

FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES BA AND MINOR

Film and Media Studies

College of Arts and Humanities
 Department of English
 230 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-2117

Program Director (Film Studies): Steven Rybin
 Program Director (Media Studies): Rachael Hanel

Chair: Matthew Sewell (English)
 Chair: Amy Lauters (Mass Media)

Faculty:
Film Studies: Matthew Connolly, Brandon Cooke, Najda Kramer, Steven Rybin, Matthew Sewell

Media Studies: Rachael Hanel, Amy Lauters, Chuck Lewis, Jane McConnell, Heather McIntosh, Ellen Mrja, Jennifer Tiernan

The Film and Media Studies Major is an undergraduate liberal arts program in the College of Arts and Humanities that teaches students to look at all aspects of film and media. Students in the program will explore these disciplines through aesthetic, creative, cultural, historical, technical, and theoretical perspectives. The program prepares students for careers as communicators, innovative creators of film and other media texts, and competent professionals in such fields as broadcast news, digital media, film production, or other media-related fields. The degree also prepares students for graduate work in film and media studies.

Academic Map/Degree Plan at www.mnsu.edu/programs/#All

POLICIES/INFORMATION

Admission to the Major is granted by the Program Directors. Please see one of the directors for information on admission procedures.

GPA Policy. Majors must earn a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better in their major, in addition to the 2.0 overall GPA required by the University for graduation. A student must earn a "C" or better for a course to apply to their major; this includes the required general electives.

P/N Grading Policy. A course leading to a Film and Media Studies major may not be taken on a P/N basis, unless it is an Internship or an Independent Study not connected to the student's Capstone Project.

Transfer Credit. The program accepts no more than 16 credits from other colleges and universities as transfer credits to be applied toward the major. They must be taken in courses that match or are the equivalent of courses that are offered in the program. Please consult the Program Directors on any transfer issues.

Internships. In addition to the two-credit Internship Option for the Capstone Project, students may take additional internship credits up to a total of six internship credits. Opportunities for film and media studies internships exist on and off campus for majors who want to work in a professional setting.

Additional Requirement. Students may not use any course in this major to meet the requirements of any other degree in the Mass Media or English departments.

Student Advising. Students are encouraged to consult the Program Directors on a regular basis for advice about course selection and career planning. Please see the Program Director in the area that matches your career interests: Film or Media Studies.

FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES BA

Required General Education

These credits do not count towards the major.
 FILM 114 Introduction to Film (4)
 MASS 110 Introduction to Mass Media (4)

Major Common Core

FILM 210W Film Genres (4)
 FILM 329 Film History (4)

FILM 416 Film Theory and Criticism (4)
 MASS 221W Basic Writing for Mass Media (4)
 MASS 411 Mass Media Ethics and Criticism (4)
 MASS 412 Mass Media History (4)

Capstone (choose 2 credits)

The 2-credit Capstone Project may be an internship either in film production or a mass media field, or an individual study involving either a creative portfolio (for example: short film, screenplay, multimedia web design) or a written critical paper of no less than 10 pages using the type of research and critical thinking expected in the student's upper-division major classes. Students must consult one of the program directors about the design of their chosen project which typically is completed in their junior or senior year. Choose 2 credits of one of the following:

FILM 498 Internship (1-6)
 FILM 499 Individual Study (1-4)
 MASS 498 Mass Media Internship (2-4)
 MASS 499 Individual Study in Mass Media (1-2)

Major Restricted Electives

Group A (choose 8 credits)

MASS 312 Mass Media Law (4)
 MASS 325W Media Reporting and Editing (4)
 MASS 330W Writing for Digital Multimedia (4)
 MASS 334 Writing & Speaking for Broadcast (4)
 MASS 436W Specialized Writing (4)

Group B (choose 8 credits)

ENG 446 Screenwriting Workshop (4)
 FILM 216W Writing About Film (4)
 FILM 217 Introduction to Film Production (4)
 FILM 317 Advanced Film Production (4)

