FILM AND VIDEO STUDIES (FAVS)

100 Level Courses

FAVS 100: Film and Video Studies Colloquium. 1 credit.
Students are exposed to the film and video industry through film professionals. Students are required to attend all sessions, review the speaker's materials prior to the class, prepare questions, and complete written critiques. Notes: Only 2 credits of C or better may be applied to the degree. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 5 credits.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 225: The History of World Cinema. 3 credits.
This course is a survey of the history of cinema. It explores the development of world cinema from its beginnings in the late nineteenth century to the 1990s. The course will enable students to comprehend the evolution of the history and language of cinema in order to connect the art of filmmaking with the "outside forces" (i.e., the economic institutions, key figures, historical events and social issues) that profoundly shape and influence it. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Mason Core: Arts

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 250: Business of Film and Video. 3 credits.
This course provides an overview of the film industry from a business perspective. Students learn basic business practices, film financing, business plans, film distribution, and management and marketing techniques appropriate for the film industry. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit. Equivalent to FAVS 355.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 255: Video Production for Film. 3 credits.
This course is a hands-on methods course in video production for film. Through practice, reading, film viewing and discussions, you will be introduced to the art and activity of digital filmmaking across film genres. Students must complete reading, writing, and production assignments that justify and plan for their creative choices. Handouts describing projects, expectations and evaluative criteria will be provided. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit. Equivalent to COMM 355.

Schedule Type: Lecture

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 280: Writing for the Moving Image. 3 credits.
This course is an introduction to writing for the moving image through lecture, discussion, and critiques of exercises and written works. By the end of the semester, each student will have produced a variety of analyses and/or blueprints for creative moving image projects including short fiction, commercial advertisement, scripted television, collaborative fiction, short non-fiction reality programming, and other forms. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture

200 Level Courses

FAVS 255: Business of Film and Video. 3 credits.
This course provides an overview of the film industry from a business perspective. Students learn basic business practices, film financing, business plans, film distribution, and management and marketing techniques appropriate for the film industry. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit. Equivalent to FAVS 355.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 255: Video Production for Film. 3 credits.
This course is a hands-on methods course in video production for film. Through practice, reading, film viewing and discussions, you will be introduced to the art and activity of digital filmmaking across film genres. Students must complete reading, writing, and production assignments that justify and plan for their creative choices. Handouts describing projects, expectations and evaluative criteria will be provided. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit. Equivalent to COMM 355.

Schedule Type: Lecture

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 300: Global Horror Film. 3 credits.
Taking an historical approach through various national and international cinemas, the course begins with horror film's literary and theatrical origins and traces its development into a modern (and postmodern) form of universal storytelling. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Mason Core: Global Understanding

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 311: Producing I. 3 credits.
Provides students with the basics of film producing. Students gain creative, business, and legal skills needed to develop, produce and sell an independent, commercially viable motion picture film. Students engage with writing treatments, script breakdown, pitching, budgeting, creating shooting schedules, financing, hiring and managing cast and crew, and other areas in producing. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisites: AVT 204C and (FAVS 255C, COMM 355C or 208C).
C Requires minimum grade of C.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 331: Cinematography. 3 credits.
This course aims to recreate a professional camera department environment. By the end of the course, students should be able to understand and perform the function of first assistant cameraperson or second assistant cameraperson on a camera crew. Students will understand the history, function, art, craft, and science of cinematography. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisites: AVT 204C and (FAVS 255C, COMM 355C or 208C).
C Requires minimum grade of C.
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 333: Sound Editing and Recording.** 3 credits.
This course instructs students on the theories, techniques and technologies pertaining to recording audio in the field and studio and to audio editing and mixing for film and video. The course will be lecture based with practical lab and field exercises applying concepts and equipment presented during the lecture. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** AVT 204 \(^C\) and (FAVS 255 \(^C\), COMM 355 \(^C\) or 208 \(^C\)).
\(^C\) Requires minimum grade of C.

Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 335: Sound and Lighting for Film and Video.** 3 credits.
This course will instruct students on the theories, techniques, and technologies pertaining to recording audio and lighting scenes in both field and studio video productions. The course will be lecture based with practical lab styled exercises reinforcing topics presented during lecture. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Recommended Prerequisite:** COMM 355 or permission of instructor.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 352: Ethics of Film and Video.** 3 credits.
An examination of ethical issues associated with image production and consumption. Topics include the technological development of the film apparatus, privacy, the pursuit of objectivity, excess, consent, and representing others. All issues highlight the increasingly sophisticated and powerful role of film and media authorship. Students will develop a more complex view of the ethics of screen representation (both fiction and nonfiction) and be encouraged to take stock of the ethics of their own media literacy. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Mason Core:** Synthesis

**Recommended Prerequisite:** Completion or concurrent enrollment in all other required Mason Core courses and completion of 21 credits within the FAVS program.

