

M.F.A. IN MOTION PICTURES

Overview

Students must complete a minimum of 66 credit hours with the approval of the faculty advisor. At least 24 must be at or above the 700-level and at least 12 must be earned for thesis. Motion Picture students must maintain an overall minimum GPA of 3.0 for all courses.

M.F.A. candidates are expected to follow a set sequence of courses during the first two semesters of their studies. Several courses are required during the second year of studies. Candidates are strongly encouraged to explore not only a primary but also a secondary area of specialization in the program and develop a minimum of two creative projects consistent with their areas of primary interest and secondary specialization. A minimum of 6 credit hours in each area of specialization is required. Under faculty committee supervision, students will develop one or two creative projects in the third year of their studies.

All M.F.A. students must demonstrate deeper, critical understanding of motion picture practice in diverse social and cultural contexts. To this end, students are encouraged to take advantage of available study abroad programs. Students are also encouraged to participate in an internship during the summer of the first year or second year of studies.

By the end of the second year, students must complete a film and television literacy test, based on a list of 150 culturally and historically significant titles compiled by the faculty. The list is circulated to each student upon entrance into the program. The test is administered annually in the spring semester. Students are required to earn 85/100% on the test in order to complete the degree.

This three-year program culminates with a thesis portfolio that demonstrates, not only skillful execution of craft, but strong conceptual development rooted in collaborative work and innovative uses of technology.

Admission Requirements

The following is a list of the required conditions as well as the required documents/fees for your application for admission to the Master of Fine Arts degree program in Motion Pictures in the School of Communication.

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
- The School's official application
- An \$85.00 non-refundable application fee
- Three letters of recommendation
- 500-word typed statement of academic and professional goals
- Official transcripts of all college work, both undergraduate and graduate.
 - Note: In addition, international applicants must send an official copy of their diploma for all degrees earned, and all documentation that confers their degree, with English translation for all degrees earned.
 - Note: All transcripts must be the original document, forwarded directly from the university. Xerox copies, true copies, notarized copies and other types of copies are not acceptable.
- Official TOEFL or IELTS scores
 - Note: Only for international applicants.
- Copy of current passport
 - Note: Only for international applicants. The name entered on the graduate application must exactly match your name as it appears on your passport.
- Portfolio

Contact the Office of Graduate Studies, call 305-284-5236 or email (socgrad@miami.edu), for information.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
CCA 601	Principles of Aesthetics and Analysis	3
CCA 610	Foundation of Screenwriting	3
CCA 611	Writing the Short Film	3
CCA 620	Cinematography	3
CCA 621	Narrative Production	3
CCA 630	Introduction to Editing	3
CCA 660	Directing the Actor	3
CCA 670	The Independent Producer	3
CCA 707	Pedagogy and Film	3

CCA 750	From Script to Screen	3
CCA 815	MFA Thesis (Total of 12 credits is required)	12
Select two of the following:		6
CCA 602	Global Issues and Filmmaking	
CCA 612	Write for TV	
CCA 655	Science Documentary: Autism	
CCA 696	Directing Techniques II	
CCA 710	Writing the Feature-Length Screenplay	
CCA 752	Advanced Cinematography	
CCA 795	Special Topics in Motion Pictures	
Select four of the following:		12
CCA 622	Writing for the Screen through Editing	
CCA 632	Production and Location Sound Recording	
CCA 658	Documentary Production	
CCA 730	Advanced Editing	
CCA 740	Sound Design	
CCA 761	Directing the Camera	
CCA 794	Motion Picture Internship	
CCA 795	Special Topics in Motion Pictures	
Select one of the following:		3
CCA 603	Film Directors	
CCA 606	Genres	
CCA 608	National Cinemas	
CCA 613	Race and/as Media	
CCA 619	Seminar in Documentary Production	
CIM 658	Immersive Storytelling	
CCA 795	Special Topics in Motion Pictures	
Select one of the following:		3
CCA 694	Motion Picture Marketing and Distribution	
Total Credit Hours		66

Required Plan of Study

First Year		
Fall		Credit Hours
CCA 601	Principles of Aesthetics and Analysis	3
CCA 611	Writing the Short Film	3
CCA 620	Cinematography	3
CCA 761	Directing the Camera	3
Credit Hours		12
Spring		
CCA 610	Foundation of Screenwriting	3
CCA 621	Narrative Production	3
CCA 630	Introduction to Editing	3
CCA 670	The Independent Producer	3
Credit Hours		12
Second Year		
Fall		
Select four of the following:		9
CCA 602	Global Issues and Filmmaking	
CCA 606	Genres	
CCA 612	Write for TV	
CCA 655	Science Documentary: Autism	

CCA 660	Directing the Actor	
CCA 666	Character and Dialogue	
CCA 707	Pedagogy and Film	
CCA 710	Writing the Feature-Length Screenplay	
CCA 752	Advanced Cinematography	
CCA 794	Motion Picture Internship	
CCA 795	Special Topics in Motion Pictures	
Credit Hours		9
Spring		
Required Course Work:		
CCA 750	From Script to Screen	3
Select three of the following:		12
CIM 658	Immersive Storytelling	
CCA 613	Race and/as Media	
CCA 622	Writing for the Screen through Editing	
CCA 626	Adaptation	
CCA 632	Production and Location Sound Recording	
CCA 658	Documentary Production	
CCA 695	Advanced Motion Picture Marketing and Distribution	
CCA 697	Topics in Film Analysis	
CCA 730	Advanced Editing	
CCA 740	Sound Design	
CCA 794	Motion Picture Internship	
CCA 795	Special Topics in Motion Pictures	
Credit Hours		15
Third Year		
Fall		
Required course work:		
CCA 815	MFA Thesis	6
Select one of the following:		3
CCA 603	Film Directors	
CCA 606	Genres	
CCA 619	Seminar in Documentary Production	
CIM 658	Immersive Storytelling	
CCA 658	Documentary Production	
CCA 666	Character and Dialogue	
CCA 794	Motion Picture Internship	
CCA 795	Special Topics in Motion Pictures	
Credit Hours		9
Spring		
Required course work:		
CCA 815	MFA Thesis	6
Select one of the following:		3
CCA 694	Motion Picture Marketing and Distribution	
CCA 795	Special Topics in Motion Pictures	
Credit Hours		9
Total Credit Hours		66

No more than 9 credit hours will be allowed for graduate internships and advanced projects and directed research. Courses may be taken, with program director approval, from other programs or departments within the University of Miami.

Mission

The M.F.A. in Motion Pictures focuses on media creation with an emphasis on combining advanced technical proficiency and innovative narrative skills. Students gain practical and theoretical mastery of their particular professional concentration in screenwriting, production, and producing. Additionally, all students engage in critical studies of film history and theory in order to develop the analytical skills necessary for creative, cutting edge experimentation.

Goals

The Program's objective is to nurture individual creative voices and encourage independent thinking, as well as to support the unique creative collaborative process of media creation. Graduates are prepared to pursue careers as professional moving image artists, enter the teaching profession, provide service to the community and beyond, and enter moving image related professional fields.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate advanced production skills in their area of concentration (producing, directing, cinematography or editing) in both analog and digital technologies. Students are also expected to learn and practice the primary activities of both creative and physical production: to follow the producing process from idea through script to preparation and execution of a production plan, as well as finish and exhibit the resultant production.
- Students will demonstrate film literacy with a clear fluency regarding important classic and contemporary international cinema and its cultural and social contexts.
- Screenwriting students will demonstrate advanced skills in screenwriting and television writing, with attention to professional screenwriting standards.