

Department of Film

Purpose and Focus

The instruction leading to the Bachelor of Arts in Film is designed to give students a strong base for future graduate work at a school best fitting their professional goals, whether they involve production, screen writing, or scholarly studies in film. Students also develop the tools and knowledge necessary to succeed in an entry-level position in the film industry.

Accreditation

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

Undergraduate Major

Film

Minor

Film (18 credits) includes FIS 100, 110; two courses selected from FIS 410, 440, 441, 446, 449, 470, 493, 494, or 475, and six additional upper-division (300–400) credits for the film curriculum.

Admission to the Major

Minimum GPA: 2.30

Admission Policies: Students not meeting the 2.30 GPA requirement may be admitted under contract on a probationary basis.

Transfer Policies: Articulation of transfer credit will be determined by the chairperson of the department.

Department Policies

Academic Policies: Students must maintain a 2.70 GPA in all film studies courses to make satisfactory progress.

Advisement

A contract is completed by the student with a departmental advisor, and a committee of three faculty members is assigned to each undergraduate student.

Degree Requirements

Film

- 1) English Composition 6 credits
ENG 101 and 102
- 2) English Literature 3 credits
ENG 231 or 232
- 3) Constitutions 4-6 credits
HIST 100 or PSC 101
- 4) Mathematics 3 credits
- 5) Distribution Requirement (Humanities and Fine Arts)
Life & Physical Sciences & Analytical Thinking... 9-10 credits
PHIL 102, and two courses from life & physical sciences category; at least one must be a lab.
Social Science 9 credits
- 6) Multicultural (see notes)
International (see notes)

- 7) Degree Requirements:
Computer Science 3 credits
Foreign Language 6 credits
Students must enroll in one foreign language approved by the department.

Film Requirements 60 credits
FIS 100, 110, 216, 220, 414, and either 300 or 400

Select three courses from the following:

FIS 410, 411, 440, 441, 445, 446, 470, 474, 475, 477, 478, 493, 494

Select two courses from the following:

FIS 409, 443, 444, 495, 496 or 497

Select seven elective courses from additional film department offerings in concert with Film Advisor.

Electives 21 credits

Total: 124-128 credits

Note:

1. Every student must complete a three-credit multicultural course and a three-credit international course. Courses satisfying other requirements may simultaneously satisfy the multicultural and international requirements except one course cannot satisfy both the multicultural and the international requirements.

Film

FIS 100

Introduction to Film

Introduction to the history of international film, its structure and terminology. Development of cinematic techniques from Edison, Lumière, and Méliès to prevailing contemporary trends surveyed, with special emphasis on major directors such as Eisenstein, Ford, Griffith, Lang, Hitchcock, Bergman, and Renoir. 3 credits.

FIS 110

Language of Film

Introduction to studying feature films through lectures, discussions, and writing criticism. Investigation of what elements make film a unique art form through both textual and contextual analysis. 3 credits.

FIS 200

Film Analysis

Inquiry into what makes film a unique medium of expression through analysis of formal elements. Creative and research-oriented projects investigate film and its relationship with other art forms. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or 110. 3 credits.

FIS 220

Film Production I

Fundamentals of motion picture production including image composition, lighting, editing, and production planning in 16mm. Prerequisites: FIS 100, FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 300**Film Criticism**

Analysis of feature films validated through research papers and oral presentations. Critical approaches surveyed include journalistic, humanist, auteurist genre, social science, historical, and theoretical. Prerequisites: FIS 100 and FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 314**Script Supervising and Continuity Style**

Designed to teach the art and techniques of script supervising and continuity. Students will break down a script for pre-production and then cover the script supervisor's position on the set during shooting. By the end of the course, students will be well prepared to join any production team for film, TV, or commercials. Prerequisites: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 315**Film Editing**

Advanced course examining the theory, techniques, and practices of motion picture editing; use of standard editing equipment; and practical experience editing professional material. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 317**Film Sound**

Practical course on the theory, art and techniques of film sound. Students work on projects involving dialogue and sound effects recording, post production sound editing and sound design. Prerequisite: FIS 315. 3 credits.

FIS 320**Film Production II**

Organization and execution of narrative, documentary, and experimental film productions in 16mm. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 325**Staging for the Screen**

Advanced course in directing for the screen. Examines the concepts of camera coverage, staging within the frame, camera movement, and provides experience analyzing and directing short scenes. Prerequisites: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 326**Cinematography**

Technical and aesthetic aspects of lighting design, composition, and operating explored through individual projects and in-class shoots. Students required to have access to a 35mm still camera. Prerequisites: FIS 220 and consent of instructor. 3 credits.

