition three-camera studio, complete with audio and visual galleries, and tiered seating to accommodate an audience of 60 people.

POST-PRODUCTION LABS

Mac and PC-based AV post-production facilities.

MOTION CAPTURE STAGE

A huge space promoting innovation and realism.



When you're
surrounded
by amazing
people,
amazing
things
will happen.



FACILITIES



Virtual Production Studio

Our £300k virtual production studio combines the latest digital innovations in VFX, CGI and gaming technology with traditional film and video production techniques. Large LED panels 'project' realistic, accurately tracked, animated landscapes into a live production environment, allowing the real and virtual world to blend seamlessly together.



TV Studio

Our three-camera TV Studio is equipped with broadcast standard technologies, green room, vision gallery and a comprehensive racks room.

Multi-platform newsrooms

Including 76 iMacs complete with all the software necessary for multi-platform journalism (Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere Pro and Adobe Audition).

Motion Capture Studio

Capture the motion of multiple human movements simultaneously for the creation of high-quality motion sequences in games, animation and VFX. Full body and facial motion can be captured through a variety of props, a 24-camera rig with specialist Vicon hardware and Cara facial performance capture headset.



Music and sound labs

Our two music labs are equipped with 50 Macs running the latest software, including Pro Tools, Logic, Ableton Live, NI Komplete and Adobe Creative Suite. They also house an electronic music workstation with modular analogue and digital synths.

Recording studios

Featuring five control rooms and four live rooms, all interconnected (audio and video) with an additional mastering facility. The rooms also have a range of industry-standard mixing consoles, surround monitoring, microphones, instruments and amplification.

Henrion Shoot Studio

This multi-purpose configurable production space features a range of rig-mounted creative-led studio lights, controlled via a mixing desk.

Post-production suites

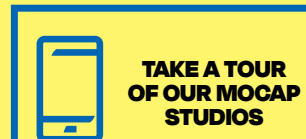
Get to grips with over 50 industry standard editing suites designed to perfect the edit, colour and sound mixes on media productions.

Radio studios

Three professional radio studios house a range of specialist news production, podcast and music scheduling software (Burli, Myriad) and professional hardware (Soniflex S2 mixing desks, ISDN units).

Henrion resource stores

Home to over 2,500 individual items of portable production equipment and peripherals, available for students to hire, ranging from basic DSLR cameras and Wacom pens, to 4k digital cinema production kits and fully rigged DJ production decks.



MEET THE EXPERTS



**RACHEL
HEELEY**

Head of Creative
Industries

Rachel is Head of Department for Creative Industries and passionate about teamwork, student experience, and employable creative skills. Her background is in fashion design, industry practice, and education leadership. She is also experienced in curriculum development, industry links, and interdisciplinary working.



**DR AGATA
LULKOWSKA**

Senior Lecturer
(Film and Media)

Dr Agata Lulkowska is Lecturer in Film Production. Agata's background is in film practice, installations and photography. She is also a prolific interdisciplinary researcher with the main interest in practice-based research, intercultural communication, ethnographic film, experimental film, short fiction, politics of representation and world cinema.



**STEPHEN
GRIFFITHS**

Course Director

Stephen's teaching centres on broadcast programme histories and media performance, especially acting on television. His research interests include broadcast light entertainment and comedy, television drama, and children's programming.



**ALEX
HOUGH**

Lecturer
(Music and Sound)

Alex is a lecturer teaching across Music & Sound. He teaches many aspects of music production including recording studio fundamentals, advanced recording techniques, mixing, mastering, sampling & synthesis, as well as audio for multimedia post-production (ADR, Foley, 5.1 mixing, location recording).



**DR MONIREH
ASTANI**

Senior Lecturer
(Immersive
and Interactive
Storytelling)

Monireh is a senior lecturer, leading The department's 2D animation pathway with extensive experience in the animation industry. Her expertise spans pre-production, production, and post-production, including art direction, storyboarding, concept design, and visual and UX design. Monireh's research and practice centres on adapting ancient and Persian mythology, VR/AR interaction design, and mixed media storytelling.



