

Proposal Form for a New Major: Film Studies

I. Identification of Department(s)/Program(s): Electronic and Photographic Media
Department in the School of Communications

II. Name of proposed major/emphasis/minor/certificate/prefix: Film Studies (prefix FLST)

III. A List of all courses and requirements : See Attachment A

IV. Catalog copy for all affected changes: All courses are existing courses: only the course prefix changes are necessary.

V. Discussion of the rationale for your proposal:

a. What are the outcomes for the major? By completing the requirements of a B.A. degree in Film Studies, students will attain a comprehensive theoretical study of film and a knowledge of basic film/media production. They will acquire an understanding of film history and aesthetics, as well as critical approaches to the study of film. Film Studies courses move from general survey to a concentrated study of film history and theory. Upper-level courses focus on in-depth analyses of film genres, filmmakers, film/media theory and international cinema.

b. How will these outcomes be assessed? Students will complete a sophomore-level portfolio of completed Film Studies work, to be reviewed by the Film Studies faculty. They will also complete a capstone course, which involves a Film Studies thesis project or an internship with a company or organization related to applied Film Studies (including film archives, film distributors, national film festivals or film series).

c. Why is this being proposed? What problem will it address? Film Studies and Film Production are currently the areas of emphasis under the Film major. The Film Studies emphasis has grown from a handful of majors into a program with over 30 majors. The development of a separate Film Studies major would create a distinct identity for the program, which has already emerged as an academic major for students interested in the pursuit of a film career that is not based strictly on production.

d. What research has been done and what evidence does the departments/programs have of the need for and interest in it?

Film programs in colleges and universities throughout the United States were reviewed, and the overwhelming majority of these schools offer Film Production and Film Studies (also called cinema studies) as separate majors. The creation of a separate Film Studies major at Webster University would make our curriculum within the School of Communications more consistent with national trends in higher education.

e. How would it fit with departmental philosophy and existing curriculum?

The creation of the separate major is consistent with the departmental philosophy of the School of Communications in that it would continue to combine theory and practice within the Film Studies curriculum. Required coursework focuses on film theory in preparation for a variety of future careers, including teaching, writing film criticism, film producing/directing, film

distribution, and film archiving and restoration. The new proposed major would also allow for a professional media practicum with a company or organization associated with film studies (such as an internship with a film festival, archive or distributor) as an option for the capstone course in the major.

The classes offered within the major would be a continuation of the same course offerings currently available, and future courses (including distance learning classes) that address new developments in the area of study could be added and remain consistent with the educational objectives and departmental philosophy of the Electronic and Photographic Media Department.

f. How would it fit with the philosophy and existing curriculum of the School/College and the University?

Because the proposed major will adopt existing courses, it will continue to support the liberal arts education mission of the university. The restructuring of the major will also allow it to be offered at additional campuses. (See Section V h, below.)

g. Are there existing courses in other departments/programs, which are appropriate for inclusion in this proposal?

Several courses in the Communications and Journalism Department, such as MEDC 1630 Media Literacy and MEDC 3190 Introduction to Media Research, are appropriate for the proposed major and are included in the proposed major elective course requirements.

h. Which sites will it be available on?

The new major will be available on the St. Louis campus, and other campuses will be able to develop the major where the required Film Studies courses are offered. One of the major benefits of the separate major is that it would be possible to offer Film Studies at more than the St. Louis campus. (Currently, it is available only at the home campus because it is an area of emphasis within the Film major, which is offered only in St. Louis due to equipment resources.) The London campus has expressed an interest in offering Film Studies as a major if it were created, and the E&PM Department anticipates that other locations would also be interested and able to develop this major.

i. If the proposal is for a new prefix, what entity will be responsible for scheduling and evaluating the courses?

Film Studies courses will use the prefix FLST, which is already used in the CARS system to indicate the area of emphasis. The program coordinator and department chair will be responsible for scheduling and evaluating the courses.

VI. Staffing Information:

a. What additions or changes in staffing are necessary to implement this new major, emphasis, minor, certificate or prefix ?

