FILM AND VIDEO STUDIES (FAVS)

100 Level Courses

FAVS 110: Reading and Making Media. 3 credits.
This course provides the foundations for students to become critical, anti-racist consumers and savvy, ethical producers of digital, visual, and audio media. Students will learn to identify and analyze formal elements of films, television, commercials, and user-generated content (such as YouTube videos and gifs). At the same time, students will develop technical aspects of media production, including videography, sound recording, and video/sound editing. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

FAVS 204: Ways of Seeing: Perception, Form and Film. 3 credits.
Explore how the way we see determines the images we make. The course traces connections between 17th century oil painting and 21st century post-modern film, and examines the effects of filmic sound, video diaries, and diasporic filmmaking. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Mason Core: Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

FAVS 225: Introduction to World Cinema. 3 credits.
This course explores examples of many kinds of films from around the world, including documentary, fiction, and experimental. Students will learn to analyze film language and structures, with attention to cinema’s many contexts, including economic institutions, historical events, political and social issues that shape and are shaped by movies. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Mason Core: Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

FAVS 250: Business of Film and Television. 3 credits.
This course provides an overview of the film & television industry from a business perspective. Students learn basic filmed entertainment business practices and protocol, including film financing, copyright & trademark, anti-trust, trademark, IP licensing, Agents & Managers, Entertainment Unions & Guilds, film distribution, and marketing techniques. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

200 Level Courses

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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Recommended Prerequisite: FAVS 255 or COMM 208

Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

FAVS 260: Video Editing for Film. 3 credits.
This course will instruct on the theories and technical expertise pertaining to video editing by utilizing various video editing software. The course will combine lectures, discussions, and demonstrations with hands on projects. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Mason Core: Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Mason Core: Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

Schedule Type: Lecture

Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

300 Level Courses

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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.
**Mason Core:** Global Understanding (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 304: Ways of Thinking: Film, TV, and Beyond.** 3 credits.
We analyze formal elements of fiction films/videos, documentaries, and TV, and develop analytical writing skills, with an emphasis on collaboration. We consider the choices and processes of filmic storytelling, understanding film in multiple contexts, including production and distribution industries, political, cultural, and commercial systems. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts. Equivalent to ENGH 373.

**Specialized Designation:** Writing Intensive in Major

**Recommended Prerequisite:** ENGH 302 or HNRS 360 or HNRS 361

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Registration Restrictions:**
Required Prerequisites: (FAVS 250C or 250XS).
C Requires minimum grade of C.
XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

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

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 312: Film Lab.** 3 credits.
A hands-on producing class where students take roles as producers, assistant directors, location managers, script supervisors, production and costume designers, casting assistants, etc. in the development, pre-production, and production of a scripted short film. The course moves from development through production in an apprentice style environment with a seasoned director. This gives students “real-world” experience in independent film production. Offered by Film & Video Studies. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 9 credits.

**Registration Restrictions:**
Required Prerequisites: ((FAVS 311C or 311XS) and (FAVS 255C or 255XS)).
C Requires minimum grade of C.
XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 320: Afroturfuturism and Their Kin.** 3 credits.
This course is an introduction to the cinematic genre of Afrofuturism, or Black Speculative Culture, also exploring the sub-genre lenses of Black horror and fantasy. Reading science fiction, horror, fantasy, and other imaginative narrative tropes, we’ll consider how the myriad societal fears regarding race intersect with violence. We’ll engage philosophies around horror that analyze tensions between conjurings of ‘monstrosities’ and the ways in which racial identity is constructed and consumed. As these artists re-envision the Black diasporic past, present, and future, they present alternative visions of the futures of blackness. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Mason Core:** Global Understanding (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

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

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

**Schedule Type:** Lecture, Recitation

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Recommended Prerequisite:** FAVS 204 and FAVS 255 or permission of instructor

**Registration Restrictions:**
Enrollment is limited to students with a major, minor, or concentration in Audio Production or Film and Video Studies.
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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Mason Core: Synthesis (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

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

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisites: (ENGH 302C, 302XS, HNRS 360C, 360XS, 361C or 361XS) and (FAVS 250C or 250XS) and (FAVS 255C or 255XS) and (FAVS 280C or 280XS).  
C Requires minimum grade of C.  
XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

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

Schedule Type: Lecture
Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

Registration Restrictions:
Required Prerequisites: (FAVS 250C or 250XS) and (FAVS 260C or 260XS) and (FAVS 280C or 280XS) and (FAVS 255C or 255XS).  
C Requires minimum grade of C.  
XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

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

Schedule Type: Lecture
Grading:
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** (FAVS 250^C or 250^XS) and (FAVS 280^C or 280^XS) and (FAVS 255^C or 255^XS).
^C Requires minimum grade of C.
^XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 377: Interactive Storytelling for Social Change.** 3 credits.
Students study the craft of interactive and transmedia storytelling while producing media projects for impact and action. Transmedia is a way of telling stories across media platforms, for both fiction and non-fiction. This allows creators to engage television and film audiences for greater impact. Students will study interactivity as a readily used marketing tool in the film and television industry. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** (FAVS 255^C or 255^XS) and (FAVS 280^C or 280^XS).
^C Requires minimum grade of C.
^XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 399: Special Topics in Film and Video Studies.** 1-3 credits.
In-depth presentation and exploration of topical studies. Notes: Subject matter varies. May be repeated when taken under different topics. Offered by Film & Video Studies. May be repeated within the term for a maximum of 12 credits.