**DR DAVE
PAYLING**

Associate
Professor (Music)

Dave teaches audio visual (music composition, audio mastering, sound synthesis and music software design. He has a PhD in visual music composition and produces a variety of electronic music. His research is centred on audio visual composition and the intersection between visual music and electronic music composition.



**DR MARC
ESTIBEIRO**

Associate
Professor

Marc is a composer and guitarist who, in 2015, won the William Mathias Composition Prize at the Bangor Music Festival. He's presented at workshops, concerts and seminars across the world, including at the IRCAM in Paris. He teaches computer sound, advanced Pro Tools techniques, modern composition and music software design.



**ROBIN
HEAP**

Lecturer
(Animation)

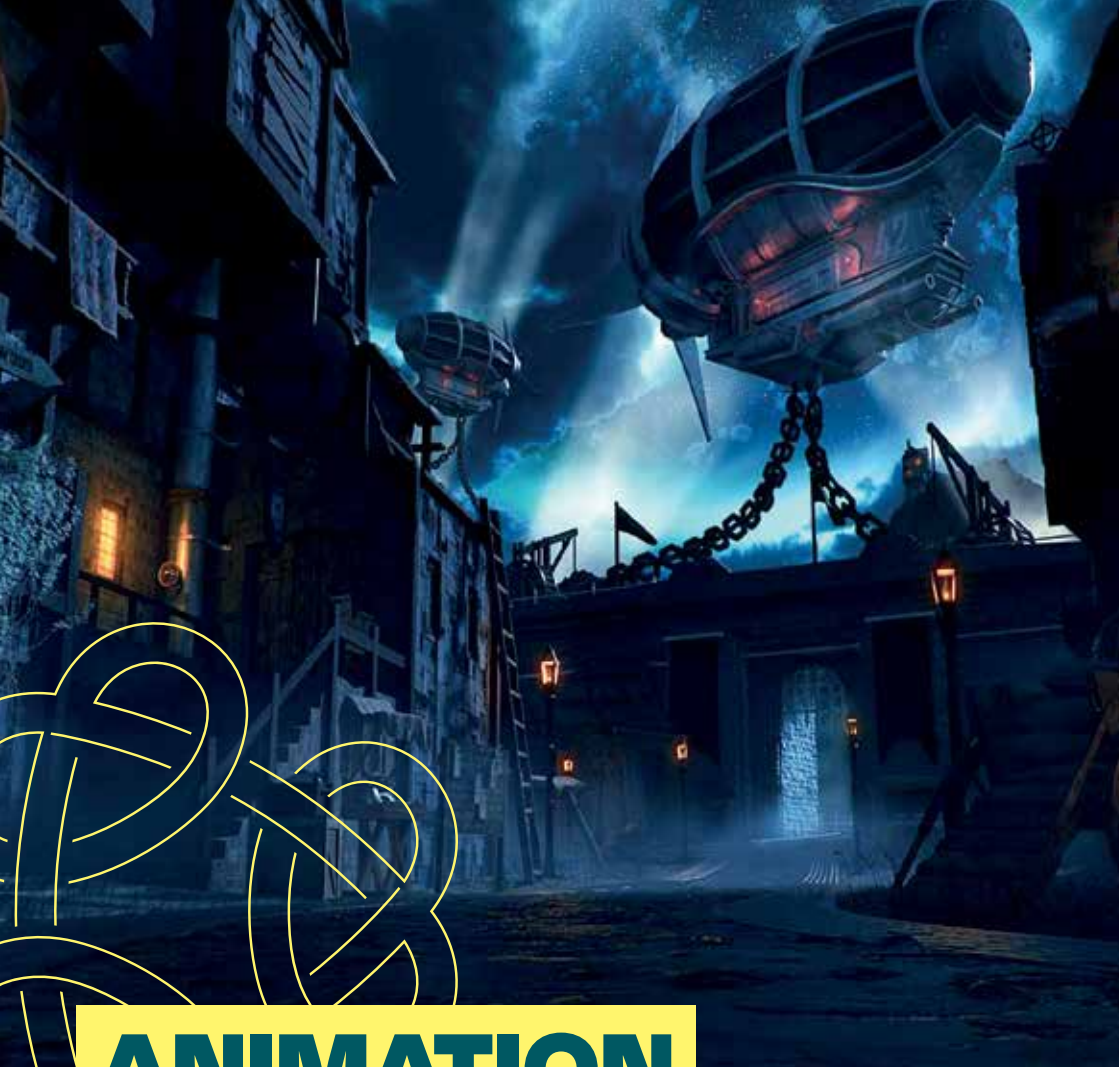
Robin is a lecturer, artist and filmmaker, specialising in stop motion animation development and production. As an independent animation director, Robin has created a number of short-film works, most recently the stop motion short 'Flower and the Girl' with Breakneck films, London. The film gained a positive reception, nationally and internationally.

