



Dr Pete Falconer

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Lecturer in Film

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Summary

My research interests revolve around the forms and genres of popular cinema, particularly Hollywood cinema. The genre on which I have worked most extensively is the Western, but I have also written on horror films and other areas of popular culture, including country music. My ongoing emphasis on film criticism and aesthetics is reflected on my published pieces on individual Westerns (*Winchester '73*, *The Wonderful Country* and *Appaloosa*), which variously develop my PhD work on melancholy in studio-era Hollywood Westerns and my interests in film violence, film style, popular music and the treatment and inflection of recurrent conventions across different movies. My interest on melancholy and violence in Westerns is also an important context for my journal article, 'The night-time town as an alternative space in the Western genre'.

My current focus is on the "afterlife" of the Hollywood Western: the period since the genre ceased to be a regular feature of mainstream American filmmaking and the implications of this changed context for what remains of the genre. I am writing a monograph which explores this topic in relation to a number of Westerns and Western-related works released since 1985. I have also extended my discussion of the "afterlife" of the Western into other generic and historical contexts in my chapters for collections on Spaghetti Westerns and on time-travel in popular media. This work has developed my interests in intertextuality and rhetoric in genre movies, which also form an important part of my monograph.

Biography

Pete started at Bristol in 2012. He received his PhD in Film and Television Studies from the University of Warwick in 2011. Apart from Bristol, he has also taught at the Universities of Warwick, Birmingham and Worcester.

Teaching

Pete currently teaches:

- Film Criticism (third year, TB1)
- Contemporary Hollywood Cinema (third year, TB1)
- Film and Television Histories (second year, TB1)
- Screen Forms and Analysis (MA, TB1)
- Hollywood Cinema History (second year, TB2)
- Screen Style and Aesthetics (MA, TB2)
- Film and Television Forms and Analysis (first year, TB1)

Pete would be happy to consider supervising research students interested in a wide range of topics and issues relating to Hollywood and other popular cinemas, film genre, film style and aesthetics, music in film, film violence, censorship and the theory and practice of intertextuality.

Keywords

- Hollywood

- Popular film genres
- Westerns
- horror movies
- film criticism
- film style and aesthetics
- film music
- film violence
- censorship
- intertextuality.

Memberships

Organisations

[Department of Film and Television](#)

Academics by department

- [Film and Television](#)

Recent publications

- Falconer, P, 2017, '[Rio Bravo: Dude Walks Into a Saloon](#)'. *Movie: A Journal of Film Criticism.*, pp. 10-17
- Falconer, P, 2016, '[A Solitary Theme Song from a Twenty-First Century Western](#)'. in: Lee Broughton (eds) *Critical Perspectives on the Western: From A Fistful of Dollars to Django Unchained*. Rowman & Littlefield, Lanham, pp. 121-135
- Falconer, P, 2016, '[Spaghetti Westerns and the 'Afterlife' of a Hollywood Genre](#)'. in: Austin Fisher (eds) *Spaghetti Westerns at the Crossroads: Studies in Relocation, Transition and Appropriation*. Edinburgh University Press, pp. 262-278
- Falconer, P, 2015, '[Time Travel and the "Afterlife" of the Western](#)'. in: Matthew Jones, Joan Ormrod (eds) *Time Travel in Popular Media*. McFarland, pp. 180-193
- Falconer, P, 2014, '[Don Siegel](#)'. in: *Fifty Hollywood Directors*. Routledge, pp. 202-210
- Falconer, P, 2014, '[The night-time town as an alternative space in the Western genre](#)'. *Transformations*.
- Falconer, P, 2013, '[Genre Theory](#)'. in: *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Film Theory*. Routledge, pp. 232-236
- Falconer, P, 2013, '[The Wonderful Country](#)'. *Movie: A Journal of Film Criticism.*, pp. 56-61
- Falconer, P, 2013, '[The Melancholy Couple in Winchester '73](#)'. in: Sue Matheson (eds) *Love in Western Film and Television: Lonely Hearts and Happy Trails*. Palgrave Macmillan, New York, pp. 125-139
- Falconer, P & Zborowski, J, 2013, '[Townes Van Zandt: "Now here's what this story's told..."](#)'. in: Roxanne Harde, Thomas Alan Holmes (eds) *Walking the Line: Country Music Lyricists and American Culture*. Rowman and Littlefield, Lanham, pp. 131-143

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