

The School of Film and Photography 2012-2014 Catalog

(406) 994-2484

<http://sfp.montana.edu>

The School of Film and Photography (SFP) prepares students to meet the challenges of a rapidly expanding media environment as informed critical thinkers and professionally trained creative artists. Our students develop their own voices as tomorrow's leaders through intensive hands-on exploration of motion picture, photography, theatre and new media production.

The School of Film and Photography offers a Bachelor of Arts degree with concentrations (options) in Film and Photography, as well as a minor in Photography.

The two degree options share a common foundation dedicated to the relationships between film and photography as integrated arts and technologies that profoundly shaped the twentieth century and serve as the foundation of new media in the twenty first century. This integrated foundation permits students to take additional courses in Film or Photography while they complete the requirements of the option they have selected as their concentration.

Both options also provide flexibility for students to broaden their education with course work outside of the School of Film and Photography. All of our students are encouraged to consider the benefits of study abroad and/or minoring in another area of interest. While we aim to provide professional film and photography training, we place equal importance on providing our students with a broad education to prepare them for a wide range of future opportunities not confined to these industries.

The Film and Photography options are in heavy demand. In order to preserve the quality of student education, only a limited number of students who meet gate requirements are permitted to continue in each program beyond the first year. For more information about the gate requirements in each option see the individual program descriptions below.

Transfer Students

Students who intend to transfer to The School of Film and Photography should seek prior approval of credit taken elsewhere in order to be certain that these credits will fulfill requirements in the Film or Photography options. In no case may a class completed with a grade below "C" elsewhere be applied toward the program requirements for the degree. Any class that is not an equivalent class within the Montana university system must be approved by the SFP Director or Advisor on the basis of a review of the syllabus of the course taken elsewhere. A challenge exam may be required for any transfer credit at the discretion of the SFP Director or Advisor.

Course and Program Fees

Course fees are assessed to all students enrolled in foundation courses FILM 112 and PHOT 113. Students who pass the gate into either the Film or Photography option are charged a program fee per semester (subject to annual increase).

THE FILM OPTION

Students in the Film Option gain hands-on experience in all aspects of motion picture production, supported by theatrical production work. Students have opportunities to engage in film production throughout the program, starting in the first year and culminating in a senior thesis film project. At the same time, students study film history, film aesthetics, and the film industry, to broaden their understanding of the film medium and inform their personal filmmaking goals.

Film Option Gate Requirements

Upon completion of all of the four required foundation courses and two university Core requirements, WRIT 101 and University Seminar (US), interested students may apply for acceptance into the Film option. The Film option will accept no more than 48 students each year. Selection will be based on the average of grades (GPA) earned in the required foundation courses and the successful completion of WRIT 101 and US.

In order to apply for acceptance into the Film option for the following year, students must submit an application form by April 30. Students must also submit a portfolio consisting of one individual film project completed in FILM 112 and a written statement. Portfolios will determine acceptance in case of a tie based solely on GPA. Portfolios are due by the last day of spring semester finals week.

All applicants will be notified of the gate outcome on or before May 30th. If not successful, students may reapply to the gate the following year. Students who wish to reapply may retake any courses during the intervening year to improve their chances of success.

Film Option Curriculum

Please note that some Film program-related courses are listed under different headings, including:

THTR 304 – Theatre Production
MUST 380 – Interdisciplinary Projects I (Film & Music)
MUST 382 – Interdisciplinary Projects II

Foundation Courses (required for gate acceptance; typically taken in freshman year)

FILM 100IH – Introduction to Film & Photography	3
FILM 106IA – Film in America	3
FILM 112 – Aesthetics of Film Production I.....	3
PHOT 113RA – Understanding Photography.....	3
WRIT 101- College Writing 1	3
US - University Seminar (topic of choice).....	3

*FILM 100, FILM 112, WRIT 101W and University Seminar are offered both fall and spring semesters and may be taken in either semester.

Film Option Requirements (following gate acceptance)

FILM 212 – Aesthetics of Film Production II.....	4
FILM 251 – Scriptwriting.....	3
FILM 254 – Acting for Film	3

Any three of the following Film Studies courses:.....	9
FILM 260D – International Film & Television (3)	
FILM 381 – Studies in Film (3)	
FILM 449 – Film & Documentary Theory (3)	
FILM 481 – Advanced Studies in Film (3)	
FILM 494 – Film Studies Seminar (3)	
OR Other film-related studies course(s) approved by advisor (3)	
Any two of the following Production courses:.....	8
FILM 371 – Non-Fiction Production (4)	
FILM 372 – Fiction Production (4)	
THTR 304 – Theatre Production (4)	
FILM 499 – Senior Project (fall or spring).....	5
SFP Electives (at least 4 other SFP courses*)	min. 12
Non-SFP Electives (at least 3 courses**)	min. 9
Total Required Credits	65 (56 SFP)

* SFP Electives are any courses offered in the School of Film & Photography including THTR 304, MUST 380 and MUST 382 that are *not* serving to fulfill any requirements listed above. Any of the studies or production courses listed above in excess of the number required in each category can be taken as SFP Electives. This requirement is intended to permit Film and Photography students to explore their individual interests in greater depth in one area or more broadly in both areas.

** Non-SFP Electives are any courses offered outside the School of Film & Photography, not including THTR 304, MUST 295, MUST 380 and MUST 382, that are not serving to fulfill university CORE requirements. This requirement is intended to encourage Film and Photography students to develop an area of knowledge to inform their pursuits as creative artists. Completion of a minor outside of the School of Film and Photography will fulfill this requirement.

A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation, 42 of these credits must be in courses numbered 300 or above.