Group C (choose 4 credits)

MASS 233 Public Relations Principles (4)
 MASS 260 Principles of Visual Mass Media (4)
 MASS 351 Digital Imaging for Mass Media (4)
 MASS 360 Digital Design for Mass Media (4)
 MASS 434W Public Relations Writing (4)

Group D (choose 4 credits)

Students taking PHIL 465 must add 1 credit of PHIL 499 (Individual Study) at the time they take this course in order to meet the 4 credit requirement for Group D.
 FILM 214 Topics in Film (1-4)
 FILM 334W International Cinema (4)
 FILM 493 Topics in Film Studies (1-4)
 GER 460 Topics in German Cinema (4)
 PHIL 465 Philosophy of Film (3)

Other Graduation Requirements - Language (8 credits)

FILM STUDIES MINOR

Minor Core

FILM 114 Introduction to Film (4)
 FILM 329 Film History (4)
 FILM 416 Film Theory and Criticism (4)

Minor Electives

(choose 8 credits: 4 credits must be a 300 or 400 level International film course)
 FILM 210W Film Genres (4)
 FILM 214 Topics in Film (1-4)
 FILM 216W Writing About Film (4)
 FILM 217 Introduction to Film Production (4)
 FILM 317 Advanced Film Production (4)
 FILM 334W International Cinema (4)
 FILM 493 Topics in Film Studies (1-4)
 GER 460 Topics in German Cinema (4)
 PHIL 465 Philosophy of Film (3)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FILM 110 (4) Film Appreciation

Promotes appreciation and understanding of cinema through the study of film style, film history, film genres, and the cultural impact of films.
 Variable
 GE-6

FILM 114 (4) Introduction to Film

Study and analysis of the elements basic to a critical understanding of film: story elements; visual design; cinematography and color; editing and special effects; functions of sound and music; styles of acting and directing; and functions of genre and social beliefs.

GE-6

FILM 210W (4) Film Genres

Study and analysis of the techniques, thematic conventions, and cultural and historical contexts of major film genres including the western, the musical, crime, melodrama, science fiction, and gangster. Films will include a mix of classic and contemporary examples.

Fall
WI, GE-6

FILM 214 (1-4) Topics in Film

Courses will explore specialized topics in film. May be repeated as topics change.

GE-6

FILM 216W (4) Writing About Film

Studies analytical film language in several different film writing forms, including short-and long-form reviews, collaborative analysis, and formal critical essays. Emphasizes social and critical contexts needed for film analysis and practice of writing in these film forms.

Variable
WI, GE-6

FILM 217 (4) Introduction to Film Production

Introduces fundamentals of film production: writing, producing, directing, lighting, shooting, and editing, through lecture, critiquing the work of other filmmakers, and hands on production. By the end of this course students will be ready to pursue their own film projects.

Fall, Spring
GE-6, GE-11

FILM 317 (4) Advanced Film Production

Designed for students who have prior experience and want to make an experimental, narrative and/or documentary film. Students will move from screenplay/proposal to production and post production of short films. May be repeated

Prerequisite: FILM 217 or permission of instructor
Fall, Spring

FILM 329 (4) Film History

The course is designed to give students a foundation in film history. The course focuses on major directors, genres, and periods in film history with an emphasis on social technological and critical context in order to provide an analytical framework that will support subsequent work.

FILM 334W (4) International Cinema

Introduces students to film from a variety of world cultures. Designed to increase knowledge of world cultures and appreciation and understanding of cultural differences in representation. Emphasizes history of national cinemas, film analysis, and writing.

Variable
WI, GE-6, GE-8
Diverse Cultures – Purple

FILM 416 (4) Film Theory and Criticism

Trends in film theory and criticism. Practice in critical analysis.

Prerequisite: FILM 329 or permission of instructor
Variable

FILM 493 (1-4) Topics in Film Studies

Topic-oriented course in film studies. May be repeated with change in topic.