**Registration Restrictions:**
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 356: Film Marketing.** 3 credits.
Provides students with a variety of film and television marketing business strategies and creative skills, including publicity, press kits, advertising, trailers, poster design, film credits, box art, branding, licensing & merchandising, and distribution. As aspiring media entrepreneurs, students learn to professionally manage their careers whether in low-budget independent film or Hollywood blockbuster tracks via self-promotion & publicity. 201770 Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** FAVS 250 \(^C\) or 355 \(^C\).

\(^C\) Requires minimum grade of C.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 357: New Media and Film Distribution.** 3 credits.
This course explores how emerging media technologies function and how the film and video firms are changing with the advent of new media technologies. Through research and guided projects, students learn how new media technologies are altering the financing, distribution, exhibition, and marketing of films and videos. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Recommended Prerequisite:** FAVS 250 or other business course as approved by instructor.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 365: Documentary Filmmaking.** 3 credits.
An introduction to documentary filmmaking in which each student makes a short digital documentary, from concept development to finished piece. The class covers essential technical skills, emerging styles of nonfiction film, and documentary storytelling techniques. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** AVT 204 \(^C\), FAVS 250 \(^C\) and 280 \(^C\) and (FAVS 255 \(^C\), COMM 355 \(^C\) or 208 \(^C\)).
\(^C\) Requires minimum grade of C.

Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 375: Fiction Film Directing.** 3 credits.
This course examines techniques for directing fiction films. Students study the directorial approaches of a variety of directors by viewing and critiquing classic films. Students learn about the director's role in each stage of film production. Students shoot, direct and edit fictional scenes and sequences intended to develop and convey the beginnings of the authorial signatures. Notes: Intended for Film and Video Studies majors only. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** AVT 204 \(^C\), FAVS 250 \(^C\) and 280 \(^C\) and (FAVS 255 \(^C\), COMM 355 \(^C\) or 208 \(^C\)).
\(^C\) Requires minimum grade of C.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**FAVS 378: Web Series.** 3 credits.
A production course that explores the creative and logistical process of creating a fiction series for the web. Production techniques for web series will be explored, including permissions, contracts, and budgets for web development. The course will consider and study successful web series and explore contemporary discussions and professional organizations centered on web series. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** AVT 204 \(^C\), FAVS 250 \(^C\) and 280 \(^C\) and (FAVS 255 \(^C\), COMM 355 \(^C\) or 208 \(^C\)).
\(^C\) Requires minimum grade of C.

Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.
films, as well as commercials. The course will combine lectures, technologies pertaining to video editing for fiction and documentary directors, and organizers of video production facilities on campus. Practical knowledge in studio and field productions. Students complete a minimum 150 hours of work as assistants to engineers, producers, & directors. 

FAVS 453: Film and Video Studies Pedagogy and Principles. 3 credits. Theory and practice in facilitating the learning of principles and skills in film and video. Students work as instructor aids under the supervision of a faculty member. Activities include facilitating small group activities and individually critiquing classroom performances. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Recommended Prerequisite: Declared FAVS major. Student must have successfully completed the course they will facilitate with a grade of B or better, have comparable experience, or receive permission from the instructor.

Schedule Type: Internship

FAVS 455: Studio and Field Productions Practicum. 3 credits. Practical knowledge in studio and field productions. Students complete a minimum 150 hours of work as assistants to engineers, producers, directors, and organizers of video production facilities on campus. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Recommended Prerequisite: COMM 355 and permission of instructor.

Schedule Type: Internship

FAVS 460: Advanced Video Editing. 3 credits. This course will instruct students on the theories, techniques and technologies pertaining to video editing for fiction and documentary films, as well as commercials. The course will combine lectures, discussions, and demonstrations with hands on projects. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisites: FAVS 260C or COMM 360C.
Requires minimum grade of C.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 470: Film and Video Screenwriting. 3 credits. The purpose of this course is to build a strong foundation in fundamental, narrative, screenwriting techniques for film. Students will learn how to express their unique story ideas through character development, plot and dialogue. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Specialized Designation: Writing Intensive in the Major

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisite: FAVS 280C.
Requires minimum grade of C.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 483: Feature-Length Scriptwriting. 3 credits. This course is an introduction to the development and analysis of feature length screenplays. The approach combines lecture, discussion, screening and presentation of student work. By the end of the semester, each student should have a complete first draft of an original screenplay. Students will also complete story reports/coverage reports of screenplays by other writers. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Recommended Prerequisite: FAVS 470 or THR 482 or permission of instructor.

