Cinema, B.A.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in cinema requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 33 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences General Education Program. A maximum of 9 s.h. of transfer credit may be counted toward the cinema major. Students may count a maximum of 6 s.h. of course work from another major, minor, or certificate toward the major in cinema.

The major in cinema is an individualized, interdisciplinary study of film and the production of creative work in film, video, and interactive multimedia. It is designed to promote cultural and artistic awareness, to increase speaking and writing skills, and to develop capacities for systematic reasoning and effective production in cinema arts.

All students are expected to gain a perspective on the study and the production of film, video, or digital media while becoming acquainted with the historical, critical, and theoretical issues of the area. In conjunction with an appropriate overall curriculum, the major in cinema can offer effective preparation for continuing study or creative work in the humanities, arts, and cinema; provide a solid foundation for careers in film, video, television, and digital production; and lead to careers in arts administration, advertising, and business.

The course CINE:1834 Modes of Film and Video Production is the only production course required for the major. Students may use more advanced production courses to complete the major, but admission to these courses is limited and depends on the student's achievement in prerequisite production courses.

The B.A. with a major in cinema requires the following course work.

Core Courses 13
Elective Courses 20
Total Hours 33

Core Courses

All of these:
CINE:1601 Introduction to Film Analysis 3
CINE:1615 Introduction to Film Theory 3
CINE:1834 Modes of Film and Video Production 4
CINE:3195 Undergraduate Seminar 3

Elective Courses

An additional 20 s.h. in elective cinematic arts (prefix CINE) course work is required. From the 20 s.h., students must select at least 6 s.h. in advanced film studies courses. Courses CINE:1100 The Art of Smartphone Filmmaking and CINE:1200 Screenwriting Fundamentals will not count toward the 20 s.h. of required elective credit.

Advanced Film Studies Courses

Advanced film studies courses may be selected from the following.

At least 6 s.h. from these:
CINE:3750 Topics in Cinema and Culture 3
CINE:4603 Topics in Contemporary Film 3
CINE:4604 Topics in European Film 3
CINE:4606 Topics in Asian Cinema 3
CINE:4608 History of Documentary Film 3
CINE:4616 Topics in National Cinema 3
CINE:4618 Topics in World Cinemas 3
CINE:4620 Issues in Film Theory 3
CINE:4678 Topics in Latin American Cinema 3

Additional Elective Courses

Additional elective courses may be selected from the following.

CINE:1000 First-Year Seminar 1
CINE:1185 Internship arr.
CINE:1602 Introduction to Film Studies 3
CINE:1610 Contemporary Cinema 3
CINE:1620 Writing Film Reviews and Criticism 3
CINE:1625 Gender and Film 3
CINE:1630 Introduction to Film Sound 3
CINE:1635 Styles and Genres 3
CINE:1640 Film Authors 3
CINE:1645 Film and Literature 3
CINE:2195 Individual Study arr.
CINE:2198 Honors Tutorial arr.
CINE:2200 Film/Video Production: The Business of Filmmaking 3
CINE:2620 U.S. Film 3
CINE:2622 World Film 3
CINE:2623 Introduction to Documentary Film 3
CINE:2624 Introduction to Latin American Film 3
CINE:2625 Introduction to Asian Film 3
CINE:2627 Film Club 1
CINE:2800 Digital Arts: An Introduction 3
CINE:2861 Screenwriting: Short Form 3
CINE:2863 Film/Video Production: Film Festival 3
CINE:2864 Film/Video Production: Alternative Forms 3
CINE:2865 Film/Video Production: Material of 16mm Filmmaking 3
CINE:2866 Film/Video Production: Nonfiction 3
CINE:2867 Screenwriting: Long Form 3
CINE:2868 Film/Video Production: Fiction 3
CINE:2869 Introduction to Intermedia 3
CINE:3750 Topics in Cinema and Culture 3
CINE:3876 Video for Performance 3
CINE:3877 Screenwriting: Short Form 4
CINE:3878 Film and Media Practicum 1
CINE:4603 Topics in Contemporary Film 3
Honors

Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Departmental honors students must maintain a g.p.a. of 3.33 in their cinema major course work. Once a student has earned 75 s.h., a student submits a written proposal for a honors thesis or production project. The proposal must be approved by the faculty member who heads the student’s honors thesis/project committee; the committee must be composed of at least two faculty members from the Department of Cinematic Arts. For more specific honors thesis/project requirements in the cinema major, contact the Department of Cinematic Arts.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the University’s honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the cinema major.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University’s Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Students must take CINE:1601 Introduction to Film Analysis before or with CINE:1834 Modes of Film and Video Production.

Before the fifth semester begins: at least two courses in the major, including CINE:1601 Introduction to Film Analysis and CINE:1834 Modes of Film and Video Production

Before the seventh semester begins: at least five more courses in the major (total of seven), including CINE:1615 Introduction to Film Theory, and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree

Before the eighth semester begins: at least three more courses in the major preferably including CINE:3195 Undergraduate Seminar

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining course work in the major, all remaining General Education courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate

Sample Plan of Study
Cinematic Arts (B.A.)
GE: Historical Perspectives 3

Spring
Major: cinema course 4
Major: cinema course (advanced film studies) 3
Major: elective course (second program of study) 3
Major: elective course (second program of study) 3
Major: elective course (second program of study) 3

Hours 15

Fourth Year

Fall
CINE:3195 Undergraduate Seminar 3
Major: cinema course 3
Major: elective course (second program of study) 3
Major: elective course (second program of study) 3
GE: International and Global Issues 3

Hours 15

Spring
Major: cinema course 3
Major: cinema course (elective course if cinema hours are complete) 3
Major: elective course (second program of study) 3
Major: elective course (second program of study) 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Total Hours 121-129

1 General Education (GE) courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses. For more information, view the General Education Program.

2 Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE: World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.

3 Options include CINE:1602 Introduction to Film Studies and CINE:1610 Contemporary Cinema.

4 Students may use their elective courses to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

Career Advancement

Because the film and television industries include a wide array of jobs, the cinema degree is not a direct track to any one specific career, but it does provide a solid foundation for entry into this field.

University of Iowa graduates have found work on sets in Hollywood and New York as location managers, editors, camera assistants, writers, producer’s assistants, location managers, casting agents, and more. Graduates also have found work in San Francisco, Chicago, Milwaukee, Seattle and many other cities, with jobs in distribution, programming, documentary research, and education, among others.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.