Variable

FILM 498 (1-6) Internship

On-site field experience, the nature of which is determined by the specific needs of the student's program option. May be repeated with change in topic.

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor
Fall, Spring, Summer

FILM 499 (1-4) Individual Study

Extensive reading, research, writing and/or film production in an area for which the student has had basic preparation. May be repeated with change in topic.

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor
Fall, Spring, Summer

Mass Media Courses

MASS 110 (4) Introduction to Mass Media

Nature, functions, responsibilities and effects of the media in contemporary society.

GE-9
Diverse Cultures- Purple

MASS 221W (4) Basic Writing for Mass Media

Basic techniques of gathering information and writing readable and accurate media stories.

Prerequisite: ENG 101, MASS 110
Fall, Spring

MASS 233 (4) Public Relations Principles

Survey of current practices and problems in the field of public relations. Emphasizes successful case histories and planning techniques.

Prerequisite: MASS 221
Variable

MASS 260 (4) Principles of Visual Mass Media

Exploration of the basic principles of visual media design, stressing the significance of images in a mass media society. Special focus on contextualizing historical and technological changes affecting image production for mass media.

Variable
GE-6, GE-7
Diverse Cultures - Purple

MASS 312 (4) Mass Media Law

Principles of the First Amendment, libel, fair trial, privacy, access to news, pornography, and regulation of radio and television.

Prerequisite: MASS 221
Fall, Spring

MASS 325W (4) Media Reporting and Editing

Discussion of and practice in reporting about public affairs and social issues, plus examination of copy editing and headline writing for traditional and new media.

Prerequisite: MASS 221
Variable
WI

MASS 330W (4) Writing for Digital Multimedia

Reporting, writing and packaging news for online audiences with an emphasis on multimedia platforms; includes evaluation of news sites and critical consideration of best practices, and economic, ethical and legal issues.

Prerequisite: MASS 221
Variable
WI

MASS 334 (4) Writing & Speaking for Broadcast

Planning, writing and delivering of broadcast news.

Prerequisite: MASS 221
Variable

MASS 351 (4) Digital Imaging for Mass Media

Instruction in the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques and applications of digital imaging in mass media. Development of the basic skills necessary to design, create, manage and distribute photographic and video digital images in mass media communication. Students must provide own camera equipment.

Prerequisite: MASS 221
Variable

MASS 360 (4) Digital Design for Mass Media

Practicum in typography, design, layout and production processes, including job budgeting and estimating, for newspapers, magazines, newsletters, brochures, posters, annual reports, direct mail and related print materials used public relations and journalism. Emphasis on graphic design software.

Prerequisite: MASS 221

MASS 411 (4) Mass Media Ethics and Criticism

Study, analysis and criticism of the mass media, their ethics and performance.

Prerequisite: MASS 221
Fall, Spring

MASS 412 (4) Mass Media History

Survey of the social, cultural, intellectual and technological development of advertising, public relations and print, broadcast and electronic journalism in the United States. Open to non-major/minors.

MASS 434W (4) Public Relations Writing

Practical skill in the development of public relations writing including news releases, brochures, PSA's, pitch letters, annual reports.

Prerequisite: MASS 233

Variable

WI

MASS 436W (4) Specialized Writing

Techniques and practicum in writing of features, reviews, editorials, opinion columns and other specialized fields for print and electronic media.

Prerequisite: MASS 221

Variable

WI

MASS 498 (2-4) Mass Media Internship

Practical mass media experience in a professional setting.

Prerequisites: MASS 221, MASS 312, and MASS 411, plus two additional 300/400 level MASS courses, one of which must be MASS 325, MASS 330, MASS 334, MASS 431, MASS 434 or MASS 436

Fall, Spring

MASS 499 (1-2) Individual Study in Mass Media

Directed research on a mass media topic chosen by the student.

Prerequisite: MASS 221

Fall, Spring