

Film Studies

Department of Media Study

Film Studies
College of Arts and Sciences
231 Center for the Arts
North Campus
Buffalo, NY 14260-6020

PH: 716.645.6902
Fax: 716.645.6979
Web: www.cas.buffalo.edu/depts/filmstudies

Overview

The film studies program (FST) program, administered by the Department of Media Study, is an interdisciplinary BA curriculum in the College of Arts and Sciences. FST offers film-related courses from the Departments of Anthropology, African American Studies, Art, Communications, Comparative Literature, English, Media Study, Romance Languages and Literatures, Sociology, and Women's Studies, as well as from the Center for the Americas, taught by thirty different CAS faculty members. Throughout the FST curriculum, students approach film critically (filmmaking will be only a minor, and elective, component). They acquire historical, theoretical, and intercultural tools to study films from around the world and become capable of reading the art of cinema as cultural critics. Screenings, film festivals, the Buffalo Film Seminars, <http://csac.buffalo.edu/bfs.html>), and FST conferences are offered to enrich students' critical film expertise in Buffalo.

About our Degrees

Acceptance Criteria - B.A.

Completion of three courses within the major with a minimum GPA of 2.5

Acceptance Information

Deadlines: Rolling
Admission to the major is granted at the end of the sophomore year, when students will have accumulated at least fifty overall credit hours with a minimum GPA of 2.0.
Students must meet with the Director of the FST program prior to application to the major (usually at the end of the sophomore year).
No course can count twice.

Degree Requirements

Please see [Degrees and Policies](#).

About our Courses

The typical class size for:

Freshman/introductory courses is: 40-50 (in film history courses)
Sophomore/intermediate courses is: 30-60
Upper level/advanced courses is: 20-30

In the Department of Media Study, what do teaching assistants (TAs) do?

TAs teach some sections and are also responsible for classroom lectures and demonstrations, critical review of student work, and grading assignments.

For course descriptions, please see [Courses](#).

Transfer Policy

Film studies coursework taken at another institution is evaluated for transferability to UB by the director of the FST program. Students should provide a transcript and syllabi for courses taken. For applications, please contact Lisa Hewitt in the Department of Media Study.

Film Studies

Transfer students and continuing students who have accumulated 50 or more credit hours overall will be able to declare the major provisionally until they are able to complete the courses within the major. This insures that students declaring the interdisciplinary major have both the breadth and the particular preparation to succeed in the FST major. To facilitate the articulation of transfer courses into the major, the program director confers with each incoming transfer student.

Extracurricular Activities

See the [UB Student Association](#).

Practical Experience and Special Academic Opportunities

Study Abroad

Transfer credits for work done in media study at foreign universities can be arranged on an individual basis. We currently have programs in Bremen, and at Kent University in England.

Career Information and Further Study

The FST program educates students to become film writers, film teachers, or prepare for a film concentration in their future graduate studies.

- Copywriters
- Curators in galleries and museums
- Employees in federal and state funding agencies
- Film reviewers/critics
- Grant writers
- Media specialists/consultants
- Program coordinators
- Programmers
- Reporters/Correspondents
- Script/Continuity writers
- Script/Screen writers
- University/college professors

Work settings include:

- Advertising agencies
- Colleges/universities
- Film studios
- Film/video supply houses
- Libraries
- Media galleries
- Media production firms
- Motion picture companies
- Museums/archives
- Newspapers/publishing firms
- Non-profit agencies
- Public relations agencies
- Schools

Degree Options

The FST program requires 120 total credit hours (46 within the major). There is the opportunity to continue on to an interdisciplinary MA in humanities (see <http://pluto.fss.buffalo.edu/programs/idp/grad/humanities.html>), which requires a total of 36 credit hours.

Degrees Offered

Undergraduate: BA

Film Studies

Graduate: MAH

Links to Further Information About this Program

- [Undergraduate Catalog](#)
- [Undergraduate Admissions](#)
- [Graduate Admissions](#)
- [Film Studies Program](#)
- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)

Film Studies - B.A.

Acceptance Criteria

Completion of the prerequisite courses with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Advising Notes

Admission to the major is granted at the end of the sophomore year, when students will have accumulated at least 50 overall credit hours with a minimum GPA of 2.0.