FIS 327**Film Production Design**

Examination and exploration of motion picture production design, focusing on its history, techniques, and practices. Prerequisites: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 328**Basic Grip and Electrical**

The basic of effective studio gripping and lighting. The class offers a thorough knowledge of equipment, safety and tools. Lectures are combined with hands on workshops to teach state of the art technique. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 330**Pre-Production Approaches for Film and Video**

Examination and exploration of the pre-production cycle, emphasizing the integration of digital technology. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 332**Working in Film and TV Industry**

Designed to prepare students for the 'real world' issues they will face as working artists in the entertainment industry. Through lecture, readings, assignments, interaction with visiting artists, and classroom exercises, students will expand their awareness of their personal path as well as the many paths of opportunity available to them. Prerequisites: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 335**Professional Film Production Methods**

Intensive workshop provides for weekly interaction with industry professionals. Prerequisites: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 338**Advanced Directing Workshop**

Specialized course is designed to teach junior and senior film majors advanced directing techniques. Topics covered: scene analysis, maximizing coverage, and eliciting truthful performances. This is a workshop-style class that will require students to direct assigned scenes, share critiques, and receive direct feedback. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 339**Acting for the Film Director**

An approach to acting for the screen, designed to teach film-directing students the ins and outs of the acting process. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credit. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 350**Historical Survey of Screen Acting**

Covers the study of historical survey of screen acting from beginnings of film and television to present days. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 352**Scene Work for Directors**

Covers the study of historical survey of screen acting from beginnings of film and television to present days. Introduces film student directors to script analysis and staging. Scene work directing will be required by all students. Students will leave this course with a better understanding on how to interpret the writer's intent and therefore enhance the story telling process. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 400**Film Theory**

Leading theorists studied intensively through screening of feature films, readings in film theory, written analyses, and conference style oral presentations. Intended for film studies majors only. Prerequisite: FIS 100. 3 credits.

FIS 409**Politics and the Film**

(*Same as PSC 400F.*) Analysis of the political film. Themes treated include political power, corruption, war, revolution, propaganda, political socialization, and participation. 3 credits.

FIS 410**Major Figures in the Cinema**

Study of the works of major filmmakers through the auteur theory and other approaches. Different individuals studied each time course offered. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prerequisite: FIS 100. 3 credits.

FIS 414**Cinematic Structure**

Advanced course in the textual analysis of feature films. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FIS110. 3 credits.

FIS 415**Story Development**

Basis of cinematic structure, emphasizing action, construction, tension, and character. Story development through motion picture formats. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 416**Screenwriting I**

Study of the three-act screenplay, structure of dramatic scenes, and writing of a one hundred-twenty page first draft. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 417**Screenwriting II**

Teaches rewriting of a screenplay. From first draft through problem solving and rewriting to a tight, workable script. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prerequisite: FIS 416. 3 credits.

FIS 418**Writing for Television I**

With emphasis on the narrative exploration of the television hour-drama, students develop and complete one hour-drama spec script. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prerequisites: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 419**Writing for Television II**

As a continuation of FIS 418, students explore the television situation comedy and develop and complete one sit-com script. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prerequisite: FIS 418. 3 credits.

FIS 420**Film Production III**

Advanced motion picture production techniques in 16mm.

Course involves both group and individual production projects. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 422**Short Film Archiving**

Covers the study of the short film in an archival context. Students will study the acquisition, preservation, presentation and organization of the short film archive collection. For the film history student, it exposes them to the short film from the beginning of motion pictures to the accomplished work of today's filmmakers. For the non-major, it exposes them to film history and the short film art form in specific. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 431**Music Video**

Workshop-based class exploring music video. We will examine several types of the mixture of music and motion pictures in addition to looking at other art forms that can influence the music video. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 432**Industry vs. Artistry in Film and Television**

(*Same as COM 432.*) Explores relationship between art and economics in film and television by examining industry structures, philosophies, and practices which shape contemporary mass entertainment. Prerequisite: Junior standing. 3 credits.

FIS 434**Producing For Hire**

An introduction to the duties required of a producer hired to do a project. This course will cover the role and responsibility of the film producer in the areas of commercials, music videos, and film, encompassing areas from initial concept to pre-production through post-production. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 440**The European Film**

Survey of the major movements and themes of European cinema and related literature. 3 credits.

FIS 441**Drama and Film of German Expressionism**

(*Same as FOL 441 and GER 441.*) Examination of German film and literature of the 1910s and 1920s. 3 credits.

