

CINEMATIC ARTS

Dept. Code: CCA

Introduction

The Department of Cinematic Arts offers a major and minor in Motion Pictures.

A Motion Pictures major selects from the following tracks: Business, Critical Studies, General, Production, or Screenwriting.

The Department of Cinematic Arts prepares the next generation of storytellers, innovators, filmmakers, researchers, and entrepreneurs for the abundance of opportunities in world of film, digital media, television and emerging technologies.

Design:

The curriculum offered by the Department of Cinematic Arts is designed to enable you to customize your education, within a learning environment that is collaborative and conducive to the pursuit, development, and exchange of ideas and information. It provides students with the training necessary to succeed in a range of careers defined by a rapidly changing media landscape, and equips them to best leverage innovations in the field.

Goals of the Program are:

- To furnish students with the technical and practical skills needed to make them career-ready through hands-on learning, problem-solving based inquiry, and advanced study.
- To nurture the individual talent, creativity, and discovery process of every student by fostering principles of collaboration, professionalism, and intellectual curiosity.
- To support the educational process through mentoring and advising by renowned faculty and seasoned professionals.
- To encourage students to integrate theory and practice, to cultivate the capacity to think critically, and to connect technology and art and/or design.
- To familiarize students with theoretical, historical, and cultural approaches and expose them to a range of traditions within the field of study.
- To provide access to state of the art facilities, the most technologically advanced tools, and the latest technology.
- To continue to build on our reputation as a place of innovation and interdisciplinarity, as we educate students according to the highest professional and ethical standards.

Opportunities:

As a major or minor in the CCA department, many opportunities await you, including access to the following facilities and equipment: digital cameras; grip and electrical equipment; a soundstage; digital post-production image and sound facilities; a digital animation studio; a VR Lab and Design Lab (NERDLab).

The department offers a Semester in Los Angeles Program each spring and regularly hosts summer study abroad in such locations as Paris, Amsterdam, Spain, Greece, and Prague (FAMU).

In addition to the chance to work on student projects, there is an array of extracurricular activities in the School of Communication, including the award-winning cable channel UMTV and Delta Kappa Alpha, the National Professional Co-Ed Cinematic Arts Fraternity.

The Bill Cosford Cinema, a state-of-the-art movie theater exhibits first-run alternative, foreign and classic films and hosts guest filmmakers and special events throughout the year. The Cosford Cinema serves as a venue for local film festivals as well as the annual Canes Film Festival featuring UM undergraduate and graduate work.

Students have the opportunity to compete in the UM Canes Film Festival to earn the chance to take their work to a professional showcase screening, held annually in Los Angeles.

Major Cognate Area

- Motion Pictures:
 - Arts and Humanities

Minor Cognate Area

- Motion Pictures Minor:
 - Arts and Humanities

Please note, students completing majors and minors within the same department may only satisfy one required cognate area of study.

Degree Programs

The Bachelor of Science in Communication is offered in Motion Pictures

Majors are offered in:

- Motion Pictures Business Track
- Motion Pictures Critical Studies Track
- Motion Pictures General Track
- Motion Pictures Production Track
- Motion Pictures Screenwriting Track

Each candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Communication will complete the School of Communication's requirements including courses in the School's General Education Required Areas of Study. Motion Pictures major must also complete a separate minor or a second major in either a second Program of Study within the School or in an academic program outside the School.

Admission to the Motion Pictures Major

Before admission as a Motion Pictures major, a student must:

- Complete the five Core courses listed below, in residence at the University, all with grades of C or higher (C- is not acceptable).
- Students who have obtained the written approval of the Chair of Cinematic Arts to use transfer credit hours to satisfy one or more requirements of that major may be required to complete additional courses in residence at the University before being admitted to that major.
- Upon completion of a student's first 45 University credit hours while enrolled in the School of Communication, all University credit hours earned toward the major will be used in computing a student's major cumulative grade point average; only those students with a cumulative average of 2.5 or higher will be admitted to the major.
- A student who has completed 45 credit hours while enrolled in the School of Communication, but who has not been admitted to one of the Communication majors, may be dismissed from the School. A student who has completed 60 University credit hours while enrolled in the School, but who has not been admitted to one of the Communication majors, will be dismissed from the School.

