

## LFS Accreditation of Prior Learning Policy

### 1. Introduction

The London Film School recognises that some applicants, especially mature applicants have an extensive range of expertise, skills and knowledge.

Applicants who already hold a qualification (for example from another university) that may exempt them from part of the course may apply for Accreditation of Prior Certified Learning (APCL). Similarly, applicants who have undertaken work, paid or voluntary, that has resulted in learning skills or knowledge equivalent to a module they will be studying, they may apply for Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL).

### 2. Scope

This policy applies to all programmes of study validated by the University of Warwick, namely MA Filmmaking and MA Screenwriting.

### 3. General Stipulations

- (1) Any application for APL credit in respect of postgraduate studies must be based on prior learning or experience at a suitably advanced level. This means that it is not normally possible to accredit prior learning at undergraduate level, even if the content may appear similar.
- (2) The University of Warwick operates the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), where 1 European credit (ECTS) is equivalent to 2 UK credits (CATS). Thus, each taught module of 20 credits is normally equivalent to 10 ECTS credits, and a full Masters of 180 UK credits is equivalent to 90 ECTS.
- (3) Academic credit should be awarded only for achievement of designated learning outcomes. Therefore, AP(E)L should be awarded only against specific modules where through prior qualification or experience it can be confirmed that students have achieved equivalent learning outcomes.
- (4) Accreditation of prior certificated learning (APCL) is when credit is awarded for learning which has already been assessed, awarded and certificated as part of a completed or partly-completed course or qualification.
- (5) Accreditation of prior experiential learning (APEL) is when credit is awarded for learning and capabilities gained through your experiences. A wide range of life experiences could provide appropriate learning opportunities, although it is the ability to demonstrate your learning, rather than simply stating your experience which is the basis for credit. Since this learning will not have been previously assessed, a claim for APEL credit involves the submission of piece of assessed work (such as a report, portfolio, project, performance, written assignment, oral presentation, viva or presentation of artefacts).
- (6) The proportion of a course for which recognition of prior learning (certified or experiential) may be awarded is limited to one third of the total credits, i.e. 60 UK credits or 30 ECTS.

#### 4. AP(E)L Process

- (1) Applications for accreditation of prior learning, either APCL or APEL, should be made using the processes of the validating university. All associated fees charged by the university or any incidental costs, including the translation into English of any evidence, will be the responsibility of the student.
- (2) The overarching arrangements for the assessment of an application for AP(E)L will be made by the appropriate body at the validating university.
- (3) The formal assessment of work submitted in relation to an application for AP(E)L will normally involve the Head of Studies and experienced, competent teaching staff from the school as internal markers. The Head of Studies will provide ongoing training and support to staff about the process, requirements and expectations.
- (4) The final decision whether to award APEL credit lies with the appropriate body at the validating university.

#### 5. Version Control

Version Number	Changes	Author, Title	Date
0.1	-	Philip Ramge, Academic Registrar	26/06/2015
1.0	Approved by Academic Board	Philip Ramge, Academic Registrar	03/07/2015
1.1	Awarding body details updated	Philip Ramge, Academic Registrar	19/01/2016
1.2	General review, policy renamed; maximum proportion of credit added	Philip Ramge, Academic Registrar	22/03/2019
1.2	Approved by Academic Board	-	29/03/2019