OUR COURSES

Course title	Award	UCAS Code	UCAS Offer	Duration in years
Animation	BA (Hons)	W616	96	3
Foundation Year in Art and Design*		W102	48	1
Creative Media Production	BA (Hons)	I780	96	3
Creative Media Production (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	I782	96	4
Film Production	BA (Hons)	W600	96	3
Film Production (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	W603	96	4
Music Production	BA (Hons)	W38P	96	3
Music Production (with foundation year)	BA (Hons)	W38Q	48	4
Music Production (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	W38R	96	4
Sound Design	BA (Hons)	W371	96	3
Sound Design (with foundation year)	BA (Hons)	W372	48	4
Sound Design (with placement year)	BA (Hons)	W564	96	4

*Our Foundation Year in Art and Design is a progression route to BA (Hons) Animation for those who might not have attained the entry requirements for direct entry onto the degree. This prepares students for Level 4 study, and allows them to work on degree related projects.





ANIMATION

Pencil, pixel or puppet? The choice is yours at University of Staffordshire. Transform yourself into a character creator, give life to inanimate objects, and leave us with an industry-relevant showreel in your chosen specialist area. Master course content that is challenging, exciting and completely industry-focused.

TOP 10 FOR TEACHING QUALITY IN ANIMATION AND GAME DESIGN

Guardian University Guide 2024



**FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT
THE COURSE
HERE**



Why choose us...

- Our global connections with brands like Aardman, Carse & Waterman, Pixar, Walt Disney, Nickelodeon and CalARTS mean you'll be on the right track to a flourishing career in animation when you graduate.
- Well-equipped studios include Cintiq suites for 2D and 3D digital animation, a 4K edit suite, sound recording booths, access to motion capture technology and a dualscreen PC suite with access to software including Maya and Toon Boom.
- Personalise your course with optional pathways in 3D, 2D, stop motion and computer games animation. Tailor your studies to reflect your personal interests and professional goals.
- Learn through specialist lectures, technical demonstrations and seminars that focus on character animation and animated performance, acting methods and the principles of animation.
- Explore creative topics collaboratively with other year groups in our 'Creative Intervention Workshops', helping you to build networks that could last a lifetime.

What you'll learn...

Learn to develop narrative and character to strengthen and support visual imagery, investigating every aspect of storytelling from concept to published works. Explore 2D digital, 3D digital, computer games animation and stop motion production, combining the new technology of motion and performance capture with the traditional principles of animation.

Module examples:

- Anatomy of Animation
- Drawing for Animation
- Character Animation
- Story Art
- Pitch. Present. Collaborate

What you could do next...

As a character animator, your skills will be relevant to a range of industry opportunities including feature and short film production, computer games, commercial work, VFX and beyond. You'll have a network of contacts and creative collaborators built during your time as a studying professional.



CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTION

This multi-skilled degree will equip you for the broadcasting, media and journalism jobs of the future. Learn how to write, edit and produce a wide range of multimedia content. Create everything from TV dramas and documentaries through to podcasts and news reports.

6TH FOR MEDIA
Guardian University Guide 2024



**FIND OUT
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THE COURSE
HERE**



Why choose us...

