**Multidisciplinary Studies Curriculum and Course Outline**

**Degree:** BA **Major:** Multidisciplinary Studies **Concentration:** Film Studies **Major Requirements:** 39 credit hours (plus 9 credit hours of related coursework)

Core 1 (18 credit hours)

Film

Core 2 (18 credit hours)

Art and Media Tech

ART 201 History and Aesthetics of Photography

ART 376 Into to Photography: Digital or ART 306 Intro into Darkroom

COMM 326 Media Writing: Fiction

COMM 121 Intro to Audio and Video

COMM 206 Communication and Media Law

COMM 321 Television Production 1 or COMM 337 Documentary Filmmaking 1

ENGL 240 Intro to Film

ENGL 481 History of Film

ENGL 482 Film and American Society or ENGL 347 Studies of Ethnicity in Film

ENGL 483 Politics and Media

ENGL 484 Brave New Worlds: Technology and Media or ENGL 587 Special Topics in Film

ENGL 471 Creative Writing or ENGL 472 Writing Workshop (when focused on writing for film)

Capstone (3 credit hours)

Relative Elective Courses 9 credit hours)

ENGL 400 or COMM 400 Internship/Co-op

OR

ENGL or COMM 498 Independent Study (Creative Capstone Project)

OR

COMM 437 Documentary II

ENTR 201 Art of Entrepreneurship

MUSI 201 Music and Sound in Cinema

THEA 315 Directing OR THEA 2XX Acting 1

**Course Descriptions**

**Core One Descriptions:**

**ENGL 240: 3 s.h. Introduction to Film (G1, W)**

Analysis of film as an art form, including technical and artistic aspects of filmmaking. Genres, auteur theory and other theoretical approaches to cinema. Offered Fall, Spring. **Prereq:** ENGL 110.

**ENGL 471: 3 s.h. Creative Writing**

Extensive practice in writing varied genres of fiction and poetry. Inquiry into the social functions and purposes of fictional and poetic writing. Offered periodically. **Prereq:** ENGL 110.

**ENGL 472: 3 s.h. Writing Workshop (when focused on writing for film)**

Extensive written work focused on particular topics, a theme in literature or a specific genre in communication. Mini-research papers. Critiques of other student papers. Considerable discussion of other student papers. Offered periodically. **Prereq:** ENGL 311 or permission from instructor.

**ENGL 481: 3 s.h. History of Film (W)**

Analyzes the history of the worlds film industry and influential narrative films, from early silence to recent independents. Technology intensive course. Offered biannually in Fall. **Prereq**: ENGL 110.

**ENGL 482: 3 s.h. Film and American Society (G1)**

Analyzes significant American films in relation to social and historical context. Offered biannually in spring. **Prereq:** ENGL 110.

**ENGL 483: 3 s.h. Politics, Film, and Electronic Media (P)**

Explores the relationships between media, history, politics, and people during the 20th and 21st centuries. Focuses on portrayal of American politics in film. The politics of narrative structure (Eisenstein, Godard), the relationships between narrative and ideology, and political documentaries. **Prereq:** COMM 100, ENGL 110, and junior status. Offered biannually in fall.

**ENGL 484: 3 s.h. Brave New Worlds: Exploring Technology in Film (G1, W)**

Explores the relationships between film, technology, and society as they developed during the 20th century. Includes American and foreign films that focus that focus on technology and/or address issues raised by technology. Special focus on directors Kubrick and Gilliam. Offered biannually in Spring. **Prereq:** COMM 100 and ENGL 110.

**ENGL 586-589: Special Topics (3)**

In-depth investigation and development of one or more topics of current interest not normally covered in regular courses. Special topics to be covered and methods to be used will vary according to the needs of the students and faculty involved. Offered periodically.

**Core Two Descriptions:**

**ART 201 : 3 s.h. History and Aesthetics of Photography (G1)**

A survey of the history, principles, and theory of photography in the 19th and 20th centuries as it is used as an aesthetic medium and for visual communication. Differentiation between photographs made as art vs. snapshots, photojournalism, scientific record, and commercial art is emphasized. Offered periodically.

**ART 376: 3 s.h. Into to Photography: Digital (G1)**

Beginning digital course that introduces basic skills and concepts associated with digital photography as used by contemporary visual artists and communicators. Covers cameras, computer hardware, photo editing software, printing, file management, criticism, history and analysis. Students must have a digital single lens reflex camera. Offer annually.

**COMM 121: 3 s.h. Introduction to Audio and Video**

Audio and video production fundamentals, techniques, and uses. Includes study of the production process and hands-on production assignments in both audio and video. Laboratory work required. Offered Fall, Spring.

**COMM 206: 3 s.h. Communication and Media Law**

The legal parameters of freedom of expression under the U.S. legal system. Students explore legal and ethical issues related to media systems, organizational communication, public relations, and theatre. Offered Fall, Spring.

**COMM 321: 3 s.h. Television Production 1**

Theory and application of various phases of studio operation and editing in television production. Laboratory work required. Offered Fall, Spring. **Prereq:** COMM 121.

**COMM 326: 3 s.h. Media Writing; Fiction (W)**

Basic news writing and reporting, stressing electronic media. Offered Fall. **Prereq:** ENGL 110 or permission of the instructor.

**COMM 337: 3 s.h. Documentary Filmmaking I: Concepts (D)**

Focused on the history and theory of documentary films. Through readings, screenings, and discussions, students gain a historical and theoretical understanding of documentary filmmaking and become prepared for more advanced production courses. Students also explore their own documentary ideas and develop an outline and treatment. **Prereq:** COMM 100, ENGL 110, Junior standing. Offered periodically.

**Related Elective Courses:**

**ENTR 201: 3 s.h. Art of Entrepreneurship**

This course introduces and explores the mind-set and process of entrepreneurism in: (1) social entrepreneurism (solving social issues); (2) business entrepreneurship (starting an innovative enterprise); (3) employee entrepreneurism (as a worker in an existing business); (4) academic entrepreneurism (the pursuit of a valuable and productive education). Emphasis will be on identifying opportunities and value, developing the art of creative problem solving, and effectively expressing those solutions.

**MUSI 201: 3 s.h. Music and Sound in Cinema**

This course focuses on the use of music and sound in cinema. It develops specialized listening skills that are different from listening to music for pleasure. It explores the aesthetics of film sound and technology that has changed over time. Finally, it investigates music in the framework of the film soundtrack, and the soundtrack in the framework of a history of film technology.

**THEA 130: 3 s.h. Acting 1 (G1)**

Training in the art and craft of acting. Emphasis on developing basic skills and exploring the creative process. Elementary scene and monologue work. Offered Fall.

**THEA 315: 3 s.h. Directing**

Practical experience in both directing and coaching actors. An overview of directing process and directing style. Offered biannually in Spring. **Prereq:** THEA 130 or permission of instructor.

**Capstone Course:**

**COMM 437: 3 s.h. Documentary Filmmaking II**

Focused on the practical and technical aspects of documentary filmmaking. Students produce documentaries that incorporate appropriate approaches and styles as well as advanced storytelling techniques. **Prereq:** COMM 321, 337, Junior standing. Offered periodically.

**COMM 498: 1-3 s.h Independent Study in Communication**

For the definition of independent study and student eligibility, refer to the Academic Policies section of this catalog.

**ENGL 489, 498, 499: 1-3 s.h.**

For more information on independent study and departmental honors, see your advisor.