The Film Option

Students in the Film Option gain hands-on experience in all aspects of motion picture production, supported by theatrical production work. Students have opportunities to engage in film production throughout the program, starting in the first year and culminating in a senior thesis film project. At the same time, students study film history, film aesthetics, and the film industry, to broaden their understanding of the film medium and inform their personal filmmaking goals.

Film Option Foundations

Upon completion of all of the four required foundation courses and two university Core requirements, WRIT 101W and University Seminar (US), interested students may apply for acceptance into the Film option. The Film Option will accept no more than 48 students each and a wait list will be generated for applicants beyond that number. Students wait listed will be contacted if space becomes available. Selection will be based on the average of grades (GPA) earned in the required foundation courses and the successful completion of WRIT 101W and US.

In order to apply for acceptance into the Film Option for the following year, students must submit an application form by April 30. Students must also submit a portfolio consisting of one individual film project completed in FILM 112 and a written statement. Portfolios are due by the last day of spring semester finals week.

All applicants will be notified of the review outcome by email. If unsuccessful, students may reapply the following year. Students who wish to reapply may retake any courses during the intervening year to improve their chances of success.

Film Option Curriculum

Please note that some Film program-related courses are listed under different headings, including:

- THTR 304 Theatre Production 4
- MUST 380 Interdisciplinary Proj I: Film 3
- MUST 382 Interdisciplinary Projects II 3

Foundation Courses (typically taken in freshman year)

- FILM 100H Intro to Film & Photography 3
- FILM 112 Aesthetics of Film Production I 3
- FILM 101H Understanding Film and Media 3
- PHOT 113RA Understanding Photography 3
- WRIT 101W College Writing I 3
- University Seminar (topic of choice) 3

* FILM 112, WRIT 101W and University Seminar are offered both fall and spring semesters and may be taken in either semester.

Film Option Requirements

Choose two of the following:

- FILM 371 Non-Fiction Film Production 8
- FILM 372 Fiction Film Production
- THTR 304 Theatre Production
- FILM 499 Senior Production 5
- SFP Electives (at least 4 other SFP courses*) 12
- Non-SFP Electives (at least 3 courses**) 9

Total Credits 56

* SFP Electives are any courses offered in the School of Film & Photography including THTR 304, MUST 380 and MUST 382 that are not serving to fulfill any requirements listed above. Any of the studies or production courses listed above in excess of the number required in each category can be taken as SFP Electives. This requirement is intended to permit Film and Photography students to explore their individual interests in greater depth in one area or more broadly in both areas.

** Non-SFP Electives are any courses offered outside the School of Film & Photography, not including THTR 304, MUST 380 and MUST 382, that are not serving to fulfill university CORE requirements. This requirement is intended to encourage Film and Photography students to develop an area of knowledge to inform their pursuits as creative artists. Completion of a minor outside of the School of Film and Photography will fulfill this requirement.

A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation, 42 of these credits must be in courses numbered 300 or above.
Font Notice
This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Adobe Garamond Pro.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.