

# FILM & MEDIA STUDIES (ENFS)

## Faculty

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**Assistant Professor:** Josie Barth

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**Lecturer:** Rebecca Meyers

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Film and media have become major cultural forms in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and their study is now an important part of a modern humanities education. The film/media studies major teaches students to critically engage, understand and produce moving images. Courses challenge students to think historically, theoretically and analytically about a wide range of audiovisual media including cinema, radio, television and new media. The film/media studies major also encourages students to apply their knowledge by producing creative work in media production courses. Film/media studies is partnered with Lewisburg's Campus Theatre for classroom screenings and also uses the Marts Film/Media Production Studio for production classes.

Courses in the film/media studies major provide disciplinary depth through: 1. Skills in writing. Students majoring in film/media studies perform significant written analysis of film and media texts. 2. Skills in formal presentation. Several courses in film/media studies require dynamic and persuasive oral presentations. These courses cultivate presentation skills through practicing presentational strategies and integrating multimedia content to support student ideas and arguments. 3. Information literacy. Film/media majors learn how to research and evaluate primary and secondary sources through written and visual work plus in-class discussion.

Students may take the ENLS or a department elective course and one Group One course in an adviser-approved, off-campus study program. Further course transfers to the major from off-campus programs require specific adviser approval.

Students taking the major are encouraged to start with ENFS 130 Introduction to Film/Media Studies. All declared ENFS majors are required to attend at least three Tuesday screenings at the Campus Theatre per semester. All majors must also serve as a crew member on a senior ENFS major's film project in their sophomore or junior year.

Beyond ENFS 130, the major requires a minimum of nine additional courses as described below:

Core classes:

|          |                                    |   |
|----------|------------------------------------|---|
| ENFS 130 | Introduction to Film/Media Studies | 1 |
| ENFS 242 | Film and Media History             | 1 |
| ENFS 337 | Seminar in Film/Media Theory       | 1 |

Department classes:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| One 199-level or above ENLS course  | 1 |
| One 200-level or above course from the English department                                   | 1 |
| One course from inside or outside the English department, approved by the student's adviser | 1 |

Students choose two courses from each group below:

Group 1:

|          |                                      |   |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| ENFS 234 | National Cinemas                     | 1 |
| ENFS 235 | Gender and Film/Media                | 1 |
| ENFS 238 | Special Topics in Film/Media Studies | 1 |
| ENFS 244 | Race and Film                        | 1 |
| ENFS 245 | Televisual Culture                   | 1 |
| ENFS 246 | Documentary & Avant-Garde Cinema     | 1 |
| ENFS 247 | Film/Media Genres and Auteurs        | 1 |

|          |                                      |   |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| ENFS 256 | Film Analysis: Images to Data        | 1 |
| ENFS 273 | Evolution of Digital Media           | 1 |
| ENFS 338 | Seminar in Film and Media Studies    | 1 |
| ENFS 347 | Seminar in Film/Media Genres/Auteurs | 1 |

## Group 2:

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| ENCW 205 | Screenwriting Workshop                  | 1 |
| ENFS 253 | Introduction to Film/Media Production   | 1 |
| ENFS 254 | Film Exhibition and Programming         | 1 |
| ENFS 335 | Special Topics in Film/Media Production | 1 |
| ENFS 339 | Advanced Film/Media Production          | 1 |

Seniors majoring in film/media studies must successfully complete ONE of the following options for fulfilling the Culminating Experience requirement:

- successfully defend an honors thesis in film/media studies;
- complete a one-semester ENFS independent study project in either semester of the senior year. This project may be critical or creative;
- create a short film or screenplay according to parameters available from their adviser, on the program website, or from the program director before the specified deadline;
- write an original work of film or media criticism, analysis, theory or history in the form of a six to 10-page essay to be published on the Bucknell Film Review's webpage. Further guidelines are available from the student's adviser, the program director or on the program website.

Film and media have become major cultural forms in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and their study is now an important part of a modern humanities education. The film/media studies minor teaches students to critically engage with, understand and produce moving images. Courses challenge students to think historically, theoretically and analytically about a wide range of audiovisual media including cinema, radio, television and new media. The film/media studies minor also encourages students to apply their knowledge by producing creative work in media production courses. Film/media studies is partnered with the Campus Theatre for classroom screenings and also uses the Marts Film/Media Production Studio for production classes.

