

# Graduate Program

## *Film Studies Curriculum Guide*

The Film Studies Program requires 16 credits of course work to be taken in each of the four semesters for a total of 64 credits. The normal course load is four courses in each of the four semesters. Note: in the fourth semester, graduates students may write an MFA thesis, but only after extensive consultation with their academic adviser, who needs to greenlight the project. The thesis is optional; it is understood as being similar to an undergraduate honors project. Those who write a thesis will take one course less (thesis project counts for 4 credits).

In addition to a set of film studies courses (film history survey courses, film and media theory, special topics courses) that are the backbone of the curriculum and form the major component of the film studies education, the curriculum has been expanded to include several “practical” courses related to diverse areas of film (Introduction to screenwriting, to acting and directing, to video production and to writing film criticism). Internships and Directed Studies are possible. Internships can carry up to 4 credits, Directed Studies up to 8 credits (minimum credits for registration for either one: 2 credits).

### **Sequential Curriculum Guide of Obligatory Core Classes:**

#### **Semester One:**

FT 721 *International Masterworks*  
Intensive Survey Course on Global Film History

FT 722 *American Masterworks*  
Intensive Survey Course on American Cinema History

FT 711 *Screenwriting for Film Studies Students*  
Introduction to the Art and Craft of Screenwriting for Film Studies Students

Film Studies Elective

#### **Semester Two:**

FT 723 *American Independent Film* (either second or fourth semester)  
Introduction to the History of American Independent Cinema

3 Film Studies Electives

***PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE***

### **Semester Three:**

FT 552 *Video Production for Film Studies Students*

An Introduction to all Aspects of Video Production for Film Studies Students

Three Film Studies Electives

### **Semester Four:**

Humanities Subject (optional and subject to approval by adviser)

A Course Chosen from a Selection of Humanities Courses Offered at BU; course and field need to be discussed with and okayed by adviser

*[Note: Students writing an MFA thesis will have to register for only two instead of four courses (Thesis Project counts for 4 credits)]*

### **Curriculum Offerings of non-obligatory courses (that have their own course number):**

FT 536 *Film Theory* (offered every spring semester)

FT 553 *Film Criticism* (offered every fall semester)

FT 554 *Special Topics Course* (taught by Film Studies Faculty) (multiple offerings each semester—see special announcements)

FT 553 *Special Topics Course* (taught by Non-Film Studies Faculty)

Note: in addition to the Film Criticism course, Film Studies Graduate Students can take a maximum of 8 credits in the 553 area without having to petition)

FT 560 *The Documentary*

FT 563 *The French New Wave*

FT 567 *Film Styles*

FT 568 *Third World Cinema*

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