The BA in Film Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder emphasizes the critical study of film as an art form. The critical studies BA is designed to give students a solid knowledge of the history and aesthetics of international film, as well as exposure to the various methodological approaches of cinema studies as an academic discipline. Critical studies courses take a multi-faceted approach comprised of film screenings, readings, and lectures, while students are expected to practice their film analysis skills in writing assignments and class discussion. Like many programs in the Arts and Humanities, the BA Program in Film Studies aims more broadly to teach two fundamental skills: critical thinking and writing ability. These skills are developed in our program specifically through the examination of films, but they are also broadly useful well beyond the realm of film studies. The BA program enrolls approximately 425 majors.

**Concurrent Degree Program**

**BA/MA in Film Studies**

The film studies bachelor of arts/master of arts critical studies degree gives highly motivated BA students the opportunity to earn an MA degree using an accelerated undergraduate program in combination with a fifth year of study.

**Program Description**

The BA/MA degree in film studies is a critical studies track under the auspices of the art MA program. This collaboration between the Film Studies Program and the Department of Art and Art History is an extension of our common interests in visual art. The Film Studies tenured and tenure-track faculty also have graduate faculty standing within Art and Art History.

The BA/MA track prepares students for professional careers in teaching and criticism, from the perspective of innovative critical approaches and in preparation for a PhD track at another university. The aim of the BA/MA film program is to aid in the advancement of the scholarly understanding of film art, with emphasis on theoretical and research approaches and their role in academia. The BA/MA will, therefore, prepare its graduates to assume the responsibilities of the academic study of cinema as one of the fine arts and to pursue careers in teaching, research, curating and the overall advancement of the study of cinema as art.

The program offers studies leading to the MA in the areas of film criticism and theory. Advanced students are encouraged to explore interdisciplinary approaches as well as to enhance their program of study with cognate courses in other departments such as history, comparative literature, anthropology, English, women's studies, ethnic studies, Spanish and Portuguese, French and Italian, Germanic and Slavic languages and literature and others. Film studies offers a broad selection of seminar topics on their current faculty research interests and in response to student demand. The Visiting Film Artist program brings additional distinguished, innovative film and video artists and critics to campus and students are encouraged to register for their seminars.

**Admission to the Program**

- Admission to the program occurs during the second semester of the junior year. Applicant should have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 and have completed all MAPS deficiencies. All applicants will provide a copy of their (internal) CU transcript. (Please note: Applicant should specify on the on the form that they are applying for the spring term, BA/MA degree, major codes AS-FLM2 and GR-ART). After completing the top portion of the form, the student should make an appointment with the Director, Professor Ernesto Acevedo-Muñoz (www.colorado.edu/films/studies/ernesto-acevedo-munoz (http://www.colorado.edu/films/studies/ernesto-acevedo-munoz)).
- The sole application deadline is the second Monday in October. Please submit the standard BA/MA application form (http://www.colorado.edu/GraduateSchool/academics/_docs/Concurrentapplication.pdf) with your package. Note: Applicants should specify on the form that they are applying for the spring term, BA/MA degree, major codes AS-FLM2 and GR-ART2.
- Students will secure the sponsorship and/or advisory commitment of a Film Studies faculty member at the rank of assistant professor or higher. The applicant will include a brief letter or statement from the faculty member attesting to the advisory relationship.
- Applicants will submit a one-page prospectus detailing a possible research topic for an MFA thesis. The prospectus must include a minimum bibliography of 10–15 items.
- "October Surprise": Applicants must successfully complete a writing assignment in the form of a 10–12 page analytical/theoretical or historical argument paper on a film determined by the faculty. Students will pick up a DVD and a "prompt" or question in the Film Studies office at 4 p.m. on the Friday before the application is due. Over the weekend, the applicants must watch the movie, do some research, make an argument, and write the paper, which will be handed in with the application Monday at 9 a.m. The "October Surprise" portion of the application process is designed to have students demonstrate their writing skills and their ability to find, define, and argue a topic in a fairly sophisticated manner for an aspiring master’s student.
- Only currently enrolled, University of Colorado Boulder students, may be considered for admission to the program. Transfer students must complete at least 24 credit hours as a degree-seeking student before applying to the program.
- Student enrolled in the BA/MA track cannot pursue a double major or double degree of any kind.