Schedule Type: Independent Study

FAVS 490: Independent Study. 1-6 credits. Independent research on specific project under direction of selected faculty member. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Independent Study

FAVS 496: Advanced Visual Storytelling. 3 credits. A culminating seminar devoted to analyzing and synthesizing knowledge and skills gained through undergraduate course work in the screenwriting concentration, resulting in substantial individualized writing projects. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Mason Core: Capstone

Specialized Designation: Writing Intensive in the Major

Recommended Prerequisite: AVT 204, FAVS 250, FAVS 255 or COMM 355, FAVS 280, FAVS 483, and THR 482 or FAVS 470. Must be a senior.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture
FAVS 497: Senior Film Practicum. 3 credits.
A senior capstone course for students in the Production/Post-Production and Producing concentration. Students put their area of focus (cinematography, editing, sound design, producing, etc.) into practice. Students play a key role in film projects directed by other students throughout the semester. This course includes a written/research component. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Mason Core: Capstone

Recommended Prerequisite: AVT 204, FAVS 260 or COMM 360, FAVS 250, FAVS 255 or COMM 355, and FAVS 280. Must be a senior.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 498: Creative Producing and Development. 3 credits.
An introduction to the creative process of researching and developing material for film and video for senior projects. The course examines evaluating and developing existing literary material, documentary work, and/or fictional material. Notes: Must have permission of instructor. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Specialized Designation: Writing Intensive in the Major

Recommended Prerequisite: Must have all lower-level FAVS Core Courses and Concentration Requirements completed. Must be a senior and have permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 499: Senior Project. 3 credits.
Culminating capstone course in producing and directing that results in the completion of a senior project and related written and visual promotional materials. A senior project in Directing and Producing is constituted by a short fiction or documentary film, webseries episode(s) or parallel film project with a running time of 15 minutes or less. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Mason Core: Capstone

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisite: FAVS 498C.
C Requires minimum grade of C.

Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Film and Video Studies.

Schedule Type: Lecture

500 Level Courses

FAVS 535: Sound and Lighting. 3 credits.
This course will instruct students on the theories, techniques, and technologies pertaining to recording audio and lighting scenes in both field and studio video productions. The course will be lecture based with practical lab styled exercises reinforcing topics presented during lecture. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Recommended Prerequisite: Admission to the MAIS in Film and Video Studies or permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 550: Internship. 3 credits.
On-the-job training in film and video studies through approved fieldwork study programs. Internships are arranged and supervised by the FAVS director. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Internship

FAVS 556: Documentary Filmmaking. 3 credits.
A documentary filmmaking workshop in which each student makes a short digital documentary, from concept development to finished piece. The class covers essential technical skills, emerging styles of nonfiction film, and documentary storytelling techniques. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Recommended Prerequisite: Admission to the MAIS in Film and Video Studies or permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 570: Screenwriting. 3 credits.
Screenwriting course emphasizing student development in screenplay form, structure, and storytelling with emphasis on craft, character, and story culminating in a screenplay. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Recommended Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree or equivalent, or permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.
Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 575: Fiction Film Directing. 3 credits.
This course examines techniques for directing fiction films. Students study the directorial approaches of a variety of directors by viewing and critiquing classic films. Students learn about the director's role in each stage of film production. Students shoot, direct and edit fictional scenes and sequences intended to develop and convey the beginnings of the authorial signatures. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May not be repeated for credit.

Recommended Prerequisite: Admission to the MAIS in Film and Video Studies or permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Lecture

FAVS 590: Independent Study. 1-6 credits.
Independent research on specific project under direction of selected faculty member. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Recommended Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree or equivalent or permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Independent Study

FAVS 597: Independent Production. 1-3 credits.
Media or creative production activities under direction of faculty member. Requires completed production; written report, oral exam may be required. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Independent Study

FAVS 598: Seminar in Film and Video Studies. 3 credits.
Develop tools and techniques for successful pursuit of a career in film and media tools and projects. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

Recommended Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree or equivalent, or permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Seminar

FAVS 599: Special Topics. 1-6 credits.
In-depth presentation and exploration of topical studies. Notes: Subject matter varies. May be repeated when taken under different topics. Offered by Coll Visual & Performing Arts. May be repeated within the term for a maximum 9 credits.

Recommended Prerequisite: Undergraduate degree or equivalent, or permission of instructor.

Registration Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Non Degree or Senior Plus.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate, Non-Degree or Undergraduate level students.

Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

Schedule Type: Seminar