FILM AND VIDEO STUDIES, BA

Banner Code: AR-BA-FAVS

Lori Yi, Academic Advisor

C100 College Hall
Fairfax Campus

Phone: 703-993-3287
Email: film@gmu.edu
Website: film.gmu.edu

The Film and Video Studies degree is the first multidisciplinary undergraduate degree in Virginia focusing on cinematic arts production and film theory and history with core courses in ethics, business, writing for the moving image, fiction, documentary, interactive storytelling and episodic television.

Students complete courses in the Film Core. To fine-tune their craft, students select advanced courses of study from four concentrations:

- Directing
- Producing
- Production/Post-Production (Cinematography or Editing/Sound)
- Screenwriting

Each concentration includes a capstone experience wherein students are mentored by faculty on original projects in their senior year that prepare them for work in the cinematic arts.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

All students are admitted to the Film program separately from their admission to the university and only by portfolio review.

Policies

Major GPA

All Film and Video Studies undergraduate students must earn a minimum grade of C in all courses in their major.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP5 Undergraduate Policies (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/). See College of Visual and Performing Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/visual-performing-arts/) for policies specific to the college.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: 120

Students must earn a minimum grade of C in all required Film degree courses.

Mason Core

Film majors may not double-count Literature and Art courses toward both the Film major and Mason Core requirements. The synthesis requirement is part of the Film core requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGH 101</td>
<td>Composition (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGH 302</td>
<td>Advanced Composition (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exploration Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Understanding</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Civilization/World History</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 37

1 Nonnative speakers of English with limited proficiency in the language may substitute ENGH 100 Composition for Multilingual Writers (Mason Core) for ENGH 101 Composition (Mason Core). Students must attain a minimum grade of C in ENGH 100 Composition for Multilingual Writers (Mason Core) or ENGH 101 Composition (Mason Core), as well as ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Mason Core), to fulfill degree requirements.

2 including one laboratory science

Major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AVT 204</td>
<td>Visual Thinking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGH 373</td>
<td>Film and Video Forms</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 225</td>
<td>The History of World Cinema (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 250</td>
<td>Business of Film and Television</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 255</td>
<td>Video Production for Film</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 280</td>
<td>Writing for the Moving Image</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 311</td>
<td>Producing I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FAVS 352 Ethics of Film and Video (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) 3
FAVS 400 Career Development Seminar 3
FAVS 450 Internship in Film and Video Studies 3

**Analysis, History, Theory**

Choose one course from the following: 3

- AVT 377 Cyberpunk
- COMM 380 Media Criticism
- COMM 399 Special Topics in Communication 1
- ENGH 370 Introduction to Documentary (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- ENGH 371 Television Studies
- ENGH 372 Introduction to Film (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- ENGH 470 RS: Topics in Film/Media History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- ENGH 472 Topics in Film/Media Theory
- ENGH 474 Topics in Film/Media Studies
- FAVS 399 Special Topics in Film and Video Studies 1
- HIST 389 Topics in U.S. History 1
- HIST 393 Topics in Film and History
- MUSI 301 Music in Motion Pictures (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- THR 411 Great Film Directors (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- THR 412 Great Film Performances (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Diversity of Perspectives**

Choose one course from the following: 3

- ARAB 360 Topics in Arabic Cultural Production
- COMM 365 Gender, Race, and Class in the Media
- COMM 399 Special Topics in Communication 1
- ENGH 318 Introduction to Cultural Studies 1
- ENGH 362 Global Voices (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) 1
- ENGH 418 Cultural Constructions of Sexualities
- FAVS 300 Global Horror Film (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- FAVS 399 Special Topics in Film and Video Studies 1
- FREN 470 French and Francophone Cinema
- FRLN 331 Topics in World Cinema
- HIST 357 Postwar Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- INTS 347 Gender Representation in Popular Culture (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- JAPA 320 Japanese Cinema
- RELI 362 Religion and Film
- WMST 300 Current Issues in Women and Gender Studies 1
- WMST 450 Current Topics in Women and Gender Studies 1

Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Concentration**

Select one of the following concentrations: 30

- Directing
- Producing
- Production and Post-Production
- Screenwriting

Total Credits 66

1 Must be approved by Program Director.

2 May not be used to fulfill Mason Core.

**Concentration in Directing (DIR)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fundamental Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 260</td>
<td>Video Editing for Film</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 331</td>
<td>Cinematography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 333</td>
<td>Sound Editing and Recording</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fundamental Electives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 356</td>
<td>Film Marketing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 460</td>
<td>Advanced Video Editing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 431</td>
<td>Advanced Cinematography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 433</td>
<td>Advanced Sound</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 380</td>
<td>TV Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 483</td>
<td>Feature-Length Scriptwriting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVT 382</td>
<td>2D Experimental Animation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVT 383</td>
<td>3D Experimental Animation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 301</td>
<td>Music in Motion Pictures (Mason Core)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THR 210</td>
<td>Acting I (Mason Core)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Authoring Courses**

