The Film and Video Studies Program offers a 120-credit multidisciplinary BA degree, which spans many units including Art and Visual Technology, Communication, Computer Game Design, Global Affairs, English, Art History, Music, and Theater. Students study film and video production, film theory and criticism, emerging technologies in film, ethics, screenwriting, and business practices in the film industry.

The vocabulary of film (broadly defined) pervades the intellectual, cultural, political, and social landscape. The craft of film-making includes fictional storytelling through genre, documentary and nonfiction, collaborative production with community organizations, the application of academic research, engagement with sound recording and sound design, and personal and poetic expression. Emerging technologies, the expansion of serialized content and changing face of television, and mobile viewing engage both the means of production and reception. This combination of factors makes film an important area for academic inquiry and professional and artistic training.

Faculty

Program Faculty
Program Director
Giovanna Chesler

Program Faculty
Britt, Charles, Chesler, Kraus, Steger, Thrasher

Affiliated Faculty
Fuchs, Hinton, Kehoe, McDonald, Murray, Wood

Requirements & Policies

Requirements

Portfolio
Admission to Film and Video Studies (FAVS) is considered separately from admission to the university and only by portfolio review. Information about the portfolio process, including submission due dates and portfolio application requirements, can be found on the program’s website (http://favs.gmu.edu) or by calling the FAVS office at 703-993-3287. Admission to the university is determined by the Admissions Office.

Writing-Intensive
The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated “writing-intensive” in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students seeking a BA in film and video studies fulfill this requirement by completing ENGH 373 Film and Video Forms, FAVS 470 Film and Video Screenwriting, FAVS 498 Creative Producing and Development or THR 482 Advanced Screenplay Workshop.

Policies

Upper-Level Credits
All undergraduate students are required to complete a minimum of 45 credits of upper-division courses at the 300-499 level.

Termination from the Major
No Film and Video Studies course that is required for the major may be unsuccessfully attempted more than three times. A grade lower than a C constitutes an unsuccessful attempt in any given course. Those students who do not successfully complete such a course within three attempts will be terminated from the major. For more information, see the “Termination from the Major” section under AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

Academic Policies
Please see College of Visual and Performing Arts for college academic policies.

Programs

• Film and Video Studies, BA