Film Studies, M.A.

Requirements

The Master of Arts program in film studies requires a minimum of 36 s.h. of graduate credit, of which 24 s.h. must be earned at the University of Iowa. Students must earn a minimum program g.p.a. of 3.25.

The 36 s.h. are typically acquired by taking 12 graduate-level courses that span two years. The program’s focus is on advanced film theory and film history in an international context, with required distributions of coursework in U.S. cinema, world cinemas, and at least one of the following areas: film production, documentary film, animation, or experimental film.

Students meet formal degree requirements through coursework and a written examination in their second year on key areas within film theory and film history, followed by an oral examination.

The M.A. with a major in film studies requires the following coursework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CINE:5500</td>
<td>Success in Graduate Studies (consult advisor about semester hour enrollment)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINE:5673</td>
<td>Advanced Film Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINE:5675</td>
<td>Advanced Film History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Distribution Requirements

Students earn 3 s.h. in each of the following three areas:

- U.S. cinema: 3 s.h.
- World cinemas: 3 s.h.
- Production, documentary, animation, or experimental film: 3 s.h.

Language Study

Up to 6 s.h. in languages and literatures courses numbered 3000 or above in an area other than English may be counted toward the degree.

Students are expected to enroll in the two graduate courses offered by the Department of Cinematic Arts each semester. Remaining elective hours may be taken in courses selected from other departments; students should consult their advisor.

More information on the program is available on the Department of Cinematic Arts website.

Admission

A faculty committee chaired by the head of film studies evaluates applications to the M.A. program. Application materials should include undergraduate and/or graduate transcripts, a personal statement, a writing sample, three letters of recommendation, test scores, and samples of creative work when relevant. Admission decisions are based on the full range of an applicant’s accomplishments and evidence that the applicant will fit the elements of the program and will thrive in the department.