- FAVS 365 Documentary Filmmaking 3
- FAVS 375 Fiction Film Directing 3

**Authoring Electives**

Choose two courses from the following: 6

- FAVS 312 Film Lab
- FAVS 366 Video Production for Social Change
- FAVS 377 Interactive Storytelling for Social Change
- FAVS 378 Web Series
- FAVS 399 Special Topics in Film and Video Studies 1
- FAVS 475 Advanced Fiction Directing
- AVT 390 Video Art
- AVT 457 Documentary Directing
- THR 329 Directing
- THR 340 Advanced Studies in Directing

Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Required Core**

- FAVS 498 Development for Senior Project 3
Concentration in Producing (PRD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 260</td>
<td>Video Editing for Film</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 356</td>
<td>Film Marketing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 380</td>
<td>TV Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fundamental Electives**

Select two courses from the following:

- AMGT 471 Introduction to Grant Writing
- BULE 303 Legal Environment of Business
- COMM 305 Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- COMM 204 Introduction to Public Relations
- COMM 350 Mass Communication and Public Policy
- COMM 359 Media Management
- COMM 375 Mass Communication Advertising and Promotions
- COMM 430 Persuasion
- COMM 435 Digital Communication
- FAVS 331 Cinematography
- INTS 404 Ethics and Leadership
- INTS 405 Women and Leadership
- INTS 431 Principles of Fund Raising
- INTS 435 Leadership in a Changing Environment
- MBUS 301 Managing People and Organizations in a Global Economy
- MBUS 304 Entrepreneurship: Starting and Managing a New Enterprise
- MBUS 305 Introduction to International Business (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Authoring Courses**

- FAVS 312 Film Lab                               | 3       |
- FAVS 375 Fiction Film Directing                 | 3       |

**Authoring Electives**

Choose two courses from the following:

- FAVS 365 Documentary Filmmaking
- FAVS 366 Video Production for Social Change
- FAVS 377 Interactive Storytelling for Social Change
- FAVS 378 Web Series
- FAVS 399 Special Topics in Film and Video Studies [superscript 1]
- FAVS 475 Advanced Fiction Directing

Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Required Core**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 499</td>
<td>Senior Project (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Concentration in Production and Post Production (PROP)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 260</td>
<td>Video Editing for Film</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 331</td>
<td>Cinematography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 333</td>
<td>Sound Editing and Recording</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fundamental Electives**

Choose four courses from the following:

- ARTH 101 Introduction to the Visual Arts (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- or ARTH 102 Symbols and Stories in Art (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- or ARTH 200 History of Western Art I (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- or ARTH 201 History of Western Art II (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- or ARTH 203 Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- or ARTH 204 Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- or ARTH 206 Survey of African Art (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- AVT 252 Darkroom Photography I (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- AVT 253 Digital Photography I (Mason Core) [link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
- AVT 311 Graphic Design Methods and Principles
- AVT 328 Mixed Media
- AVT 354 Digital Photography II
- AVT 356 Photo Studio Techniques
- AVT 374 Sound Art I
- AVT 382 2D Experimental Animation
- AVT 383 3D Experimental Animation
- AVT 390 Video Art
- AVT 411 Motion Design
- AVT 458 Advanced Studio Lighting
- AVT 474 Sound Art II
- COMM 358 Multi-Camera Studio Production
- COMM 364 Videography
- COMM 366 Visual Communication
- COMM 397 Special Topics in Production [superscript 1]
- FAVS 399 Special Topics in Film and Video Studies [superscript 1]
- GAME 231 Computer Animation for Games
- GAME 250 Music for Film and Video
- GAME 398 Advanced Game Design Animation

1. Must be approved by Program Director.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| MUSI 301 | Music in Motion Pictures (Mason Core)  
(http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) |         |
| MUSI 355 | Recording Techniques                                                   |         |
| MUSI 359 | Topics in Music Technology                                             |         |
| THR 230 | Fundamentals of Production (Mason Core)  
(http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) |         |
| THR 313 | Event Technical Production                                             |         |
| THR 314 | Lighting Stagecraft                                                   |         |
| THR 315 | Sound Engineering                                                     |         |
| THR 333 | Scenic Design                                                         |         |
| THR 334 | Lighting Design                                                       |         |
| THR 337 | Sound Design                                                          |         |
| THR 339 | Principles of Design                                                  |         |
| THR 342 | Makeup Design                                                         |         |
| THR 343 | Costume Technology                                                    |         |
| THR 415 | Advanced Sound Engineering                                            |         |
| THR 434 | Advanced Lighting Design                                              |         |
| Other courses as approved by Program Director                       |         |

