



The Film Studies Program at the University of Missouri offers an immersive curriculum in film production, spanning from writing and cinematography, to audio engineering and field production, preparing you for a career in the film production industry. Below is a list of the current (2015) courses offered by film studies and a simulated course path for the program.

## FALL COURSES

FS 3540 - Principles of Cinematography (Req FS1800) (Pre-Req for FS3550) - An exploration of the principles and techniques of cinematography that includes shot composition lighting styles, and storytelling, using the moving image and frame. Students will examine historical and contemporary approaches to cinematography used in Hollywood, foreign and independent films. Analyzing cinematographic approaches of a wide range of work will help the students evaluate the quality of their own creative work.

FS 4130 - Advanced Character Voice and Dialogue (Req FS413 / ENG 2510 / Theater 3930) - Also known as screenwriting 2, this course provides an in-depth study of character psyche and unique voice. Students will learn the skills necessary to create vibrant, memorable characters through the exploration and development of unique character traits, physical imagery development, distinctive voice, and action.

FS 4550 (Req FS1800) - Introduction to Post Production - Explores traditional and current audio and video post-production techniques and technology. Using non-linear editing and audio post-production software, students develop techniques in video editing and basic audio mastering, and investigate color correction, color keying, color isolation, and basic keyframe motion. Students will learn how to export and compress footage to a wide range of digital delivery formats.

## SPRING COURSES

FS 2540 - Film Management (Req FS1800) - An exploration of the roles of executive producers, directors and assistant directors; students will create balanced production budgets, learn hiring practices, create meaningful business relationships, and learn legal implications of production. As directors, students will also develop aesthetic vision and the tools necessary to communicate with production teams and actors. This course is recommended to be taken the spring semester before taking FS4005 - Practicum.

## **SPRING COURSES CONT.**

FS3530 - Crafting Character and Story for Screen (Req FS1800 or ENG 1510) - Also known as Screenwriting 1, this course focuses on development and analysis of character, story structure, and innovative transformation of character onto the page for television and cinema. Students work in a collaboratively creative environment to craft vivid storytelling and character elements while developing the necessary skills to become competitive in today's writing market. Students will use industry standard technology to craft scripts. The course reinforces the importance of story and character by analyzing three-act scripts, short films, successful (and failed) television pilots, and nontraditional storytelling formats.

FS3550 - Field Production (Req FS 3540; Pre-req for 4005) - Provides a comprehensive overview of on-set production principles and positions, as well as basic studio production. Students study and implement light design, safety and electrical science, sound capture techniques, and set design. Students will be responsible for the production of several team based short films throughout the semester. Significant outside class commitments are required. This class is the pre-requisite for the summer practicum course.

FS 3560 (3005 for SP2015)- Audio Engineering for the Screen - An intensive study of the techniques and science behind audio engineering and creation for today's cinema and television. The course will focus on four major areas of study: sound in cinema, sound creation (foley), sound manipulation (post production techniques), and environmental sound layering. Students will have access to state of the art technology to record, engineer, and layer their work.

## **SUMMER PRACTICUM COURSE**

FS4005 - Film Studies Practicum - (Req FS3540 and FS3550; recommended FS2540) - An immersive 2-3 week program where students use their cumulative knowledge of camera operation, set protocols, lighting and sound design, and producing, to successfully implement a 10-20 minute short film. Each day can range from 5 to 12 hours of work, requiring students to be on set, on location, or in production capacities. Working on a short film shot in Columbia and surrounding areas, students will experience every aspect of the set, learning first-hand from local professionals hired onto this production experience and the instructor. The practicum is a culmination of principles learned throughout the program and requires students' highest level of performance. The Practicum is often shot in cooperation with local production companies. This offers students an opportunity to receive internship credit through actual production companies. (Check with department: course may be offered in either June, or July; not both).

COMM 3990 - With instructor consent, FS3550 can be substituted with COMM 3990 (Digital Production).

For more information about the program, and what it affords our students, please contact the film studies department via telephone (573-882-1915), by email ([filmstud@missouri.edu](mailto:filmstud@missouri.edu)), in person in Strickland Hall, room 448, or contact the production course coordinator (Brian Maurer: [maurerb@missouri.edu](mailto:maurerb@missouri.edu)).

# PRODUCTION COURSE PATH

Students hoping to enter our program have a number of paths to take. Though not all of our courses have prerequisites, several do, and cannot be skipped. Below is a sample progression through the production courses of the film studies program. It is highly encouraged to follow this path as it gives our students the most immersive experience possible.

YEAR / SEMESTER	COURSE #	COURSE TITLE
FALL / YEAR 1	FS1800	Introduction to Film Studies
SPRING / YEAR 1	FS 3530	Crafting Character and Story for Screen
	FS 3560 or FS2540	Audio Engineering / Film Management
FALL / YEAR 2	FS 3540	Introduction to Cinematography
	FS 4130	Advanced Character and Voice for Screen
	FS 4550	Introduction to Post Production
SPRING / YEAR 2	FS 3550	Field Production
	FS 3560 or FS2540	Audio Engineering / Film Management
SUMMER YEAR 2	FS 4005	Film Production Practicum

It is important that you contact your advisor to discuss these courses and how they may impact your graduation plan. For information on Film Studies graduation paths, contact:

Kibby Smith  
Academic Advisor  
M110 Student Success Center  
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Office Hours: Please Call 573-884-9700 to schedule an appointment

