



School of Visual Studies Film Studies

What Is a Film Major?

As a film studies major, you'll learn to excel as a creator and a scholar while pursuing your [bachelor's degree in film studies](#) or your [minor in film studies](#). You will learn to read analytically, think critically and creatively, and write effectively. Students on the production track will learn the art and craft of film directing, cinematography, and post production. As a result, you will have a wide range of employment options to launch your career.

Many of our students find entry-level jobs in the film and media industry or form their own production companies to gain experience and build connections with potential employers and collaborators. Others continue their education, pursuing either a graduate degree or advanced professional training. Regardless of the

Together, faculty,
staff, and students
produce more than

600

films per year.

initial path you take, as a film studies major, you will be able to leverage the organizational and analytical skills you learn to establish a successful career.

In our [production](#) courses, the student-faculty ratio is designed to maximize hands-on, collaborative student experience. You will benefit from personal involvement with the instructor and the

opportunity to work with state-of-the-art equipment used by expert filmmakers around the world. You gain hands-on experience with a wide range of cameras, from Canons or BlackMagic 4Ks to RED Digital Cinema Cameras. We also boast healthy grip, rigging, and electric equipment that provide you with all

the necessary components to create short films. Our faculty are active professionals who guide you through all stages of your film projects, exhibitions,



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SVS Film Studies



and publications. All you need to succeed is the drive and creative energy to bring your vision to life.

Careers & Jobs

As a film studies graduate, you will have acquired the skills to pursue a career in a wide range of professions. Common areas of employment are in arts and entertainment, broadcasting, and media and film production. If you seek a career in the TV/motion picture and digital media industries, a [BA in film studies](#) prepares you for positions such as producer, cinematographer, director, editor, actor/actress, writer, or technician for visual effects, lighting, sound, or special effects. However, the value of the degree is not restricted to these fields. In our increasingly visual media culture, cinematic skills “serve as a new form of literacy,” and a degree in film studies has become “the bedrock of careers as far afield as law and the military” (*The New York Times*). These career paths span diverse areas of business, government, education, and the arts.

Getting Involved

Film studies students participate in several groups and activities. The Film Production Club is a student organization that promotes collaborative filmmaking projects outside the classroom. The School of Visual Studies Student Society brings together students from [art](#), [art history](#), and [digital storytelling](#) for social gatherings, shared participation in art events, and public events.

As a film student at MU, you will become part of a local community of internationally connected filmmakers. Columbia is home to two international film festivals, the True-False Film Fest, which showcases

documentaries, and the Citizen Jane Film Festival that showcases independent fiction and documentary films by women directors. These festivals and a thriving local production industry offer you opportunities to gain valuable experience and internship credit while forging ties to the larger filmmaking world. In addition to internships with the local film festivals and production companies, recent students have interned with the American Film Institute, the Library of Congress Film Archive, production companies in St. Louis and Dallas, and on a film project in Israel through an Israeli exchange program.



For More Info



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Complete undergraduate course listing:
catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduategraduate/collegeofartsandscience/filmstudies/#courseinventory

MU Admissions: admissions.missouri.edu



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