Curriculum Proposal:
Minor in Cinematic Arts

Lead Advisers:

Peter Freund, PhD
Associate Professor
Art & Art History Department

Dan Leopard, PhD
Associate Professor
Communication Department

Catalogue Language:

The curriculum of the Cinematic Arts Minor combines the critical analysis and creative production of the moving image art form, ranging from time-based film and video to new media art. The courses emphasize technical fundamentals and conceptualization, creative experimentation and critical thinking, and personal expression and social responsibility. A hybrid instructional approach for several of the courses integrates critical analysis and creative production in order to encourage students to analyze as well as to produce the moving image art form as an engaged critical practice.

Students minoring in Cinematic Arts take six courses from the disciplines of Art, Communication, English, Anthropology, and Modern Languages. Beyond the coursework, an internship elective (ART 193) provides a hands-on experience that can include assisting with a film exhibition, working as an assistant with a faculty filmmaker or researcher, and other options.

Learning Outcomes

Students completing the Minor in Cinematic Arts will be able to:

- Plan, shoot, edit a finished film or video art project.
- Contextualize moving image artworks within a broader cultural, historical, and political framework.
- Utilize critical-theoretical concepts as a springboard to develop a film or video art project.
- Write a concept statement articulating the aims, influences, and process associated with their own production work.
- Write an extended critical essay integrating research, analysis, and interpretation of cinematic works of art.

Matriculation Pattern

Total Requirement (six courses)

Required Core (four courses)

Lower Division:
ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, Sound

Upper Division:
ART 155 Experimental Film/Video Production
COMM 125 Intro to Media, Technology, and Culture
COMM 158 Film
Electives (Choose two)

ANTH 120 Visual Anthropology
ART 193 Internship
ATC 80 Art Theory
ATC 111 Philosophy of New Media Art
COMM 133 Video Production
ENGLISH 125 (or 126) Film
ML 126 Film*

* Before enrolling in ML 126, students should contact the instructor regarding a possible foreign language requirement. This requirement varies depending on the section.

Core Faculty

Peter Freund, Art & Art History
Dan Leopard, Communication

Affiliated Faculty

Lynn Meisch, Anthropology
David Benin, Communication
Aaron Sachs, Communication
Lisa Manter, English
Costanza Dopfel, Modern Languages
Helga Lénárt-Chang, Modern Languages
Claude Malary, Modern Languages
Alvaro Ramirez, Modern Languages

Sample Student Schedule

What follows is a possible matriculation pattern for the Minor in Cinematic Arts.

Freshman

Fall: n/a
Spring: ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, Sound

Sophomore

Fall: COMM 125 Intro to Media, Technology, and Culture
Spring: COMM 133 Video Production

Junior

Fall: COMM 158 Film
Spring: ART 155 Experimental Film/Video Production

Senior

Fall: ART 193 Internship
Spring: n/a