No additional changes in staffing are necessary.

b. How will this be coordinated?

The proposed major will be coordinated by a full time faculty member in the Electronic and Photographic Media Department, working with the E&PM department chair.

c. Who will co-ordinate this program?

The proposed major will be coordinated by Professor Kathy Corley, who currently coordinates the Film Studies area of emphasis and serves as the primary advisor for Film Studies majors.

VII. Feasibility information:

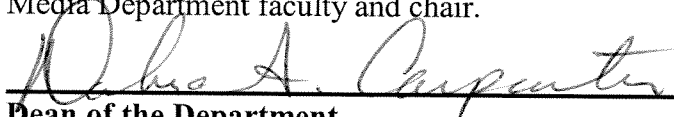
a. What are the resources (space and equipment) necessary for this new major, emphasis, minor, certificate or prefix?

No additional resources are needed.

b. What are the projections for enrollment and growth for this new major, emphasis, minor, certificate or prefix?

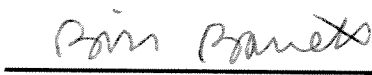
VIII. What entities (department, college/school) have reviewed and approved this proposal?

The proposal has been reviewed and unanimously approved by the Electronic and Photographic Media Department faculty and chair.



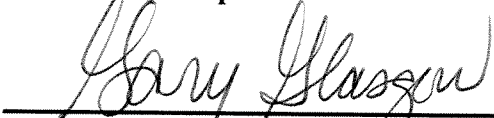
Dean of the Department

1-17-07
Date



Chair of the Department

17 Jan 2007
Date



Chair, Curriculum Committee

1/23/07
Date

**ATTACHMENT A
FILM STUDIES MAJOR
CATALOG DESCRIPTION and COURSE AND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

The Film Studies major is designed to provide students with a comprehensive theoretical study of film and knowledge of basic film production. Students develop an understanding of film history and aesthetics, as well as critical approaches to the study of film. Upper-level courses focus on in-depth analysis of film genres, filmmakers, or international cinema. Film studies courses move from general survey to specific, in-depth studies of a genre, filmmaker, or theory.

Portfolio Review Course Requirements

- FLST 1800 Film Appreciation
- FLST 2050 History of Film
- FLST 2060 Modern World Cinema

Degree Requirements

- 56 required credit hours
- 36 general education credit hours
- 36 elective credit hours

Required Courses

- MEDC 1010 Introduction to Mass Communications - 3 hours
- MEDC 1020 Introduction to Media Production - 3 hours
- MEDC 1050 Introduction to Media Writing - 3 hours
- MEDC 2200 Ethics in the Media - 3 hours
- MEDC 2800 Cultural Diversity in the Media -3 hours
- PHOT 1000 Photo I - 3 hours
- FLST 1800 Film Appreciation - 3 hours
- VIDE 1810 Video Production I - 3 hours OR FILM 2320 Filmmaking I - 3 hours
- FLST 2050 History of Film - 4 hours
- FLST 2060 Modern World Cinema - 4 hours
- SCPT 3110 Script Analysis - 3 hours
- FLST 3160 Topics in Film Studies (three sections required) - 9 hours
- MEDC 4100 The Law and the Media - 3 hours

- FLST 4160 Survey of Film Theory and Criticism - 3 hours *
- FILM 4620 Senior Overview** - 3 hours OR ~~FLST 4950~~ ^{MEDC 4950} Professional Media Practicum 3 hours (with advance approval from the Film Studies program coordinator and media internship coordinator)

*Indicates reclassification of course from a 2000-level to 4000-level course, consistent with the level that this course is taught at other universities.

*Capstone Course

In addition, students must complete one of the following three-credit hour courses:

FILM 4570 Producing for Film

SCPT 3690 Writing Screenplays for Film

SCPT 4090 Screenplay Development

MEDC 1630 Media Literacy

MEDC 3190 Introduction to Media Research

MEDC 3690 Studies in Media Literacy

MEDC 4190 Media Research Methodologies