

Film on location in New Zealand on your summer break

Discover first-hand what draws the global film industry here, while creating your own short drama for your show reel.



Screen Tools: A four-week practical course for emerging filmmakers

Structured around a practical production process based on professional television industry practice, Screen Tools is a hands-on course designed to set you up with the tools you need to launch your career in film, television and digital media industries.

Under the guidance of experienced actor, producer, director and tutor, John Callen, as well as guest tutors from the television industry, you will work with a team to develop a complete short episodic drama. From script production to post production you will experience the entire process, developing your creative and technical skills in drama scripting, acting, directing and producing.

You will have access to our high-end production and editing equipment and facilities to produce multi-camera recorded scenes in our television studio, as well as shooting on location in the beautiful harbourside city of Auckland.

In a time when people are more often turning to new digital platforms for their media consumption, Screen Tools places a focus on the "saleable" value and digital delivery of your final piece. With your production team, you will decide on a target audience and the mode of broadcast for your production.

This course is ideal for recent screen production graduates, or students looking for a study abroad experience. Course field trips include a visit to the Hobbiton movie set in Matamata, and a visit to the Academy Award® winning Weta Workshop in Wellington.

Develop your TOOL KIT

- Producing for digital and new media
- Multi-camera television production
- Single camera location shooting
- Digital editing
- Script production
- Production management
- Industry production methods
- Casting and directing actors
- Collaboration in an industry-style production
- Directing
- Post-production
- Build industry contacts
- Finished product to add to your show reel
- Professional credit for your production CV



THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wananga o Tāmaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

ARTS

20 June – 15 July 2016



Tutor: John Callen

John Callen has over 40 years' experience as an actor, director and producer in the film and television industries, and as a tutor teaching acting skills and television production at tertiary level. His most significant film credit to date is one of the core-cast roles in Peter Jackson's *Hobbit* trilogy where he played the dwarf Oin. John has acted in or directed more than 100 stage plays as well a variety of television dramas. John's expertise in working with actors and training television directors will be an integral part of the course.

Guest tutors

Throughout the course guest tutors working in New Zealand's television and screen industry will be invited to work with students on various aspects of the production.

Confirmed guest tutor Kathleen Anderson is the Commissioning Editor of Drama for New Zealand's national broadcaster Television New Zealand (TVNZ). She has been a writer in the industry and keeps a close watching brief over New Zealand's most successful television series, *Shortland Street*. Kathleen will conduct a story-pitching session with each group in Screen Tools, helping to develop the central storyline for the drama production.

Course dates: 20 June – 15 July 2016

Course structure: Full-time Monday to Friday (approx. 40 hours per week). Structured classes Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Eight to ten hours studio time per week. Other time is spent in script production, casting, on-location filming, post-production, editing and field trips.

Credit weighting: 15 NZ points (approximately 3-5 US credits). International students may be able to cross-credit back to your home institution.

Programme fee: NZ\$5,900 GST inclusive (US\$3,750*). Fee includes tuition, accommodation, and field trips to Hobbiton Movie Set and Weta Workshop.

Eligibility: This course is designed for students with two years' undergraduate experience. A background in film or media production, drama, or creative writing is preferred, but not essential. Students with only one year of undergraduate experience and a strong creative portfolio are also eligible for entry.

www.auckland.ac.nz/screentools

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*Based on exchange rate at time of publication (September 2015)

New Zealand screen industry

From low-budget productions to major world-wide blockbusters, screen production is a vibrant industry in New Zealand. The country's stunning scenery and government support has attracted major Hollywood film productions including *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, *The Hobbit*, and *Avatar*, as well as long-running television series including *Power Rangers* and *Hercules*.

Recent New Zealand films such as *Whale Rider* have attracted wider international attention and quirky small budget films such as *What We Do In The Shadows*, directed by Taika Waititi (*One Car, One Night; Boy*) and Jemaine Clement (*Flight of the Concorde*) reached an international audience through inventive crowd funding strategies and creative marketing.

Increasingly, emerging filmmakers around the world are bypassing traditional film and television and are turning to new digital media platforms to showcase their work. Recognising this trend, the Screen Tools course focuses on a range of digital options for the delivery of the complete episodic drama that you will produce on the course.

Screen production at the University of Auckland

Alongside Screen Tools, the University of Auckland also offers full degree screen production programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Student works have screened at major international film festivals, including Venice, London and New York.

This year films by two graduates from the University were selected for the New Zealand International Film Festival: *Crossing Rachmaninoff*, directed by Rebecca Tansley, and *Mrs Mokemoke* by Li Geng Xin. A third production, *Not Like Her* (Hash Perambalam, Lucy Stonex, Brendan Donovan, Grant Mckinnon) has been Shortlisted for 2015's Best New Zealand Short Film.

As a student on the Screen Tools short course, you may also have the opportunity to crew for other student productions that are in production throughout June and July.

The University of Auckland maintains strong links with local and international creative industries, and is a member of the International Association of Film and Television Schools (CILECT).



Auckland, New Zealand

Field trips

Hobbiton Movie Set

Visit the set of "the Shire" from *The Hobbit* film series and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. Accompanied by course tutor John Callen, who plays the deaf dwarf Oin in *The Hobbit*, you will hear first hand about life on set as you explore Hobbit holes, The Green Dragon Inn, The Mill, the double arched bridge and other structures and gardens built for the films.



Course tutor John Callen (right) plays Oin in *The Hobbit*. PHOTO: Warner Bros.

Weta Workshop

Based in Wellington, New Zealand, Weta Workshop is an Academy Award® winning design and effects studio. Founded by two Kiwis in their back room in 1987, Weta Workshop has grown into a world-leading company producing sets, props, makeup and effects for productions including *Mad Max*, *The Hobbit*, *Elysium*, *Man of Steel*, *District 9* and *Avatar*. On this field trip, you'll get an insight into how Weta Workshop creates weapons, armour, costumes and creatures for film. Learn from a Weta Workshop Prosthetics and Make-up Artist how to make your own set of prosthetic Hobbit ears, and get your hands dirty in the "Art of Fake Blood Workshop".



"Having the guidance of John Callen is easily one of the key reasons this course is so fantastic, each class leaves you feeling considerably up-skilled and excited about a future in the film industry.

"Not only does the course allow for focus on particular areas of interest (for me this was directing), it also introduces and emphasizes the collaborative nature of the industry, allowing for friendships which have transcended my studies, into my working life." – **Stella Staab**

Today Stella is working on a NZ on Air platinum-funded documentary series at Greenstone TV, one of New Zealand's largest production companies.