Major in Motion Pictures

Students majoring in motion pictures will choose one of five tracks:

- Motion Pictures Business Track
- Motion Pictures Critical Studies Track
- Motion Pictures General Track
- Motion Pictures Production Track
- Motion Pictures Screenwriting Track

Minors in Cinematic Arts Department

The Department of Cinematic Arts offers minors in:

- Motion Pictures

Majors in Cinematic Arts

- B.S.C. in Motion Pictures (<http://bulletin.miami.edu/undergraduate-academic-programs/communication/cinematic-arts/motion-pictures-bsc/>)

Minors in Cinematic Arts

- Motion Pictures (<http://bulletin.miami.edu/undergraduate-academic-programs/communication/cinematic-arts/motion-pictures-minor/>)

CCA 103. Survey of Motion Pictures. 3 Credit Hours.

Examination of the aesthetic, social, and economic aspects of the motion picture industry. Concentration on the present state of the medium with particular emphasis on future trends.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 113. Documentary Approaches. 3 Credit Hours.

Students will explore the varied forms and narrative approaches used in contemporary documentary filmmaking to understand the position of the filmmaker as a storyteller.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 126. Introduction to Screenwriting. 3 Credit Hours.

Creation and formatting of narrative material for motion pictures. Emphasis on writing the short film.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 151. Introduction to Digital Filmmaking. 3 Credit Hours.

Lectures and laboratory work to acquaint the student with the basic techniques of motion pictures. Students make short films using digital equipment to develop an understanding of the motion picture as a creative tool of communication and expression.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 206. History of International Cinema. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is an examination of the origin and history of the motion picture. Narrative and non-fiction genres, in the American and World Cinemas, from 1890 to the present are discussed.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 251. Motion Picture Workshop: Storytelling. 3 Credit Hours.

The practice of the grammar of cinematic language including shot selection, composition, pacing, story clarity, performance, pre-visualization and pre-planning for the creation of short narrative projects. Through critiques, students encounter and interact with an audience of their peers. This course requires students to master contemporary technology in use in the profession.

Prerequisite: CCA 103 and CCA 151.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 294. Special Topics in Cinematic Arts. 3 Credit Hours.

This course subject matter varies according to announced special topic. See class schedule for details.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 326. Intermediate Screenwriting. 3 Credit Hours.

Study of, and practice in, writing feature length, narrative motion pictures. Development of story line in treatment form, attention to cinematic structure, the development of character, and its presentation on screen is discussed.

Prerequisite: CCA 126.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 329. Writing for Series Television. 3 Credit Hours.

An introduction to the structures and techniques of writing situation-comedy and dramatic series television.

Prerequisite: CCA 126.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 330. The Business of Television. 3 Credit Hours.

The Business of Television provides an in-depth examination of contemporary trends in scripted dramatic and comedic content. It covers practical and necessary elements for better understanding the ways such shows are developed as well as current and future modes of distribution.

Prerequisite: CCA 126 or CCA 329.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 351. Intermediate Filmmaking. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is an introduction to intermediate level techniques and methodologies for digital production of all contemporary media genres including narrative, documentary, experimental and music performance. Students will work in crews, collaboratively, with specific assigned roles throughout the production work flow.

Prerequisite: CCA 206 and CCA 251.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 353. Post Production Sound Editing and Design. 3 Credit Hours.

Post production sound editing and design is a seminar/workshop that provides a practical and theoretical introduction to sound and its function in the narrative moving image process. The course explores the process from production recording through the final mix.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 355. Essentials of Documentary Film. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is designed to teach students how to tell compelling cinematic documentary stories with a clear and effective point-of-view. We will compare and analyze various styles of documentary storytelling and use these methods in creating effective documentaries films. An emphasis will be put on the various styles of documentary filmmaking.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 356. Cinematography. 3 Credit Hours.

An overview of the cinematographer's process from script to screen. Working with camera, lighting, and grip equipment on exercises and projects is discussed.

Prerequisite: CCA 251.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 357. Editing. 3 Credit Hours.

Introduction to the theory and practice of motion picture editing. Short editing assignments are designed to develop students' understanding of aesthetic, and technical considerations in the art of dramatic editing.

Prerequisite: CCA 251.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 364. Business of Motion Pictures. 3 Credit Hours.

Students will get an overview of how content is created and who the players are. They will practice synthesizing information and translating it into a strategic plan for a business or individual career path in the entertainment industry.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 386. Online Screenwriting. 3 Credit Hours.

This is an online course on screenwriting. Students will learn to analyze films through the lens of genres, including Drama, Comedy, Horror, Romance, Sci-Fi, and Coming of Age, to write scripts, and to critique genre conceits of assigned films.

Prerequisite: CCA 126.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 394. Special Topics in Cinematic Arts. 3 Credit Hours.

This course subject matter varies according to announced special topic. See class schedule for details.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 395. Directing Techniques I. 3 Credit Hours.

To teach the craft of directing through exercises, screen work, and readings.

Prerequisite: CCA 251.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 401. Nonfiction Film and Digital Media. 3 Credit Hours.