The minor in film/media studies requires five courses:

|  |                                    |   |
|--|------------------------------------|---|
| ENFS 130   | Introduction to Film/Media Studies | 1 |
| Three 200-level courses in film/media studies with at least one course from Group 1 and Group 2 below. |                                    | 3 |
| One 300-level course from Group 3 below.   |                                    | 1 |

## Group 1:

|          |                                      |   |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
| ENFS 234 | National Cinemas                     | 1 |
| ENFS 235 | Gender and Film/Media                | 1 |
| ENFS 238 | Special Topics in Film/Media Studies | 1 |
| ENFS 242 | Film and Media History               | 1 |
| ENFS 244 | Race and Film                        | 1 |
| ENFS 245 | Televisual Culture                   | 1 |
| ENFS 246 | Documentary & Avant-Garde Cinema     | 1 |
| ENFS 247 | Film/Media Genres and Auteurs        | 1 |
| ENFS 256 | Film Analysis: Images to Data        | 1 |
| ENFS 273 | Evolution of Digital Media           | 1 |

## Group 2:

|          |                                       |   |
|----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| ENCW 205 | Screenwriting Workshop                | 1 |
| ENFS 253 | Introduction to Film/Media Production | 1 |
| ENFS 254 | Film Exhibition and Programming       | 1 |

Students may also propose a relevant course from outside the film/media studies program to fulfill the 200-level course requirement. Students should consult with the minor's coordinator for course approvals.

## Group 3:

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| ENFS 335 | Special Topics in Film/Media Production | 1 |
| ENFS 337 | Seminar in Film/Media Theory            | 1 |
| ENFS 338 | Seminar in Film and Media Studies       | 1 |
| ENFS 339 | Advanced Film/Media Production          | 1 |
| ENFS 347 | Seminar in Film/Media Genres/Auteurs    | 1 |

### Program Learning Goals and Outcomes

Students will learn:

1. About the surprising array of divergences and convergences in the vast international history of film, broadcast and digital media.

Outcome: They will be able to locate film/media artifacts across historical and international contexts. (1, 9)

2. To analyze film, broadcast and digital media through a vocabulary of key formal techniques, patterns and styles in film, broadcast and digital media and to analyze those elements within various theoretical frameworks.

Outcome: They will analyze formal and theoretical elements in film, broadcast and digital media. (1, 9)

3. The technical skills required to produce original and thoughtful work and how to develop an artistic vision that applies an understanding of the aesthetics, theory and history of moving image and other media practices.

Outcome: They will produce creative media informed by the study of that practice. (1, 2)

4. How media have both encoded and resisted culturally dominant ideas and forms in production, distribution and reception.

Outcome: They will recognize the dominant and alternative cultural codes in film, broadcast and digital media. (3, 5, 9)

5. To effectively research film and media through scholarly and archival sources and then elegantly present arguments, new ideas and analysis in written and/or multimedia essays.

Outcome: They will be able to conduct original research and persuasively present their findings. (6, 7, 8)

Numbers in parentheses reflect related Educational Goals of Bucknell University.

## Courses

**ENFS 130. Introduction to Film/Media Studies. 1 Credit.**

**Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:3**

Introduction to film grammar, history, genres, and movements using theoretical text and primary source films with an emphasis on critical thinking. Weekly screenings.

**ENFS 140. Basic Production Skills. .5 Credits.**

**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:1.5**

This half-credit studio course introduces essential video production skills. Students gain hands-on experience with cameras, production equipment and editing software. It can also help prepare students who lack video experience, but are interested in taking production courses in the Film/Media Studies curriculum, such as ENFS 253.

**ENFS 1NT. Film/Media Studies Non-traditional Study. .25-1 Credits.**

**Offered Fall, Spring, Summer; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:Varies**

Non-traditional study in Film/Media Studies. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

**ENFS 202. Black Film and Antiracism. 1 Credit.**

**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

This course samples Black filmmakers' work from the 70s into the present, examines how their films analyze the persistence and specificity of antiracism, and how Black people navigate that antiracism. Sometimes, they achieve this on their own terms, other times, they must work under the pressure of Hollywood's demands. Crosslisted as CBST 202.

**ENFS 234. National Cinemas. 1 Credit.**

**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:3; Repeatable**

Concentration on the history and style of a particular national cinema. Weekly screenings.

**ENFS 235. Gender and Film/Media. 1 Credit.**

**Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

Current debates about gender and American film/media, from WW II to the present. Diverse critical approaches for interpreting film/media within the broad context of gender studies. Crosslisted as WMST 235.

**ENFS 238. Special Topics in Film/Media Studies. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:Varies; Repeatable**

Examination of a specialized topic in film/media studies.

**ENFS 242. Film and Media History. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

This course examines major industrial, technical, and cultural milestones in the history of the cinema, radio, television, and new media industries.

**ENFS 244. Race and Film. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:3**

This course explores the representation of race in American cinema. Special attention is paid to Race Films, independent all-black productions made from 1918-1948. Weekly screenings.