FIS 443**From French Literature to Film**

(*Same as FREN 443 and FOL 443.*) From a condensed analysis of narrative techniques and structure of original literary sources toward a detailed study of the basic problems connected with the grammar of film. Students expected to read the original literary work in translation and/or script if available. 3 credits.

FIS 444**Documentary Film and Video**

Critical analysis of documentary film texts from historical and aesthetic perspectives. How non-fiction film differentiates itself from classical narrative and experimental/avant-garde film. 3 credits.

FIS 445**The Rise of Irish Cinema**

To engage the student in the analytical study of the growth of the Irish film industry as an artistic movement. Particular attention will be paid to historical, cultural and literary references. The class format will be lecture, viewing of motion picture and class discussion and analysis. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 446**History of the Russian Film**

(*Same as HIST 446.*) Soviet cinema from the revolutionary films and path-breaking theories of the 1920s (Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Vertov, Dovzhenko, and Kuleshov), through the constrictions of Socialist Realism, to the revival of a proud tradition in the decades since Stalin. Emphasis on Russian cultural traditions, contemporary historical context, and the demands of ideology. 3 credits.

FIS 447**Documentary Techniques**

A hands-on, part lecture, part workshop class exploring the making of *verte* (observational) style documentary films. The class will encourage students to focus on interesting, unique, and specific character behavior for the subjects of their future documentary films. Prerequisite: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 449**The History of French Film**

(*Same as FREN 449.*) Survey and evolution of French film from silent to sound: surrealism, realism, and the New Wave. Includes the work of major filmmakers such as Clair, Renoir, Cocteau, Clouzot, Godard, Truffaut, etc. Films analyzed as works of art, social documents, and instruments of communication. 3 credits.

FIS 450**Directed Studies in Film**

Individual projects on an aspect of film study, designed by the student in conjunction with a faculty member. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. Prerequisite: FIS 100 or FOL 144. 1-3 credits.

FIS 453**Co-Curricular Film Project**

Collaborative workshop in the production of short film in which selected students work to complete a project eligible for exhibition on the festival circuit. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prerequisites: FIS 220. 3 credits.

FIS 470**Women in Film**

Survey of international women filmmakers. Emphasis on women directors and their films and women involved in other aspects of production, including screenwriting, editing, and acting. 3 credits.

FIS 474**Sex in the Cinema**

A survey of films with sexual themes and/or adult content. These

will be analyzed from historical, cultural, industry and genre perspectives. **DISCLAIMER** These films contain nudity, sexual situations, and themes. If you are sensitive to or potentially offended by any of these issues then do not take this class. Prerequisites: FIS 100 or FIS 110. 3 credits.

FIS 475**Modern Latin American Film**

(*Same as HIST 475.*) Cinematic treatments of modern Latin American socio-historical issues. Topics include industrialization, dictatorship and repression, redemocratization, and minority rights. Analysis of the Cinema Novo (Cinema Nueva) and post-Cinema Novo genres. Emphasis on Brazilian, Argentine, and Cuban films of the 1970s and 1980s. Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing; or completion of HIST 143 or 144 and consent of instructor. 3 credits.

FIS 479**Adaptation Stage to Screen**

Studies and evaluates how some "classic plays" were adapted and developed for the screen. Plays will be read and the adapted films will be screened. Discussions will be centered on whether the film or films captured the objective of the original play or whether it failed in its adaptation and most importantly why. Prerequisites: FIS 100 or 110. 3 credits.

FIS 493**Studies in British Film**

(*Same as ENG 476A.*) Study of the history of British film emphasizing analysis of a variety of films. Examines particular genres, directors, and traditions peculiar to British film and the relationship of British film to England's broader cultural development. 3 credits.

FIS 494**History of the American Film**

(*Same as ENG 476B.*) Examination of the films of major directors from D.W. Griffith in the Biograph period (1908-1912) to the present. Film-makers such as John Ford, Howard Hawks, Orson Welles, George Cukor, Robert Flaherty, Frank Capra, Raoul Walsh, and others studied. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. 3 credits.

FIS 495**Film and Literature**

(*Same as ENG 477A.*) Comparative study of the relations of prose, poetry, and drama to the structure and themes of the cinema, from Dickens to the present. 3 credits.

FIS 496**American Hero in Film and Literature**

(*Same as ENG 477B.*) Traces the origins and the development of the American hero from roots in myth, folklore, and history to the 1950s. 3 credits.

FIS 497**Genre Studies in Film**

(*Same as ENG 477C.*) Individual examinations of genre structures and themes, with emphasis on the development and the history of genres. May be repeated to a maximum of nine credits. 3 credits.