

Master of Fine Arts in Film, Theatre, and Communication Arts Degree

The Department of Film, Theatre, and Communication Arts offers the Master of Fine Arts degree. Students may elect to concentrate in Film Arts---Production, Theatre Arts---Performance or Design, or Communication Arts---Creative Writing. The Department is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre. MFA programs in Theatre Arts reflect NAST's highest standards. The Master of Fine Arts is a terminal degree for students interested in pursuing careers in film production, theatre arts, and in creative writing. Areas of specialization in Film Arts and Theatre Arts include filmmaking, acting, directing, and design; and in creative writing include fiction writing, nonfiction writing, playwriting, poetry writing, and screenwriting.

MFA tracks in Film and Theatre Arts require the following 18 hour core:

FTCA 6020 Form and Idea in the Media	3
FTCA 6040 Performance and Direction	3
FTCA 6060 Concept, Conflict, and Character	3
FTCA 6910 Studio Thesis I	3
FTCA 6911 Studio Thesis II	3
FTCA 6912 Studio Thesis III	3
FTCA 6005 Graduate Studies in Orientation	0

MFA Film Arts---Production

The Master of Fine Arts track in Film Arts includes a 21-credit hour production core which exposes students to the broad processes of filmmaking. Nine credit hours of Analysis provide an important theoretical and historical framework for film production. The remaining twelve credit hours (Application Electives) may be used to apply knowledge and training to a special focus within the curriculum.

MFA Film Arts Production Requirements (21 hours required)

I. Production

4500 Film Development and Planning	3
4510 Film Production	3
4520 Post Production	3
4530 Advanced Project in Film Production	3
4565 Digital Theory and Application for Film and Video	3
6250 Seminar in Screenwriting	3
6580 Film Directing	3

II. Analysis (9 hours required)

4540 Development of the Cinema	3
4545 Film Theory and Criticism	3
6610 Seminar in Film Arts	3

III. Application Electives (12 hrs. required) Select from list below.

4090-95 Special Topics	6
4096 Special Topics in Film Production	3
4460 Documentary Production	3
4550 Cinematography	3
4551 Spring Film Crew	1
4555 Spring Film Production	3
4566 Production Sound for Film	3

4567 Postproduction Sound for Film and Video	3
4568 Special Topics: Visual Effects	3
4570 Acting for the Camera	3
4580 Film Directing	3
4591 Film Styles and Genres	3
4900 Internship	3
6001 Practicum in Production	3
6090 Directed Independent Study	3
6100 Visual Design for Stage and Screen	3
6250 Seminar in Screenwriting	3
6900 Graduate Internship	3

Admission: An applicant is accepted for graduate work in film and theatre arts upon recommendation of the graduate committee and subsequent admission to the Graduate School. Students must hold a bachelor's degree in film or theatre arts or must possess clearly demonstrated skills and creative ability in their field. Graduate Record Examination scores and at least three letters of recommendation should be submitted. All applicants must submit evidence of their ability in the proposed area of specialization. Auditions, prompt books, portfolios, manuscripts, video tapes, films, and other appropriate presentations are to be submitted to the department when application for admission is completed.

In addition to the requirements of the Graduate School, the following must be met:

1. Satisfactory completion of at least 60 hours of Film, Theatre, and Communication Arts courses. With written permission of the department, the candidate may take up to six hours in a field outside the department.
2. At the completion of 18 or more hours of course work the student will be evaluated by the graduate committee. If the first year review demonstrates sufficient progress, the student will be invited to continue in the program.
3. A grade-point average of 3.0 or better is required in all course work.
4. Normally students must be in residence at least two semesters taking a full load of at least nine hours each semester. Summer sessions may not apply. Under special circumstances this residency requirement may be waived by the department. Upon completion of one-half of the student's required work, his or her major professor will be designated by the department. Ordinarily this professor will serve as chairman of both the examining committee and the publicly presented creative thesis project.

Comprehensive Examination: Normally students may take the Comprehensive Examination no sooner than the term in which they have completed 36 hours of graduate credit. This examination will be both written and oral. At least three members of the graduate faculty, one of whom may be from a department other than Film, Theatre, and Communication Arts, appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School, will administer the examination. Part of the examination will be devoted to questions based on the reading list and course work, and the remainder will be devoted to questions relating to the student's individual area of specialization.

Publicly Presented Creative Thesis Project: The thesis project will be prepared under the supervision of a committee appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School. This committee will ordinarily consist of three members of the graduate faculty of the department. After successful completion of the comprehensive examination, the candidate will submit a written prospectus for a publicly presented thesis project. The research and execution of this project will normally take nine studio hours. The MFA Thesis project is designed to test the student's skill and knowledge in his or her area of specialization. The project is subject to the graduate committee's approval.

Students who have earned graduate credits in film, theatre, video, or its equivalent from other institutions may apply for admission into the Master of Fine Arts program. However, the maximum allowable transfer credit must conform to the Graduate School's policy on extension and transfer credit. Transfer credit is subject to the graduate coordinator's recommendation and approval by the Graduate School.