

Module Title: Decolonising Film Heritage and Curatorship

Module Code: FLM6218

Credit Value: 15

Level: 6

Pre-requisite modules:

Content Description

This module approaches the work of film archivists and curators from a critical decolonial perspective. In conversation with a host of practitioners in the field, you will interrogate established curatorial canons and archival institutions, discuss questions relating to image ownership and access, and explore curatorial strategies for reactivating difficult or contested film heritage. The overarching aim of the module is to make visible the colonial legacies that variously shape global film heritage in order to develop concrete avenues for redress.

Module Aims

This module will:

- examine the practice of film curatorship in relation to the history and present of decolonisation, and in light of intensifying demands to "decolonise" museums and public institutions.
- discuss the globally uneven development of archival capacity alongside questions of access and ownership, highlighting both new possibilities and challenges arising after the "digital turn"
- explore the problem of "shared heritage", for instance, in relation to films of colonial or ethnographic provenance
- assess forms of transnational cooperation in the fields of film curation and preservation
- foreground competing conceptions and priorities of archival care
- chart avenues for change, including through the development of a curatorial project seeking to put your theoretical insights into practice.