

Film Option

The School of Film and Photography (SFP) prepares students to meet the challenges of a rapidly expanding media environment as professionally trained creative artists and informed critical thinkers. Our students develop their own voices as tomorrow's leaders through intensive hands-on exploration of film, photography and related media.

The School of Film and Photography offers two degrees, a Bachelor of Arts degree (BA) in Film and Photography and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree (BFA) in Integrated Lens-Based Media.

The Film and Photography BA program offers separate concentrations (options) in Film or Photography. Each of these two options offer ample opportunity to explore both areas if desired, while providing a strong focus for students to pursue professional career opportunities in the area of their choosing. Students who wish to explore the relationship between Film and Photography as integrated artistic media even further may apply for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Program in Integrated Lens Media.

Students who select the Film Option will gain hands-on experience in all aspects of motion picture production, starting in the freshman year and culminating in a senior thesis film project. While providing a strong professional foundation in all aspects of production, students have the ability to explore areas of particular interest in directing, editing, cinematography, sound design, production management, scriptwriting, etc. At the same time, students study film history and film theory to broaden their understanding of film as a highly developed medium of artistic expression and commercial entertainment industry.

Film Option Curriculum

FILM FOUNDATION COURSES (typically taken in freshman year)

FILM 101IH	Understanding Film and Media	3
FILM 112	Aesthetics of Film Production I	3
PHOT 113RA	The Magic of the Darkroom I	3
WRIT 101W	College Writing I	3
University Seminar (topic of choice)		3
*FILM 112, WRIT 101W and US101US are offered both fall and spring semesters and may be taken in either semester.		
TOTAL CREDITS		15

REQUIRED COURSES (TYPICALLY TAKEN SOPHOMORE YEAR)

Take all of the following courses:		16
FILM 201D	Film History I: Origins to the 1960s	3
FILM 202D	Film History II: 1960s to the Present	3
FILM 212	Aesthetics Film Production II	4
FILM 251	Scriptwriting	3
FILM 254	Acting for Film	3
FILM STUDIES REQUIREMENT		6

After completing FILM 201D & 202D, take a minimum of two of the following courses:

FILM 381	Studies in Film
FILM 481	Advanced Studies in Film
PHOT 304	Recent History of Photography
PHOT 401	Contemp Issues in Photography

Other 300 or higher-level Film Studies or related class with advisor approval. Other recommended studies electives taught in departments across the University are: ARTH 391 Visual Analysis of Film and Video (3), GRMN 422IH German Text & Cinema (3), JPNS 361IH Japanese Text and Cinema (3), LS 451 Film, Photos, and Culture: A Global Perspective (3), NASX 360 Native Americans and Cinema (3), PHL 328 Philosophy and Film (3), SPNS 352IH US Latino Text and Cinema (3), and PSYX 263CS The Psychology of Film (3).

FILM PRODUCTION REQUIREMENT 8

After completing FILM 212, 251 & 254, Take a minimum of two of the following courses:

FILM 371	Non-Fiction Film Production
FILM 372	Fiction Film Production
FILM 373	Experimental Film Production
THTR 304	Theatre Production

SFP ELECTIVE REQUIREMENT 12-16

Take any four courses offered in the School of Film & Photography 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 may serve 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 multiple areas, across both Film and Photography.

NON-SFP ELECTIVES REQUIREMENT 9

Take at least 9 credits outside of the School of Film and Photography (not FILM, PHOT or THTR) that are not serving to fulfill university CORE or other Film Option requirements. This requirement is intended to encourage Film and Photography students to develop other areas of knowledge outside of film and photography. Completion of a minor outside of the School of Film and Photography automatically fulfills this requirement.

SENIOR CAPSTONE REQUIREMENT 5

After completing the Film Production Requirement (above), take:

FILM 499	Senior Production	5
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The FILM 499 Senior Capstone Project provides film option students with the opportunity to perform a major role in the production of a film, as Director (selected by a competitive pitch process), Producer/Production Manager, Scriptwriter, Cinematographer, Lighting Designer, Production Design, Editor, or Sound Designer, based on the student's interest and accomplishment in that area. Students may take FILM 499 twice, performing different roles. Senior standing in the Film Option is required.

Alternative Senior Capstone Option: Students with unique interest and aptitude in a specific area that is not well-suited to a FILM 499 group project may, with faculty agreement and supervision, complete the Senior Capstone requirement as a FILM 490R Research Thesis.

Total Film Option Credits (not including WRIT101 and US101)

Total Credits 68

A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation, 42 of these credits must be in courses numbered 300 or above.