An examination of American and world nonfiction films and media.

Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 402. Global Issues and Filmmaking: An Interdisciplinary Approach. 3 Credit Hours.

A trans-disciplinary approach to study and analyze a variety of complex global issues such as climate change, human security, globalization, and rise of nationalism while gaining hands-on experience to develop short analytical documentary films about such topics. Prior film-making experience is NOT required

Requisite: Permission of Instructor.

Components: HRK.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 403. Film Directors. 3 Credit Hours.

The study of the film authorship through a focus on specific directors.

Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 404. Aspects of Contemporary Cinema. 3 Credit Hours.

Study of contemporary movements in American and world cinemas.

Prerequisite: CCA 206 Or Junior Standing Or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 405. Representations of Sport in Popular Culture. 3 Credit Hours.

This course presents approaches to understanding and contextualizing representations of sports in cinema, television, and digital media. Students gain valuable skills in critical thinking, analysis, and evaluation as they learn to reflect on the various ways sports are portrayed in selected media and popular culture.

Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 406. Genres. 3 Credit Hours.

Study of selected genres from a variety of critical perspectives. Issues pertaining to methodologies of defining and categorizing film are discussed.

Prerequisite: CCA 206 Or Junior Standing Or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 407. National Cinemas. 3 Credit Hours.

Selected films from Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America will be studied in relation to their diverse social, political and cultural contexts.

Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 408. Women, Media, and Popular Culture. 3 Credit Hours.

Examination of film, media, and gender representation from the perspective of feminist theory and cultural studies. Students explore the many ways that women have been portrayed, and how they have portrayed themselves, within popular culture.

Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 409. Legal Aspects of Motion Pictures. 3 Credit Hours.

The law, contracts, and negotiating techniques of the business affairs aspects of the production of motion pictures.

Junior standing.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 416. Film History Seminar. 3 Credit Hours.

In the history of world cinema, there have been a number of movements or schools that have had a significant impact. Each semester this course is offered, it will focus on three such cinematic movements or schools. Representative films will be studied in relation to their diverse historical, social, cultural and political contexts.

Prerequisite: CCA 206 Or Junior Standing Or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 426. Advanced Screenwriting. 3 Credit Hours.

A continuation of CIM 326. Study of, and practice in, writing feature length, narrative motion picture scripts. Attention is given to cinematic structure, the development of character, and its presentation on screen. Emphasis is placed on bringing the script to a completed draft.

Prerequisite: CCA 326.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 429. Advanced Television Writing. 3 Credit Hours.

This course explores how to create, format, and write the original Television Pilot and treatment. The class will cover TV pilot format, length, structure as well as techniques in creating TV characters and situations for both comedy and dramatic episodic TV.

Prerequisite: CCA 329.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 431. Critical Studies in American Television. 3 Credit Hours.

This course familiarizes students with critical approaches to American television, focusing on how television's generic, narrative, aesthetic, and ideological structures have developed and changed over time.

Prerequisite: CCA 206 or CCA 329 or Junior Standing or Higher.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 451. Advanced Filmmaking Workshop. 3 Credit Hours.

The theory and practice of motion pictures production from script to screen. Lecture and laboratory. Students will develop and produce a narrative, a documentary, or an experimental work of their choice.

Prerequisite: CCA 351.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 455. Science Documentary: Autism. 3 Credit Hours.

This course brings together student citizens across science, communication, and education to collaborate on content intended to reach audiences on multiple platforms. Students will be exposed to both history and cutting edge research surrounding Autism Spectrum Disorder. In addition to learning the neuroscience and genetics that underlie autism spectrum disorders, students will connect with people in the local community - to lend these issues a face and context. Students will gather information from readings, experts at the University of Miami, and the larger South Florida Community. Students will work in teams to share expertise from their fields of study to generate content for community consumption.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 456. Advanced Cinematography. 3 Credit Hours.

Advanced work with camera, lighting, and grip equipment on exercises and projects.

Prerequisite: CCA 356.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 457. Advanced Editing. 3 Credit Hours.

Advanced concepts in aesthetics and theories of picture and sound editing, mixing, color correction, and finishing techniques.

Prerequisite: CCA 357.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 458. Documentary Production. 3 Credit Hours.

Students produce two short digital documentaries and explore various approaches to the documentary film.

Prerequisite: CCA 151.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 462. Motion Picture Marketing and Distribution. 3 Credit Hours.

Economic and marketing considerations in the production and distribution of motion pictures.

Prerequisite: CCA 364.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 465. Creative Producing. 3 Credit Hours.