Students must meet with the director of the FST program prior to application to the major (usually at the end of the sophomore year). No course can count twice.

Prerequisite Courses

Any three of the required courses for the major.

Required Courses

[DMS 107](#) Film History I or [DMS 108](#) Film History II

[DMS 259](#) Media Analysis

[ENG 379](#) Film Genres

[ENG 441](#) Contemporary Cinema I or [ENG 442](#) Contemporary Cinema II

Ten additional courses, chosen from the Electives and Course Groupings section below

Summary

Total required credit hours for the major: 46

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

FIRST YEAR

Fall [DMS 259](#), [SOC 334](#)

Spring [DMS 108](#)

SECOND YEAR

Fall [AAS 253](#), [AMS 100](#)

Spring [DMS 213](#), [ENG 256](#)

THIRD YEAR

Fall [DMS 305](#), [WS 415](#)

Spring [ENG 442](#), [ITA 430](#)

FOURTH YEAR

Fall [DMS 409](#), [DMS 440](#)

Spring [DMS 406](#), [DMS 411](#)

Electives and Course Groupings

Electives

Three courses for a minimum of 9 credit hours in this category:*

[AAS 253](#) Blacks in Film I

[AAS 254](#) Blacks in Film II

[AAS 417](#) Contemporary Black Film Culture

Film Studies

[AMS 100](#) Non-Western Images in Film
[DMS 101](#) Basic Filmmaking
[DMS 103](#) Basic Video or [DMS 105](#) Basic Documentary
[DMS 109](#) Introduction to Film Interpretation
[DMS 213](#) Immigration & Film
[DMS 405](#) Ethnographic Film
[DMS 409](#) Nonfiction Film
[DMS 411](#) Film Theory
[DMS 413](#) Film Narrative
[DMS 418](#) Film Comedy
[DMS 440](#) Women Directors
[DMS 484](#) Language Media Poetics
[ENG 441](#) Contemporary Cinema I
[ENG 442](#) Contemporary Cinema II
[FR 341](#) The French Film
[ITA 410](#) Special Topics
[ITA 429](#) Italian Cinema I
[ITA 430](#) Italian Cinema II
[SPA 408](#) History of Spanish Cinema

**Or their equivalent as determined by the Director of the Film Studies program*

Film Theory-History-Criticism-Analysis

Required:

[DMS 107](#) Film History I or [DMS 108](#) Film History II
[ENG 379](#) Film Genres

Select two additional courses for a minimum of 14 credit hours in this category:*

[DMS 225](#) Digital Literature Survey
[DMS 305](#) Film Analysis I
[DMS 306](#) Film Analysis II
[DMS 409](#) Nonfiction Film
[DMS 411](#) Film Theory
[ENG 256](#) Literary Types: Film
[ENG 413](#) Film Directors
[ENG 420](#) Film Theory
[ENG 426](#) Studies in Genre
[WS 379](#) Gender and Hollywood Films

Critical Theory and Cultural Studies

Required:

[DMS 259](#) Media Analysis

Select three additional courses for a minimum of 13 credit hours in this category:*

[DMS 425](#) Visual Media Poetics
[DMS 426](#) Sound Media Poetics
[SOC 334](#) Introduction to Cultural Studies
[SOC 368](#) Sociology of Film
[WS 415](#) Media & Gender
[WS 459](#) Television, Gender & Society

World Cinema

Required:

[ENG 441](#) Contemporary Cinema I or [ENG 442](#) Contemporary Cinema II

Select two additional courses for a minimum of 10 credit hours in this category:*

[AAS 253](#) Blacks in Film I
[AAS 254](#) Blacks in Film II
[AAS 417](#) Contemporary Black Film Culture
[AMS 100](#) Non-Western Images in Film
[DMS 333](#) Third World Cinema
[DMS 440](#) Women Directors
[FR 341](#) The French Film
[ITA 410](#) Special Topics
[ITA 429](#) Italian Cinema I
[ITA 430](#) Italian Cinema II
[SPA 408](#) History of Spanish Cinema

Film Studies