COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS IN FILM STUDIES

Explore the World of Historical and Contemporary Cinema

The Master of Arts in Film Studies program will immerse you in the study of movies from theory to history, film genre to directors, and more. You'll learn the critical vocabulary, tools, and research techniques to speak and write knowledgeably about both contemporary and historical cinematography. You'll also develop an aesthetic appreciation of cinema and learn to evaluate film theory, aesthetics, and history. As part of your coursework, you'll explore and learn to recognize works by both renowned and obscure American and international directors. This advanced course of study will prepare you to pursue a doctoral degree in the art of film, to teach film studies at a community college, or to pursue other careers requiring advanced literacy and critical thinking.

Program highlights:
- Entire program can be completed online
- Research and write in the areas of film theory, aesthetics, history, and individual American and international directors
- Critique films using film vocabulary, critical approaches, and appropriate research tools
- Evaluate the relevance and applicability of different approaches to film studies
- Engage in informed critical discussion of theoretical issues pertaining to the study of film

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MASTER OF ARTS IN FILM STUDIES

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The Master of Arts in Film Studies curriculum covers the central aspects of film studies, including theory, history, film genre, national film histories, and individual directors. The degree provides the student with the critical vocabulary, tools, and research abilities required to produce professional scholarship in the discipline on topics of current and historical academic interest.

The program provides students with advanced theoretical, historical, and aesthetic appreciation of cinema. Film Studies, as an independent academic discipline, is among the fastest growing areas in higher education. Film Studies departments are increasingly seeking teachers with advanced education in this discipline. The program prepares the student for doctoral studies in the art of film, for teaching at the community-college level, and for other careers requiring advanced literacy and critical thinking.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Analyze, synthesize, and evaluate film theory, aesthetics, history, and individual American and international directors.
- Research and write in the areas of film theory, aesthetics, history, and individual American and international directors.
- Critique specific films using technical film vocabulary, critical approaches, and film research tools.
- Evaluate the relevance and validity of different theoretical approaches to film studies.
- Engage in informed critical discussion, both oral and written, of theoretical issues pertaining to the study of film.
- Engage in informed critical discussion, both oral and written, of the works and criticism of a specific film or literary period or movement.
- Revise and expand a paper to submit for publication in a scholarly or film journal.

Degree Requirements

To receive the Master of Arts in Film Studies, students must complete at least 45 quarter units. A total of 4.5 quarter units of graduate credit may be granted for equivalent graduate work completed at another regionally accredited institution, as it applies to this degree and provided units were not used in earning another advanced degree. Students should refer to the section in the General Catalog on graduate admission requirements for specific information regarding application and evaluation.

Note: The program includes a number of variable-content courses under the same course number. Variable-content course topics will be found on SOAR and will also appear on student transcripts. The variable-content courses are ENG 668, ENG 669, ENG 685, and ENG 686. These courses may be taken more than once, with different content, to fulfill degree requirements.

Core Requirements

(8 Courses; 36 quarter units)

ENG 665  Film Theory
ENG 666  Film History: The Silents
ENG 667  Film History: American Film
ENG 668  Film Genre Studies
ENG 669  World Film
ENG 685  Great Directors: American
ENG 686  Great Directors: International
ENG 698  Film Studies Capstone Course

Prerequisite: A total of seven core courses and two elective courses as described in the Degree Requirements for the Program must be completed before enrolling in the Capstone course.

Program Electives

(2 courses; 9 quarter units)

Courses may be taken as electives in the M.A. in Film Studies Program with the approval of the Academic Program Director.

For complete program information, see the National University Catalog 82, effective 10/2018.