**ENFS 245. Televisual Culture. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

This course focuses on non-cinematic moving image culture including the television industry, video art and new media technologies. The course examines the subject from a variety of theoretical viewpoints—industrial practices, stylistic modes and audience reception.

**ENFS 246. Documentary & Avant-Garde Cinema. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:3**

Examines the history and style of non-fiction and experimental cinema in order to explore the importance of recording the world in the most direct and the most abstract fashion. Weekly screenings.

**ENFS 247. Film/Media Genres and Auteurs. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:3; Repeatable**

Examination of a particular film/media genre (film noir, melodrama, Hong Kong action movies, Westerns, etc.) or a close examination of a particular director, cinematographer, screenwriter, or producer's oeuvre. Weekly screenings.

**ENFS 253. Introduction to Film/Media Production. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

An introductory level, studio-based course covering the basics of moving image practice, from pre-visualization to principles and techniques of cinematography, editing, lighting and sound. Students produce individual projects, developing both technical skills and personal vision. In-class screenings further students' awareness of cinema's expressive potential. Prerequisite: ENFS 130.

**ENFS 254. Film Exhibition and Programming. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

This course provides a historical and practical perspective on various strategies for independent and alternative film programming and exhibition. Coursework culminates in the production of the Bucknell University Short Film Festival, held biennially at the Campus Theatre. Class participants curate the program and organize all aspects of the festival.

**ENFS 256. Film Analysis: Images to Data. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

This course examines various research methodologies for conducting original research through analysis of film and media texts. Students will practice these approaches through written analyses, image annotation, quantitative data visualizations, multimedia presentations and video essays. Prerequisite: ENFS 130.

**ENFS 273. Evolution of Digital Media. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3**

This course will trace the origins and development of the digital media products and practices that surround us in contemporary life. Although digital media are often represented as unprecedented and entirely "new," their growth follows patterns that were established in the industrial revolution and that this course will analyze. Crosslisted as HUMN 273.

**ENFS 2NT. Film/Media Studies Non-traditional Study. .25-1 Credits.****Offered Fall, Spring, Summer; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:3; Repeatable**

Non-traditional study in Film/Media Studies. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

**ENFS 319. Campus Theatre Internship. .5 Credits.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:1.5; Repeatable**

Learn the hands-on skills of how to project DCP, 16mm, and 35mm at the Campus Theatre while reading about major shifts in the history of film exhibition. Application process.

**ENFS 320. Individual Projects/Independent Study. .5-1 Credits.****Offered Fall, Spring, Summer; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:Varies**

Develop a course, in consultation with a faculty member, tailored to individual needs and creative or scholarly interests. Planning begins in the course registration period of the semester prior to taking the class, allowing time to develop parameters and create a syllabus.

**ENFS 335. Special Topics in Film/Media Production. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable**

This advanced seminar focuses on specific production (lighting, cinematography) and post-production (sound design, editing, color grading) areas to provide students with an in-depth knowledge of specialized production skills. Prerequisite: ENFS 253.

**ENFS 337. Seminar in Film/Media Theory. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:3**

Survey of approaches to film analysis and critique, ranging from realist/formalist debates to psychoanalytic, feminist, and semiotic approaches. Weekly screenings. Prerequisites: ENFS 130.

**ENFS 338. Seminar in Film and Media Studies. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:Varies; Repeatable**

Examination of a specialized topic in film/media studies. Weekly screenings. Prerequisite: ENFS 130.

**ENFS 339. Advanced Film/Media Production. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable**

This course applies creative practice and knowledge to advanced video/audio production through a range of hands-on production assignments. Prerequisites: ENFS 253.

**ENFS 340. Film/Media Production Practicum. .5 Credits.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:1.5; Repeatable**

The Film/Media Production Practicum provides students with advanced and specialized study in a particular area of Film/Media production. Possible practicum topics might include advanced sound design, color grading, visual effects works, or specialized cinematography techniques. Prerequisite: ENFS 253.

**ENFS 347. Seminar in Film/Media Genres/Auteurs. 1 Credit.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3,Other:3; Repeatable**

Examination of a particular genre (film noir, Hong Kong action movies, Westerns, etc.), director, cinematographer, screenwriter or producer. Weekly screenings. Prerequisite: ENFS 130.

**ENFS 380. Honors Thesis. .5-1 Credits.****Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:Varies; Repeatable**

Scholarly or creative honors thesis. Students must confer with and submit a proposal to a departmental adviser and to the University Honors Council for approval. Prerequisites: senior status and permission of the instructor.

**ENFS 3NT. Film/Media Studies Non-traditional Study. .25-1 Credits.****Offered Fall, Spring, Summer; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:Varies**

Non-traditional study in Film/Media Studies. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.