**Authoring Electives**

Choose one course from the following: 3

- FAVS 312  Film Lab
- FAVS 365  Documentary Filmmaking
- FAVS 366  Video Production for Social Change
- FAVS 375  Fiction Film Directing
- FAVS 377  Interactive Storytelling for Social Change
- FAVS 378  Web Series
- FAVS 380  TV Writing
- FAVS 483  Feature-Length Scriptwriting
- FAVS 399  Special Topics in Film and Video Studies
- AVT 390  Video Art
- AVT 457  Documentary Photography
- Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Advanced Skills Electives**

Choose one course from the following: 3

- FAVS 431  Advanced Cinematography
- FAVS 460  Advanced Video Editing
- FAVS 433  Advanced Sound
- Other courses as approved by Program Director

**Required Core**

- FAVS 497  Senior Film Practicum (Mason Core)  
(http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)  3

**Total Credits** 30

---

**Concentration in Screenwriting (SCWR)**

**Elective Course in English**

Select one course from the following: 3

- ENGH 377  Digital Creative Writing
- ENGH 386  Editing for Audience, Style, and Voice
- ENGH 398  Fiction Writing
- ENGH 399  Creative Nonfiction Writing
- ENGH 492  Advanced Fiction Writing Workshop
- ENGH 493  Advanced Workshop in Nonfiction
- ENGH 497  Topics in Creative Writing
- Or other courses as approved by Program Director

**Elective Course in Computer Game Design or Communication**

Choose one course from the following: 3

- COMM 303  Writing across the Media
- COMM 397  Special Topics in Production
- COMM 399  Special Topics in Communication
- GAME 332  RS: Story Design for Computer Games
- GAME 399  Special Topics in Game Design
- Or other courses as approved by Program Director

**Elective Course in Film and Video Studies**

Choose two courses from the following: 6

- FAVS 260  Video Editing for Film
- FAVS 312  Film Lab
- FAVS 365  Documentary Filmmaking
- FAVS 366  Video Production for Social Change
- FAVS 375  Fiction Film Directing
- FAVS 377  Interactive Storytelling for Social Change
- FAVS 378  Web Series
- FAVS 399  Special Topics in Film and Video Studies
- Or other courses as approved by Program Director

**Elective Courses in Theater**

Choose two courses from the following: 6

- THR 380  Playwriting I
- THR 381  Playwriting II
- THR 480  Advanced Playwriting
- THR 482  Advanced Screenplay Workshop
- THR 484  Translation Adaptation for Stage Screen
- Or other courses as approved by Program Director

**Required Core**

- FAVS 496  Advanced Visual Storytelling (Mason Core)  
(http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)  3

**Total Credits** 30

---

1 Must be approved by Program Director.
General Electives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students must use general electives to complete a minor, a double major or double degree outside their primary major field of study (15-21 credits) or demonstrate intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language (0-9 credits). After fulfilling one of these options, the remaining general electives may be taken inside or outside of the department.</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 17

4-Year Plan

Bachelor of Arts in Film and Video Studies

The sample plan below is a recommended sequencing of courses based on prerequisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student's needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor and with PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 255 or 280</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>FAVS 255 or 280</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 250 or 225</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>AVT 204 or Mason Core</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGH 100/1 or Oral Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mason Core</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mason Core</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGH 100/1 or Oral Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 311 or FAVS Analysis, History Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>FAVS 311 or FAVS Analysis, History Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS Diversity of Perspective or Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>FAVS Diversity of Perspective or Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mason Core (Literature)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGH 302</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAVS 300 Global Horror or Mason Core (Global Understanding)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mason Core</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mason Core (Non-lab Science)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mason Core (Lab Science)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Third Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGH 373 or FAVS 352</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGH 373 or FAVS 352</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Film Concentration or FAVS 450 Internship¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor or Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Minor or Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor or Foreign Language</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Minor or Foreign Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fourth Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Film Concentration or FAVS 450 Internship¹</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>FAVS 496/497/499 Senior Project</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor or Foreign Language or Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Minor or General Elective or Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor or General Elective or Film Concentration</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Minor or General Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor or General Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Minor or General Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 121

¹ FAVS 450 is recommended for the summer between Junior and Senior year.

Detailed four year plans and degree planning checklists can be found at https://advising.gmu.edu/current-student/majors-at-mason/.