- Develop a breadth of practical experience and skills. Write, produce, and edit a variety of visual and audio media. We'll nurture your talents whether you want to work in journalism, documentary or drama production, podcasting or digital media.
- From day one, you'll build a portfolio of work to help kick-start your future career. Use our professional facilities, including an industry-leading virtual production studio, multi-camera TV studio, newsroom, radio studio and post-production labs.
- Learn the tricks of the trade from our panel of graduates and set yourself apart from the competition with a media placement.
- Draw on our extensive film and media expertise. Our students regularly win Royal Television Society and Student Radio Awards. Some of our graduates have also worked on TV series like *Peaky Blinders*.

What you'll learn...

Gain technical and creative skills to work on a range of broadcasting projects. Tailor the course to your career ambitions, where you can specialise in TV or other small screen work, broadcasting and online journalism, or podcasts and radio.

Module examples:

- Television Production
- Journalism and Digital Storytelling
- Media Production: Drama and Documentary
- Multimedia Writing and Presenting
- Media Regulations

What you could do next...

The skills you learn can lead to exciting careers within the media and TV industries. Typical jobs include a location scout, director, producer, studio floor manager, researcher or multimedia journalist. Our students have won numerous awards. Graduates have also worked on top TV shows like *Sex Education* and *EastEnders*, become news presenters, and have set up media production companies.



FILM PRODUCTION

Be part of the future of film and media production with our specialist, practice-focused degree. Gain the real-world experience and technical knowledge needed to corner the market and launch your career in a creative industry.

6TH FOR MEDIA

Guardian University Guide 2024



**FIND OUT
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Why choose us...

- Our graduates have gone to work in industry productions as well-known as Star Wars, James Bond, Dr Who, House of the Dragon, and Peaky Blinders.
- Learn in the exceptional surroundings of our £11.5m Cadman Studios, which feature our pre and post-production facilities, Virtual Production Studio, sound recording equipment and a fully kitted out TV centre with control rooms.
- Gain hands-on experience and build a portfolio of creative work, with the chance to work for a range of companies on live briefs.
- Learn how to research, develop, write, produce, direct, shoot, edit and promote your own creative portfolio of short films to become a successful a multi-disciplinary practitioner.
- Tailor your filmmaking and specialise in a chosen field, including drama, documentaries, music videos, experimental films, branded content, and commercial projects.

What you'll learn...

You'll learn about film production by making films, through 100% coursework and no exams. You'll graduate with industry-ready creative and technical skills, along with an expansive portfolio of work to showcase your talent to future employers.

Module examples:

- Fiction Filmmaking
- Non-Fiction Filmmaking
- Client Filmmaking
- Interactive Filmmaking and Virtual Production
- Creative and Experimental Filmmaking
- Film and Media Professional Development
- Media Employment Portfolio

What you could do next...

Graduates go on to work as directors, producers, cinematographers, editors, camera operators, and sound designers. They have secured work across a broad range of Film and TV productions for companies such as the BBC, ITV, Sky, Warner Brothers, Universal Studios, Disney, Netflix and Amazon Studios.



MUSIC PRODUCTION

Gain the knowledge, practical skills and creative flair needed to succeed in the music industry. Learn to compose, record, mix and master music for commercial release and be guided by lecturers who work as songwriters, producers and live performers.

TOP 5 FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION IN MUSIC

Complete University Guide 2024



**FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT
THE COURSE
HERE**



Why choose us...

- Learn in the exceptional surroundings of our £11.5m Cadman Studios, which feature five fully equipped recording studios, all with surround sound and consoles from SSL, Avid, Audient and API.
- We're an approved Avid and Apple training centre and we offer official Pro Tools accreditation at a very low cost.
- Complete a foundation year and industry work placement. Previous placements have included recording studios, major and independent record labels, games development companies and theatres.
- Learn the technical skills essential for working in professional studio environments from lecturers who work as songwriters, producers and live performers.
- Graduate with a practical portfolio in an area of your choice.

What you'll learn...

Learn about creative musical processes and practices, including performance, listening, improvisation, recording and composition.

Module examples:

- Music Business and Marketing
- Creative Applications Of Digital Audio Workstations
- Editing and Mixing Audio
- Studio Practice
- Experimental Music Composition
- Multi-Channel Audio Production and Mastering

What you could do next...

