Overview

The Film Studies major stream will provide you with the critical, conceptual and practical skills to analyse, interpret and work with the most popular art form of the 20th and 21st centuries. Film Studies courses include historical, theoretical, and cross-cultural studies of film as well as practical courses in video production and screenwriting. Our Film Studies major stream provides you with a comprehensive study of the discipline, while also fostering an understanding of the intersections between popular entertainment, politics and aesthetics. Film Studies contributes to and has its origins in a range of disciplinary fields in the Humanities, including Philosophy and Critical Theory, Aesthetics, Performance Studies, Cultural Studies, Anthropology, Sociology and Gender Studies. For this reason Film Studies is a discipline that enables you to explore a range of debates in the Humanities as they inform—and are informed by—the film and media landscape and its impact on contemporary life. Our courses enable you to study film and related media forms in their historical, cultural, and technological contexts and provide you with an international perspective on the place and history of film in the global media landscape.
Faculty
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

School
School of Arts and Media

Study Level
Undergraduate

Minimum Units of Credit
60

Specialisation Type
Major
Learning Outcomes

1. Collaborate effectively with others
   - Leaders
   - Professionals

2. Exhibit initiative and self-direction
   - Leaders
   - Professionals

3. Act ethically, respectfully and responsibly
   - Global Citizens
   - Professionals
   - Scholars

4. Identify and explain the aesthetic, technical and cultural dimensions of film and the changing interpretive frameworks of the discipline of film studies
   - Scholars

5. Interpret the role of film in a broader media landscape
   - Scholars

6. Undertake rigorous and engaged scholarly enquiry and analysis
   - Professionals
   - Scholars

7. Communicate and debate complex ideas in a range of different contexts using a variety of suitable media
   - Leaders
   - Professionals
   - Scholars

8. Critically and creatively employ disciplinary bodies of knowledge and appraise disciplinary perspectives in professional practice and/or scholarship
   - Scholars
   - Professionals

9. Justify a position in relation to foundational aspects of society, culture and/or the arts
   - Professionals
   - Scholars
   - Global Citizens

10. Engage proactively with complex problems in professional practice and/or scholarship
    - Professionals
    - Scholars

11. Continuously acquire knowledge and skills and reflect on existing knowledge and skills for personal and career fulfilment
    - Professionals
    - Leaders
    - Scholars

12. Describe the history of film as a creative enterprise and cultural institution that responds to local, regional, national and global contexts
    - Global Citizens
    - Scholars
Graduate Capabilities:

For more information on Graduate Capabilities, please click on this link.
Available in Program(s)

Program(s) in which this major is available

Bachelor of Arts - BA
3409 Arts
Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 144
Typical Duration: 3 Years

Bachelor of Media - BMedia
3438 Media (Screen and Sound Production)
Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 144
Typical Duration: 3 Years

Bachelor of Arts and Business - BArts (Bus)
3444 Arts and Business
Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 144
Typical Duration: 3 Years
Specialisation Structure

Students must complete 60 UOC.

ARTS/EDUCATION (SECONDARY) STUDENTS

The major in Film Studies must not be taken as it is not an approved teaching specialisation.

MEDIA (SCREEN & SOUND PRODUCTION)/ARTS STUDENTS

If you complete a Film Studies major in your Arts degree you will not be automatically conferred the Film Studies Minor in your Media degree. The 24 uoc Film Studies courses completed in Media (Screen & Sound Production) can be counted towards the Film Studies major in the Arts degree. However you will be required to complete an additional 24 uoc Prescribed Arts & Social Sciences electives.

LEVEL 1 PRESCRIBED ELECTIVES

You must take 12 UOC of the following courses.

ARTS1060 | 6 UOC
Introduction to Film Studies

ARTS1062 | 6 UOC
Hollywood Film: Industry, Technology, Aesthetics

ARTS1064 | 6 UOC
Screen Production I

Level 2 Core Courses

You must take 6 UOC of the following courses.

ARTS2061 | 6 UOC
Contemporary Approaches to Cinema

Level 2 Prescribed Electives

You must take at least 12 UOC of the following courses.
Note: Course ARTS2036 Modernism: Text and Screen, from another subject area, can also be counted toward the Film Studies major.

ARTS2036 | 6 UOC
Modernism: Text and Screen

ARTS2062 | 6 UOC
Australian Cinema

ARTS2063 | 6 UOC
National Cinemas

ARTS2064 | 6 UOC
A Case Study of Film Genre

ARTS2065 | 6 UOC
Screen Production II

ARTS2066 | 6 UOC
Writing for the Screen

**Level 3 Prescribed Electives**

You must take at least 18 UOC of the following courses.

ARTS3060 | 6 UOC
Film in the Media Landscape

ARTS3061 | 6 UOC
Screen Production III (Video Project)

ARTS3062 | 6 UOC
Aspects of Film History: Cinematic Thinking

ARTS3064 | 6 UOC
Issues in Film Styles and Aesthetics
Film Studies Major Pathways

The three pathways are recommended structures for students who wish to follow particular paths in their major, and are by no means exclusive. Each pathway promotes the core strengths of the major.

Students following a pathway should include the courses as part of the major structure.

PRODUCTION PATHWAY
Level 1
ARTS1064 Screen Production I
Level 2
ARTS2065 Screen Production II
ARTS2066 Writing for the Screen
Level 3
ARTS3061 Screen Production III
ARTS3066 Documentary and Non-Fiction Cinema

CRITICAL ANALYSIS PATHWAY
Level 1
ARTS1060 Introduction to Film Studies
Level 2
ARTS2061 Contemporary Approaches to Cinema
ARTS2064 A Case Study of Film Genre
Level 3
ARTS3060 Film in the Media Landscape
ARTS3062 Aspects of Film History: Cinematic Thinking
Enrolment Disclaimer

Unless advised otherwise by your program authority, you should follow the rules for the handbook for the year you commenced your program. You are also responsible for ensuring you enrol in courses according to your program requirements. myUNSW enrolment checks that you have met enrolment requirements such as pre-requisites for individual courses but not that a course will count towards your program requirements.
Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions