Curriculum Proposal:
Minor in Cinematic Arts

Lead Faculty:

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.

Sample Student Schedule

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

Freshman
Fall: n/a
Spring: n/a

Sophomore
Fall: ART 55 Digital Foundations 1: Photo, Video, Sound
Spring: COMM 125 Intro to Media, Technology, and Culture

Junior
Fall: COMM 133 Video Production
Spring: COMM 158 Film

Senior
Fall: ART 155 Experimental Film/Video Production
Spring: ART 193 Internship

Lead 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
Program Administration

Administration for the program will be jointly housed within the departments of Communication and Art & Art History.

Programmatic administration and leadership will be provided by the two program directors (Profs. Freund and Leopard). Duties will include student advising, enrollment management, budgeting, scheduling, classroom observations and faculty assessment. The directors will also facilitate a meeting each semester with affiliated faculty to discuss current and future issues relating to curriculum, staffing, advising, assessment, support, etc. The steering committee (listed below) will function as a governing board.

In addition, the program will have support from the administrative assistants of both core departments who will assist with such things as budgeting, scheduling, maintenance of online catalogue and promotional materials, etc.

Steering Committee

The lead faculty for the Cinematic Arts Minor will consult the steering committee in matters of program structure, scheduling, new curriculum, extra curricular events, and changes to governance.

Peter Freund, Art & Art History (lead faculty)
Dan Leopard, Communication (lead faculty)
Ed Tywoniak, Communication
Anna Novakov, Art & Art History

Library Resources

Given that all courses currently exist in the college catalogue, no additional library resources will be needed at this time.

Campus Impact & Fiscal/Technical Resources

There is no expected financial or technical impact on the campus since all the courses in the minor currently exist or offered on a regular basis.