**Specialized Designation:** Topic Varies

**Schedule Type:** Lec/Sem #1, Lec/Sem #2, Lec/Sem #3, Lec/Sem #4, Lec/Sem #5, Lec/Sem #6, Lec/Sem #7, Lec/Sem #8, Lec/Sem #9, Lecture, Sem/Lec #10, Sem/Lec #11, Sem/Lec #12, Sem/Lec #13, Sem/Lec #14, Sem/Lec #15, Sem/Lec #16, Sem/Lec #17, Sem/Lec #18

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**400 Level Courses**

**FAVS 400: Career Development Seminar.** 3 credits.
This course prepares students for a career in the film and video industry beyond the university. Students complete a professionally reviewed resume, cover letter, and experience a formalized interview. Students prepare a written grant proposal and pitch a film project with professional advisors. This class fosters development of a professional online presence and strengthens students’ communication techniques in public speaking. Offered by Film & Video Studies. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum of 6 credits.

**Registration Restrictions:**
**Required Prerequisites:** FAVS 280^C or 280^XS.
^C Requires minimum grade of C.
^XS Requires minimum grade of XS.

**Schedule Type:** Seminar

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)
Advanced Cinematography explores digital cinematography, its advantages and limitations. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Registration Restrictions:**

**Required Prerequisites:** FAVS 331\(^C\) or 331\(^XS\).

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

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

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

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**

This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 433: Advanced Sound.** 3 credits.

Students will learn about advanced fundamental theory, tools, and techniques needed to create and/or implement sound for film. We will utilize the industry standard software Pro Tools. Students will learn nonlinear sound editing, digital audio processing, frequency manipulation, synthesized sound techniques and mixing. We will focus on the power of sound and the contributions it can make not only in enhancing the visuals of a film but in contributing to telling the story within itself. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Registration Restrictions:**

**Required Prerequisites:** FAVS 333\(^C\) or 333\(^XS\).

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

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

Enrollment is limited to students with a major, minor, or concentration in Audio Production or Film and Video Studies.

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**

This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 450: Internship in Film and Video Studies.** 3 credits.

On-the-job training in film and video through approved fieldwork programs. Internships are approved and supervised by the Film at Mason Faculty. Offered by Film & Video Studies. May be repeated within the degree for a maximum 6 credits.

**Recommended Prerequisite:** 75 earned credits, 15 credits in core/elective Film major courses, and permission of the Internship Coordinator.

**Schedule Type:** Internship

**Grading:**

This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Registration Restrictions:**

**Required Prerequisites:** FAVS 260\(^C\) or 260\(^XS\).

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

\(^XS\) Requires minimum grade of XS.
writing projects. Offered by Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Mason Core:** Capstone (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

**Specialized Designation:** Writing Intensive in Major

**Recommended Prerequisite:** FAVS 204, FAVS 250, FAVS 255, and FAVS 280.

**Registration Restrictions:**
- **Required Prerequisites:** FAVS 483\(^C\) or 483\(^{XS}\).
  - \(C\) Requires minimum grade of C.
  - \(XS\) Requires minimum grade of XS.

Enrollment limited to students with a class of Senior Plus or Senior.

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

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 497: Senior Film Practicum.** 3 credits.

A senior capstone course for students in the Production/Post-Production and Producing concentration. Students put their areas 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 Film & Video Studies. Limited to three attempts.

**Mason Core:** Capstone (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

**Recommended Prerequisite:** FAVS 255 and FAVS 280

**Registration Restrictions:**
- **Required Prerequisites:** FAVS 460\(^C\), 460\(^{XS}\), 431\(^C\), 431\(^{XS}\), 433\(^C\), 433\(^{XS}\), 311\(^C\) or 311\(^{XS}\).
  - \(C\) Requires minimum grade of C.
  - \(XS\) Requires minimum grade of XS.

Enrollment limited to students with a class of Junior, Senior Plus or Senior.

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

**Schedule Type:** Lecture

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Undergraduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**FAVS 590: Independent Study.** 1-6 credits.

Independent research on specific project under direction of selected faculty member. Offered by Film & Video Studies. 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, Junior Plus, Non-Degree or Senior Plus.
- Students in a Non-Degree Undergraduate degree may not enroll.

**Schedule Type:** Independent Study

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Graduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)

**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 Film & Video Studies. May be repeated within the term for a maximum 9 credits.

**Specialized Designation:** Topic Varies

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

**Registration Restrictions:**
Enrollment limited to students with a class of Advanced to Candidacy, Graduate, Junior Plus, 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:** Lec/Sem #1, Lec/Sem #2, Lec/Sem #3, Lec/Sem #4, Lec/Sem #5, Lec/Sem #6, Lec/Sem #7, Lec/Sem #8, Lec/Sem #9, Sem/Lec #10, Sem/Lec #11, Sem/Lec #12, Sem/Lec #13, Sem/Lec #14, Sem/Lec #15, Sem/Lec #16, Sem/Lec #17, Sem/Lec #18, Seminar

**Grading:**
This course is graded on the Graduate Regular scale. (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/)