

Film Studies, Ph.D.

Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy program in film studies requires a minimum of 72 s.h. of graduate credit, of which 39 s.h. must be earned at the University of Iowa after a student has received their M.A. degree. Semester hours are earned through coursework, and eventually work focused on the completion of a dissertation. Students must earn a minimum program g.p.a. of 3.25.

The program's coursework is broadly concentrated in film history and film theory, with specific courses offered on a wide range of topics. With the regular consultation and guidance of a faculty advisor and committee, students formulate and pursue a plan of study during their first year in the program, prepare and conduct a written and oral comprehensive examination typically in their second or third year, write and present a dissertation prospectus to a carefully selected committee, and complete a dissertation in an area of advanced, original research that is defended orally in a meeting with the student's committee prior to final deposit. A detailed summary of the requirements for the Ph.D. in film studies is available on the Department of Cinematic Arts website.

The Ph.D. with a major in film studies requires the following coursework.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements		
The following courses must be taken at the University of Iowa:		
CINE:5500	Success in Graduate Studies (consult advisor)	1-3
CINE:5673	Advanced Film Theory (taken twice)	6
CINE:5675	Advanced Film History (taken twice)	6
CINE:7615	Film Studies Seminar	3
CINE:7992	Thesis	4

Seminar course numbered 7000 or above

Distribution Requirements

Students earn 2 s.h. in each of the following three areas:

Production, documentary, animation, or experimental film	2
U.S. cinema	2
World cinemas	2

Students also are required to participate in one year of supervised teaching or in independent research. They should consult their advisor for additional requirements.

Admission

A faculty committee chaired by the head of film studies evaluates applications to the Ph.D. 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 thrive in the department.

Previous experience in the area of film studies is desirable but not required. Applicants usually enter the program with a B.A. in film studies, an M.A. in film studies from the University of Iowa, or an M.A. in an unrelated field.

All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website. Information about the application process is available on the Department of Cinematic Arts website and the Graduate Admissions website.

Career Advancement

The Ph.D. program in film studies has an impressive job placement record, with graduates located in faculty positions at major research universities and prestigious liberal arts colleges throughout the world. Graduates are, through their published research, visible and productive contributors to film studies and related disciplines, and many have served in leadership positions within professional organizations such as the Society for Cinema and Media Studies.

Within the program, faculty mentor students toward professional careers by supervising their development as both effective teachers and scholars. Regular workshops offered on topics such as journal and conference submissions, job interviews, and related topics help prepare students for careers within and beyond academia. Students also are regularly advised on applying for grants and awards to facilitate their advanced research, whether conducted in Iowa or elsewhere.

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