**Requirements**

No more than 6 credit hours of independent study may be credited toward the major. Students must complete the required film courses with a grade of C or better. The arts and sciences 18-credit-hour minimum of upper-division credit hours must be met with CU film studies courses.

The Film Studies Program strongly urges the purchase of film and sound media-capable Apple computing systems for those pursuing production classes in the BA degree program (see www.colorado.edu/films/studies (http://www.colorado.edu/films/studies)).

**Required Courses and Credit Hours - Critical Studies**

Students must complete the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences and the required courses listed below. The Film Studies Critical Studies Program requires a minimum of 44 credit hours in support of the BA requirements, including film courses and courses taken in other departments.

Literature and the Arts Requirement
In addition to the 6-credit-hour literature and the arts core requirement, Film Studies majors must take an additional 6 credit hours (3 of them upper-division) of literature and the arts core courses to satisfy the degree requirements.

**Required Film Studies Core Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FILM 1502</td>
<td>Introduction to Film Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FILM 3051</td>
<td>Film History 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; FILM 3061</td>
<td>and Film History 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FILM 3104</td>
<td>Film Criticism and Theory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Critical Studies Elective Requirements**

Select 18 credit hours from the following (at least 12 must be upper division):

- FILM 2002 Recent International Cinema
- FILM 2003 Film Topics
- FILM 2004 CU Film Studies Seminar: The Telluride Film Festival
- FILM 2005 Form, Structure, and Narrative Analysis
- FILM 2312 Film Trilogies
- FILM 2513 Major Asian Filmmakers
- FILM 2521 Classics of the Foreign Film: 1960s to Present
- FILM 3002 Major Film Movements
- FILM 3003 Major Film Directors
- FILM 3004 Alfred Hitchcock: The American Films
- FILM 3012 Documentary Film
- FILM 3013 Women and Film
- FILM 3032 Stage Tragedy and Film
- FILM 3033 Color and Cinema
- FILM 3042 Horror Film
- FILM 3043 Topics in Critical Film Studies
- FILM 3081 Contemporary American Cinema: 1980 to Present
- FILM 3211 History of Russian Cinema
- FILM 3301 Contemporary Issues in Russian Film
- FILM 3422 The Hollywood Musical
- FILM 3503 German Film Through World War II
- FILM 3504 Topics in German Film
- FILM 3513 German Film and Society 1945-1989
- FILM 3514 German Film & Society After 1989
- FILM 3603 Sound and Vision
- FILM 3901 Independent Study (Critical Study)
- FILM 3940 Film Studies Internship
- FILM 4001 Screening Race, Class & Gender in the U.S. and the Global Borderland
- FILM 4003 Film and Literature
- FILM 4004 Topics in Film Theory
- FILM 4013 Film, Photography and Modernism
- FILM 4023 Topics in International Cinema
- FILM 4024 Advanced Research Seminar
- FILM 4043 Topics in Film Studies-Critical Studies
- FILM 4105 Advanced Screenwriting
- FILM 4135 Art and Psychoanalysis
- FILM 4453 Elective Affinities: Avant-Garde Film and the Arts
- FILM 4604 Colloquium in Film Aesthetics

Any FILM class crosslisted with another department (i.e., foreign language) that has been approved by the film studies chair

**Film Elective Requirements**

In addition to required Film classes, Film Studies majors must complete an additional six credit hours of FILM courses

**Total Credit Hours**: 44

1. This course is a prerequisite for FILM 2000 and FILM 3051.
2. Must be taken in chronological order. FILM 1502 is a prerequisite.
3. Course may be taken for credit more than once, provided that the topics vary.
4. Total number of independent study credit hours cannot exceed 6.

**Required Courses and Credit Hours - Production**

Students must complete the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences and the required courses listed below. The Film Studies Production Program requires a minimum of 48 credit hours in support of the BA requirements, including film courses and courses taken in other departments.

**Literature and the Arts Requirement**

In addition to the 6-credit-hour literature and the arts core requirement, Film Studies majors must take an additional 6 credit hours (3 of them upper-division) of literature and the arts core courses to satisfy the degree requirements.

