The Film and Video Studies (FAVS) Program offers a multidisciplinary Bachelor of Arts degree in cinematic arts production. We emphasize Directing, Producing, Cinematography, Screenwriting, Sound Design and Editing along with business, ethics, history, and theory of film and media. Students engage with many genres of cinematic storytelling including short fiction, documentary, video art, television, web series and interactive video.

Students take most of their courses in Film and Video Studies with additional coursework in Film and Media Studies, Art, Communication, Computer Game Design, Music, Theater, and many other departments. Students engage with emerging technologies alongside entrepreneurship and industry standards to prepare for our vibrant, ever-changing field. Screening events, guest lectures, pitching competitions, and location production-work provide experiential learning.

The Film and Video Studies Program is grounded in flexible thinking, critical engagement, interpersonal communication, regional storytelling. We emphasize diversity in perspectives and socially conscious storytelling, and are organized around and committed to inclusive film practices. Graduates from the program apply their skills on film sets, in corporate environments, and with community organizations with professionalism that is creative, entrepreneurial, and adaptable.

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 380 TV Writing, FAVS 498 Development for Senior Project or THR 482 Advanced Screenplay Workshop.

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

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