This degree will give you the skills and knowledge to go into a variety of areas from music production, performance, song writing, broadcasting and internet streaming, music distribution, event management and live sound, artist management and many more.



SOUND DESIGN

If you are interested in creating sound and music for film, games, television or theatre, our Sound Design course is perfect for you. The course is highly flexible, so you can personalise it to match your interests.

TOP 5 FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION IN MUSIC

Complete University Guide 2024



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- We're an approved Avid and Apple training centre and we offer official Pro Tools accreditation at a very low cost.
- Produce a practical portfolio during your final year studying with us.
- Choose modules that match your interests or future career aspirations.
- Grow your network by collaborating with film and media, games, and animation students, as well as other music and sound students..

What you'll learn...

Sound Design involves preparing all aspects of a soundtrack including dialogue, ambience, sound effects, Foley and music.

Module examples:

- Sound Design in Context
- Editing and Mixing Audio
- Multi-Channel Audio Production and Mastering
- Sound Design in Visual Media
- Synthesis and Sampling
- Experimental Software Tools

What you could do next...

Our graduates enjoy a wide range of different careers from sound and music for video, TV, film, games and theatre to alternative careers such as radio commercial production, freelance sound designers/composers, teachers, lecturers and many more.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Subject to approval/validation

We're always striving to deliver the most current and relevant degrees, both by creating new courses and regularly reviewing our current offering.

Each time we make changes, the course goes through a rigorous approval process to ensure that it's the perfect fit for our students, employers and other relevant stakeholders.

Some of the courses inside this guide may be marked as 'subject to approval' or 'subject to validation',

but don't worry, this just means some of the details of the course won't have been finalised yet. As soon as new courses are approved and validated, up-to-date information will be provided on the online course pages at www.staffs.ac.uk/courses

If you have been offered a place and there is a significant change to the course, or for any reason, the course doesn't run – we will contact you immediately and fully support you in finding the best suitable alternative.

At the time of printing in November 2025, the courses listed in this guide represent those we intend to offer for the 2026/2027 academic years. Very occasionally, however, we need to make changes to our courses, including their content and the way in which they are delivered. In some instances, courses can be discontinued or combined with other courses.

Reasons for withdrawing courses can include insufficient student numbers and courses not receiving the necessary accreditation or approval. Changes to course information may include operational and academic reasons.

If circumstances beyond our control mean we cannot provide particular educational services, all reasonable steps will be taken to minimise any disruption to those services. However, the University will have no liability for any loss or damage suffered by any prospect or student as a result.

As a prospective student of University of Staffordshire, it's your responsibility to ensure you have fully reviewed up-to-date course information before you apply,

and that your chosen course fully meets your requirements. You should also check the course still meets your requirements before accepting an offer to study with us.

Student satisfaction scores have been provided by Unistats and are correct at the time of going to print. For more information, visit: discoveruni.gov.uk

If we discontinue a course or programme and you're not happy with the alternative offered, or if a programme is changed and you're not happy with the changes, you'll be given the opportunity to withdraw from the programme. Up-to-date course information can be found on our website (www.staffs.ac.uk), or by calling us on **01782 294400**.

If you're offered a place at the University of Staffordshire, your offer will be subject to the University's Terms and Conditions of Offer. If you become a student of University of Staffordshire, you will enter a contract with us and be bound by our rules and regulations. These, too, may vary from time to time (www.staffs.ac.uk/rulesandregs).



University of
Staffordshire

3RD IN THE UK FOR CAREER PROSPECTS

Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2025

TOP 5 FOR FIRST GEN STUDENTS

The Mail University guide 2025

2ND FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

The Times and The Sunday Times Good
University Guide 2025

BEST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

For Games - TIGA Games Industry Awards
2024

TOP 20 IN THE ENGLISH SOCIAL MOBILITY INDEX

LSBU and Higher Education Policy
Institute 2024

For more detailed information
on courses or studying at the
University of staffordshire
visit: [www.staffs.ac.uk/
undergraduate](http://www.staffs.ac.uk/undergraduate)

Find us on:
www.staffs.ac.uk/socialmedia