**Required Film Studies Core Courses**

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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Film History 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; FILM 3061</td>
<td>and Film History 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Critical Studies Elective Requirements**

Select 6 credit hours from the following (at least 3 must be upper division):

- FILM 2002 Recent International Cinema
- FILM 2003 Film Topics
- FILM 2004 CU Film Studies Seminar: The Telluride Film Festival
- FILM 2005 Form, Structure, and Narrative Analysis
- FILM 2312 Film Trilogies
- FILM 2513 Major Asian Filmmakers
- FILM 2521 Classics of the Foreign Film: 1960s to Present
- FILM 3002 Major Film Movements
- FILM 3003 Major Film Directors
- FILM 3004 Alfred Hitchcock: The American Films
- FILM 3012 Documentary Film
- FILM 3013 Women and Film
- FILM 3032 Stage Tragedy and Film
- FILM 3033 Color and Cinema
- FILM 3042 Horror Film
- FILM 3043 Topics in Critical Film Studies
- FILM 3081 Contemporary American Cinema: 1980 to Present
- FILM 3211 History of Russian Cinema
- FILM 3301 Contemporary Issues in Russian Film
- FILM 3422 The Hollywood Musical
- FILM 3503 German Film Through World War II
- FILM 3504 Topics in German Film

**Total Credit Hours**: 44
FILM 3513  German Film and Society 1945-1989
FILM 3514  German Film & Society After 1989
FILM 3603  Sound and Vision
FILM 3901  Independent Study (Critical Study)  
FILM 3940  Film Studies Internship
FILM 4001  Screening Race, Class & Gender in the U.S. and the Global Borderland
FILM 4003  Film and Literature
FILM 4004  Topics in Film Theory  
FILM 4013  Film, Photography and Modernism
FILM 4023  Topics in International Cinema  
FILM 4024  Advanced Research Seminar  
FILM 4043  Topics in Film Studies-Critical Studies  
FILM 4105  Advanced Screenwriting
FILM 4135  Art and Psychoanalysis
FILM 4453  Elective Affinities: Avant-Garde Film and the Arts
FILM 4604  Colloquium in Film Aesthetics
Any FILM class crosslisted with another department (i.e., foreign language) that has been approved by the film studies chair

Production Core Courses
FILM 2000  Moving Image Foundations I  3
FILM 2500  Moving Image Foundations II  3
FILM 3400  Cinema Production I  3
FILM 3515  Camera Workshop  3
FILM 3525  Cinema Editing Workshop  3
FILM 3990  Film Practicum  1

Production Electives
Choose one each from 'Structure Foundations' and 'Foundation Elective':  6

Structure Foundations
FILM 2005  Form, Structure, and Narrative Analysis
FILM 2105  Introduction to the Screenplay
Foundation Elective
FILM 2010  Moving Image Computer Foundations
FILM 2300  Beginning/Intermediate Filmmaking
FILM 2610  Animation Production
FILM 2900  Lighting
FILM 3030  Cinema Alternative Process

Production Elective
Choose one of the following:  3
FILM 3010  Film Production Topics
FILM 3620  Experimental Digital Animation
FILM 3700  Digital Audio Design
FILM 3940  Film Studies Internship
FILM 4005  Screenwriting Workshop: Short Form
FILM 4010  Topics in Film Studies-Production
FILM 4021  Directing/Acting for the Camera
FILM 4400  Digital Post-Production Process

Total Credit Hours  48

1. This course is a prerequisite for FILM 2000 and FILM 3051.
2. Must be taken in chronological order. FILM 1502 is a prerequisite.
3. Course may be taken for credit more than once, provided that the topics vary.

4. Total number of independent study credit hours cannot exceed 6.

Graduating in Four Years with a BA
Consult the Four-Year Guarantee Requirements for information on eligibility. The concept of "adequate progress" as it is used here only refers to maintaining eligibility for the four-year guarantee; it is not a requirement for the major. To maintain adequate progress toward a BA in film studies, students should meet the following requirements:

- Declare a film studies major by the beginning of the second semester
- Complete the lower- or upper-division literature and the arts requirement (3 credit hours) and FILM 1502 by the end of the fourth semester.
- Complete the upper-division literature and the arts requirement (3 credit hours) and FILM 3051 and FILM 3061 by the end of the sixth semester.
- Complete 6 critical studies elective credit hours and 6 FILM elective credit hours by the end of the seventh semester (at least 3 of these credit hours must be upper-division credit hours).
- Complete an additional 12 credit hours of critical studies elective courses, including at least three upper-division courses (9 credit hours), and FILM 3104 by the eighth semester.