Students will discover what their creative voice is as a producer; sharpen their communication skills (networking, pitching, coverage & notes); and will learn the nuts and bolts of what a producer does.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 469. Motion Picture Internship. 1-3 Credit Hours.

The internship is designed to provide valuable career-related work experience in a real - world setting, e.g., institutions, organizations and/or businesses. Students will identify an opportunity, supervisor, and write a proposal as to the relevancy to their goals. The Internship may be paid or unpaid.

Components: IND.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 489. Projects in Screenwriting. 1-3 Credit Hours.

Individual study. This course and CIM 499 cannot count for more than three credits towards a Communication major or minor.

Components: THI.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 494. Special Topics in Cinematic Arts. 3 Credit Hours.

Prescribed study and supervised work with practitioners in motion pictures.

Requisite: Sophomore Status And Cumulative GPA 2.5.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

CCA 499. Projects and Directed Research. 1-3 Credit Hours.

Individual study. No more than three credits may be counted toward a Communication major or minor.

Components: THI.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 501. Principles of Aesthetics and Analysis. 3 Credit Hours.

Provides graduate students with introductory immersion in aesthetics, analysis, and history of film and media.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 510. Foundation of Screenwriting. 3 Credit Hours.

This course explores the fundamental skill set necessary to manipulate the basic elements of cinematic writing. The course will investigate common dramatic elements found in all screenplays as well as teach format principles of feature, TV and emerging media scripts.

Prerequisite: CCA 126.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 511. Writing the Short Film. 3 Credit Hours.

A course in the fundamentals of screenwriting focused on the creation of a 15-30 page screenplay suitable for an MFA project film. Study of and practice in writing short narrative motion picture scripts. Focus is placed on concept, content, cinematic story structure and presentation of character.

Prerequisite: CCA 510.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 514. Motion Picture Studio. 3 Credit Hours.

This course allows students the time to enhance and exhibit their knowledge and skills in Motion Picture. Students will fine-tune their final film projects, polishing their final cuts for film festival submission to film festivals and professional consideration.

Motion Picture Major and Senior Standing.

Components: STU.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 518. Seminar in Documentary Film History: Cinéma-vérité. 3 Credit Hours.

The primary focus of this course will be on the half-century old school or tradition of documentary filmmaking associated with the terms "Cinéma-vérité" and "direct cinema". Through close analysis of selected classic and contemporary documentaries, the class will explore their historical significance, their aspirations and achievements as films, and their ways of addressing the aesthetic, epistemological, political and moral issues that inevitably arise when filmmakers take their sync-sound camera into the world and undertake to film life as it is really lived.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 519. Seminar in Documentary Production. 3 Credit Hours.

The Seminar in Documentary Production is the capstone production class within the documentary track of the Cinema and Interactive Media Department. Students are entered into the course based on a proposal that outlines their documentary project.

Prerequisite: CCA 458 Or JMM 541.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 523. Advanced 3D Character Design and Motion Capture. 3 Credit Hours.

This course covers the 3D game art development pipeline from modeling, texturing, rigging and animation to motion capture, and special effects.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

CCA 526. Adaptation. 3 Credit Hours.

This course will examine the craft and techniques of adapting sources such as novels, short stories, plays, articles, comic books, Shakespeare to the screen.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 529. Nonfiction Film. 3 Credit Hours.

An examination of American and world nonfiction films.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 550. Motion Graphics and Compositing. 3 Credit Hours.

Methods, techniques and aesthetics of 2D computer animation and compositing including animated text, title design, and green screen.

Prerequisite: CCA 206.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 551. Advanced Motion Graphics and Compositing. 3 Credit Hours.

Extend the 2D skills of students who have taken CIM 550 to 3D motion graphics and animation. Emphasis on title design and animation.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Spring.

CCA 553. Advanced Motion Picture Marketing and Distribution. 3 Credit Hours.

Advanced marketing considerations in the distribution of motion pictures.

Prerequisite: CCA 462.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 560. Directing the Actor. 3 Credit Hours.

The purpose of this course is to teach and practice the craft of directing, including text analysis, characterization, visualization, design, intention and rehearsal: to train students to articulate their ideas to actors and film crew.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall.

CCA 566. Character and Dialogue. 3 Credit Hours.

An examination of the craft and techniques of creating original characters and dialogue.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 594. Special Topics in Cinematic Arts. 3 Credit Hours.

This course subject matter varies according to announced special topic. See class schedule for details.

Junior standing.

Components: WKS.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

CCA 595. Directing Techniques II. 3 Credit Hours.

To build a more advanced set of professional skills and practices through scene work, shooting, and collaboration.

Prerequisite: CCA 251.

Components: LEC.

Grading: GRD.

Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.