

An interdepartmental program

Courses of Study:
Minor

Film Studies

Objectives

The Film Studies Program is an interdisciplinary program that offers insight into motion picture media. The minor has three primary goals: it seeks to offer an informed background into motion picture history, to develop a critical appreciation of the cultural meanings of the moving image, and to give some hands-on exposure to the creative aspects of film production.

The curriculum provides a broad overview of the history of the moving image, analytical expertise into cinematic style and cultural context, and an introduction to at least one aspect of film production. A field that has a special affinity with interdisciplinary inquiry, film studies stands as an obvious complement to a range of established majors for which an expertise in visual style and motion-picture history is becoming ever more important—American studies, East Asian studies, English and American literature, fine arts, German language and literature, history, international and global studies, Italian studies, politics, Russian language and literature, and theater arts.

How to Become a Minor

The program is open to all Brandeis undergraduates. To enroll in the program, consult with a member of the film studies committee. Students who complete the requirements of the program receive film studies certificates and notations on their transcripts.

Committee

Alice Kelikian, Chair
(History)

Scott Edmiston, Director, Office of the Arts
(Office of the Provost)

Paul Morrison (on leave 2008–2009)
(English and American Literature)

Matthew Fraleigh
(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literature)

Sabine von Mering
(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literature)

Timothy Hickey
(Computer Science)

Requirements for the Minor

Students must complete six courses:

A. Core course: FILM 100a (Introduction to the Moving Image).

B. Five additional courses from the approved film studies curriculum, which must include one course in a non-American cinema and one course in some creative aspect of film production.

C. A research paper or creative project usually undertaken in the senior year and approved by the Film Studies Committee.

Courses of Instruction

(1–99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students
FILM 92a Internship in Film Studies

Usually offered every year.
Staff

FILM 98a Independent Study

Usually offered every year.
Staff

FILM 98b Independent Study

Usually offered every year.
Staff

(100–199) For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students
FILM 100a Introduction to the Moving Image

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An interdisciplinary course surveying the history of moving image media from 1895 to the present, from the earliest silent cinema to the age of the 500-channel cable television. Open to all undergraduates as an elective, it is the introductory course for the minor in film studies. Usually offered every year.
Staff

FILM 110a Film Production I

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Preference given to film studies minors.
An introduction to the basic principles and techniques of fictional narrative motion picture production. Each student will produce three short films. The films will emphasize dramatic development and creative storytelling through image composition, camera movement, editing, and sound. Usually offered every year.
Mr. Weinberg

FILM 110b Motion Picture Editing

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Preference given to film studies minors.
Students will develop visual literacy through a study of the editor's role in cinematic storytelling. The course provides an overview of the craft's history and theory and offers practical training in editing digital video with Final Cut Pro. Special one-time offering, was offered spring 2008.
Mr. Dellelo

Electives

The following courses are approved for the program. Not all are given in any one year. Please consult the *Schedule of Classes* each semester.

AMST 111a

Images of the American West in Film and Culture

AMST 112b

American Film and Culture of the 1950s

AMST 113a

American Film and Culture of the 1940s

AMST 113b

American Film and Culture of the 1930s

AMST 114a

American Film and Culture of the 1920s

AMST 130b

Television and American Culture

AMST 131b

News on Screen

ANTH 26a

Communication and Media

ENG 27a

Page, Stage, and Screen

ENG 27b

Classic Hollywood Cinema

ENG 147a

Film Noir

ENG 177a

Hitchcock's Movies

NEJS 181a

Jews on Screen

NEJS 181b

Film and the Holocaust

NEJS 182a

Jewish Life in Film and Fiction

THA 155a

Icons of Masculinity

Courses in Non-American Cinema
CHIN 130b

China on Film: The Changes of Chinese Culture

ENG 20a

Bollywood: Popular Film, Genre, and Society

ENG 77a

Screening the Tropics

GECS 167a

German Cinema: Vamps and Angels

HBRW 170a

Israeli Cinema

HISP 193b

Topics in Cinema: Global Latin American Cinema

HIST 170a

Italian Films, Italian Histories

JAPN 135a

Screening National Images: Japanese Film and Anime in Global Context

RECS 149b

The Rise and Fall of Russian Modernism: Cultural and Political Revolutions, 1900–1934

SAS 150b

Indian Film: The Three-Hour Dream

Courses in Creative Aspects of Film Production
COSI 65a

Introduction to 3-D Animation

ENG 67a

Art of the Screenplay

ENG 79a

Directed Writing: Beginning Screenplay

ENG 129b

Understanding the Screenplay: A Workshop

ENG 139b

Intermediate Screenwriting

FILM 110a

Film Production I

FILM 110b

Motion Picture Editing

MUS 107a

Introduction to Electro-Acoustic Music

THA 50b

Sound for Theater, Film, and Television

THA 52b

Fundamentals of Lighting

THA 125a

Acting for the Camera