



Individualized Degree Program

Center for Individualized Learning

Film Studies and Production Major

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)
Faculty Designed IDP

The degree is offered through the Individualized Degree Program and is not yet a permanent major.

Program Description

The Film Studies and Production IDP combines practical video production courses, writing courses, and film theory and history courses. These courses offer students a sound foundation for a career in the film industry or related media careers that demand an understanding of the cultural aesthetics of the moving image and also provide practical skills in video editing.

Faculty Liaison from Key Department:

- Dr. Christopher Jennings, Journalism & Media Production

IDP Contact:

- Sara Jackson Shumate, sjacks62@msudenver.edu
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- Danielle Rado, drado@msudenver.edu

Recommended General Studies Coursework

All students must complete the General Studies requirements for their catalog year.

Composition/Written Communication (GT-CO, 6 credits required of all students):

- ENG 1010: Composing Arguments (3 credits)
- ENG 1020: Research & Argument Writing (3 credits)

Math/Quantitative Literacy (GT-MA, 3 credits required of all students):

- Any course that meets requirement (3 credits)

Oral Communications (3 credits required of all students)

- Any course that meets requirement (3 credits)

Historical (GT-HI, 3 credits required of all students)

- Any course that meets requirement (3 credits)

Arts and Letters/Humanities (GT-AH, 6 credits required of all students):

- Any combination of courses (6 credits) that meets requirements

Social and Behavioral Sciences (GT-SS, 6 credits required of all students):

- Any combination of courses (6 credits) that meets requirements

Natural and Physical Sciences (GT-SC, 6 credits required of all students):

- Any combination of courses (6 credits) that meets requirements

Global Diversity (3 credits)

- Recommended: ENG 2810: Vampire Films (3 credits), ENG 2850: International Film (3 credits)

Total of required credits for General Studies: 33-36 credits

Degree/Graduation Requirements

Ethnic Studies and Social Justice Course (3 credits)

- Students may fulfill this requirement by taking approved courses within one of the following categories: Arts and Humanities; Historical; Natural and Physical Sciences; Or Social and Behavioral Sciences

Suggested courses:

- HIS 1150: Multicultural America (3 credits)
- THE 3213: Staging Cultures: Theatre, Drama, and Multiculturalism (3 credits)
- ANT 2330: Cross-Cultural Communication (3 credits)

Senior Experience (3 credits)

- ENG 4500: Senior Project (3 credits)
- ENG 4520: Advanced Writing (3 credits)
- JMP 4790: Senior Seminar (3 credits)

Recommended Coursework for IDP

Total credit hours in IDP: 45 credits

- Core courses (39 credits)
- Elective courses (6 credits)

Highly Recommended Core Courses 39+ credit hours, 27 upper division credit hours

Courses that are critical to the field of study, and which are likely to become required in an eventual curriculum proposal.

*Note: Some of the JMP and ENG courses have changed titles and/or credits over the last several years. Older versions of JMP and ENG courses **will** count towards this IDP major.*

Introduction – Required 9-10 credits

- ENG 2500 Introduction to Creative Writing (3 credits)
- JMP 2430: Introduction to Media Production (3 credits) OR JMP 3425: Creating Informational Media (3 credits)
- ENG 2860: Introduction to Film and Media Studies (3-4 credits)*

Film History and Theory – 12 credits

- ENG 3710: Film History (3-4 credits)
- ENG 3750: Cinema Genre: Variable Topics (3-4 credits)
- ENG 4630: Cinema Director: Variable Topics (3-4 credits)
- ENG 3615: Theory! (3-4 credits)

Video Production – 15 credits

- JMP 2400: Video Editing (3 credits)
- JMP 2420: Video Production I (3 credits)
- JMP 3420: Video Production II (3 credits)
- JMP 4420: Video Production III (3 credits)
- JMP 3425: Role of the Video Producer (3 credits)

Writing for the Screen – 3 credits (choose 1 course)

- JMP 3440: Scriptwriting for Video (3 credits)
- ENG 382F: Screenwriting Studio (3 credits)

*Many ENG courses changed from 3 to 4 credits in 2025-6. Talk to your IDP advisor if you have any questions.

The following are strongly recommended elective courses that are also outlined in the recommended degree plan:

- ENG 3720: Film and Media Studies Topics: Variable Topic (3-4 credits)
- ENG 3722: Native American Cinema (3-4 credits)
- ENG 3770: Multicultural Cinema (3 credits)
- JMP 2800: Introduction to Audio Production (3 credits)
- JMP 3431: Video Director (3 credits)
- JMP 3485: Motion Graphics I (3 credits)
- JMP 3980: Internship (3 credits)
- JMP 4890: Social Documentary (3)
- THE 2210 Introduction to Theatre (3 credits)
- THE 2220 Acting I (3 credits)
- THE 3202: Voice Over (3 credits)
- THE 3232: Acting for the Camera (3 credits)

Total Major Credits: 48+ credit hours, 27 upper division credit hours

Total Credits to graduate: 120+ credit hours, 39 upper division credit hours