



Film Studies

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Film has become such a pervasive element in our cultural environment that we seldom critically examine the images that we see. The interdisciplinary program in film studies is intended to make students more aware of the nuances and circumstances of film and film production. Students learn to view film as a multilayered text, as a sociopolitical and economic product, and as an aesthetic and expressive artistic medium.

Courses in film studies acquaint students with the vocabulary of film so that they can evaluate film in a sophisticated way. Students learn to think and write about film critically and examine how the medium affects them as viewers. They also learn about the social, political, economic, and legal conditions that shape the production, content, distribution, and access of films. Moreover, they become active participants in a hands-on approach to the process of artistic creativity involving visual media. The program aims to make students more perceptive and knowledgeable viewers and critics of the films of the past and of the future.

FILM STUDIES PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students in the minor upon completion of the program should:

- Be acquainted with the vocabulary of film as an expressive artistic medium.
- Be able to think and write critically about film as a text.
- Possess a deeper appreciation of how the film medium affects them.
- Understand the social, political, economic and legal conditions that shape mass media industries in general and the film industry in particular.
- Understand, in a discriminating manner, the effects of media on individuals, groups, and the larger culture.
- Allow as a whole, or in significant measure, for a creative and intellectual exploration of themes, concepts and content directly related to the process of filmmaking.
- Have a knowledge of the tools and techniques actively employed in the creation of cinematic artworks.
- Have acquired an appreciation of cinema as an art form.

PROGRAM IN FILM STUDIES

Minor in Film Studies—FILM (15 hours)

One of the following:

ART 142	Introduction to Film History and Analysis	3 hours
ENLT 276	Film Criticism	3 hours

Four additional courses including at least one course in Category 2 and one course in Category 3.

Category 1: Film Interpretation/Criticism

These courses focus on the art and language of film. Courses are designed to encourage students to think and write critically about films as a text and to examine how the medium affects them.

ART 142	Introduction to Film History and Analysis	3 hours
ART 366	Designing Art and Art Games	3 hours
COMM 422	Masculinities in the US Media	3 hours
ENLT 234	Shakespeare: Page, Stage and Screen	3 hours
ENLT 276	Film Criticism	3 hours
ENLT 277	Women in Film	3 hours
ENLT 278	From Fiction to Film	3 hours
HIST 321	The American West	3 hours
MLFR 320	French and Francophone Cinema	3 hours
MLIT 320	Italian Cinema	3 hours
MUS 290	Music in Film	3 hours
POSC 350	Politics in Film	3 hours

Category 2: Political Economy of Film

These courses focus on the social, political, and legal conditions that shape the production/content/distribution/and access of films, and will enable students to better understand the structural and cultural factors influencing the types of films created with specific symbolic meanings.

COMM 210	Mass Media and Society	3 hours
COMM 330	Critical Issues in Mass Communication	3 hours
COMM 383	Art and Entertainment Law	3 hours
SOC 382	Sociology of Popular Culture	3 hours

Category 3: Film Production/Visual Arts

These courses encourage students to be active participants in the imaginative and expressive faculties of the creative process and require a hands-on approach to the process of artistic creativity. They will better enable students to appreciate the technical and creative issues involved in cinematic production.

ART 103	Design Lab	3 hours
ART 221	Photography I	3 hours
ART 223	Introduction to Digital Photography	3 hours
ART 224	Video Art	3 hours
ART 266	Introduction to New Media	3 hours
COMM 260	Digital Video Production	3 hours
COMM 486	Practicum/Production	3 hours
THTR 205	Introduction to Acting	3 hours