



Communications and Media Studies

95 Talbot Avenue,
Medford, MA 02155

617-627-2007
cms@tufts.edu
ase.tufts.edu/cms

June, 2011

Interdisciplinary Minor in Film Studies

Students pursuing an interdisciplinary minor in Film Studies must take a core course, either Introduction to Film Studies (Drama 50/ILVS 50) or an approved alternative. Students will also take four film-related elective courses from approved course lists.

Starting in the 2010-2011 academic year, there will be two tracks within the Film Studies minor. Students interested in film theory and/or film history should pursue the **Film Criticism** track. Those students interested in film production and/or screenplay writing should pursue the **Film Practice** track.

During their senior year students doing the Film Criticism track must either complete a Senior Project (EXP 194C) or take an additional film-related course from the Film Criticism elective list in which they can write a paper of at least 15 pages on a film-related topic (the CMS Course Option). Students doing the Film Practice track must complete a Senior Project that is either a film or screenplay.

For students pursuing the **Film Criticism** track, the four elective courses mentioned above must be from at least three departments. Except with written consent of the CMS director, no more than one of the four electives may be a Film Practice course or credited internship in which students learn skills in film production or practice. A maximum of 2 Ex College courses may be counted toward the minor, except with written consent of the CMS Director. Other than EXP 99C (internship) and EXP 190C (CMS Senior Colloquium), all classes taken for the Film Studies minor must be taken for a letter grade.

For students pursuing the **Film Practice** track, the four elective courses mentioned above must include two film practice courses (such as Making Movies, Advanced Filmmaking, Producing Films for Social Change, Screenwriting I or II, or a film practice internship). The other two elective courses should be from the Film Practice electives list and be offered by two different departments. These are courses in which aspects of film production are discussed along with issues of film theory and history. Other than EXP 99C (internship) and EXP 190C (CMS Senior Colloquium), all classes taken for the Film Studies minor must be taken for a letter grade.

In accordance with Tufts policies, students cannot “double count” a course for fulfillment of a foundation requirement and for the Film Studies minor, and they may use a maximum of two credits from the minor to count also toward a major, another minor, or distribution requirements.

Students may use accepted courses transferred from another institution toward the Film Studies minor with consent of the CMS Director. A maximum of **three** courses taken outside of Tufts can be applied toward the minor.

The **Senior Project** (EXP 194C) is a substantial work that may take the form of either a more traditional written thesis or a practice-based project (e.g. screenplay, film, video) with a written component. Students doing a project must also take the **CMS Senior Colloquium** (EXP 190C), a half-year, half-credit, pass-fail course that assists them in developing their senior projects.

The **CMS Course Option** is an additional CMS-approved film-related course taken in the senior year. Students completing the Option course must submit a paper (minimum 15 pages) focusing on a film-related topic written in

conjunction with the course. The paper must be approved, advised, and graded by the course instructor. Students pursuing the Course Option to the senior project also must get approval from the CMS Director.

To indicate their intent to minor, students should consult the CMS Director, Julie Dobrow, or the CMS Associate Director, Susan Eisenhauer, about requirements and the filing of appropriate paperwork. Students are encouraged to begin this process as soon as possible.

CMS Director Julie Dobrow, 95 Talbot Ave, ext. 74744 (julie.dobrow@tufts.edu)

CMS Associate Director Susan Eisenhauer, 95 Talbot Ave, ext. 72007 (susan.eisenhauer@tufts.edu)

CMS Film Studies Coordinator Hosea Hirata, Olin Center 302, ext. 72671 (hosea.hirata@tufts.edu)

FILM CRITICISM TRACK CHECKLIST

I. CORE COURSE

Drama50/ILVS50, or approved equivalent

II. ELECTIVES (total of 4 courses from Film Criticism course list)

- from at least three departments

- one Film Practice course may be counted but is not required

III. SENIOR COLLOQUIUM (EXP190C) & PROJECT (EXP194C)

—or—

COURSE OPTION

FILM PRACTICE TRACK CHECKLIST

I. CORE COURSE

Drama50/ILVS50, or approved equivalent

II. ELECTIVES (total of 4 courses from Film Practice course list)

- 2 Film Practice courses

- 2 Film Practice electives from different departments

III. SENIOR COLLOQUIUM (EXP190C) & PROJECT (EXP194C)

- *must be a film or screenplay*

Required Core Courses

Drama 50 / ILVS 50: Introduction to Film Studies. Introductory course on the fundamental methodologies for reading film. An overview of film studies with emphasis on film as a complex art form. Topics will include: narrative as a formal system, film genres, style and its related techniques, critical approaches to film analysis, and film history. Weekly screening of relevant films. Films will be selected from both Hollywood and World cinemas. No prerequisite required.

EXP 190C: Senior Colloquium. Guided development of interdisciplinary senior projects. Group study and analysis of each student's work in progress. Required of all seniors doing the Senior Project. Half-year, pass-fail, one-half credit. *Dobrow, Goldberg*

EXP 194C: Senior Project. This project is a substantial interdisciplinary work that can include the use of one or more forms of film media (film, video, or screenplay). The focus of the work will be a critical exploration of film in the past, present and/or future. Students producing films/videos are strongly urged to consider collaborative projects. Either a half course credit or one course credit will be given, at the discretion of the faculty advisors.

For a list of approved elective courses for the Film Criticism track and the Film Practice track, please go to the "Film Studies Minor" link on the CMS website: <http://ase.tufts.edu/cms/filmstudies.html>.