MEDIA STUDIES - BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

The Bachelor of Arts in media studies program emphasizes the creative and analytical skills needed to make sense of current and future trends in media, and to gain a deep understanding of the history and development of various means and forms of communication.

Explorations of media theory, history, criticism, practices, popular culture, technology and emerging cultures are enhanced by practical training in media design, storytelling, digital art, online community engagement, documentary filmmaking and social media.

Requirements

Required Courses and Credits

Students pursuing the BA in media studies complete 12 courses, for 36 credit hours. MDST requires an internship (3 credit hours; MDST 4931) in a field of the student’s choice, and a capstone course (3 credit hours; MDST 4221 or MDST 4401), both usually completed in the senior year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MDST Core</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 1001</td>
<td>Foundations of Media Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 1002</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Media</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 2002</td>
<td>Media and Communication History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 3001</td>
<td>Media Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 3002</td>
<td>Digital Culture and Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 4221</td>
<td>Media Technology and Cultural Change</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MDST 4401</td>
<td>Fan and Audience Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 4931</td>
<td>Internship</td>
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Students would then take six hours of Media Practice courses offered by MDST, other departments or programs in CMCI or outside CMCI.¹

Area of Concentration

Select three courses in one of the following:²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDST 2010</td>
<td>Media and Social Movements</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDST 2011</td>
<td>Disruptive Entrepreneurship in the Internet’s New Economies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDST 2012</td>
<td>Hacker Culture</td>
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<td>MDST 2021</td>
<td>Comic Books: Culture and Industry</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDST 3331</td>
<td>Sports-Media Complex</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDST 3341</td>
<td>Designing Alternative Media Platforms</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 3401</td>
<td>Media, Food and Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 3711</td>
<td>Media and Popular Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 4111</td>
<td>Crime, Media and Contemporary Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 4331</td>
<td>Gender, Race, Class, and Sexuality in Popular Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 4361</td>
<td>TV and the Family in American Culture and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 4371</td>
<td>Media and Religion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDST 4372</td>
<td>Islam, Pop Culture and Media</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

¹ The Media Practice component consists of courses involving hands-on work in the CMCI Departments of Advertising, Public Relations and Media Design; Journalism; Information Science or Critical Media Practices; or in the Technology, Arts and Media program in ATLAS.
² Courses meeting this requirement could come from anywhere within CMCI or across the CU Boulder campus curriculum.
³ The concentrations represent the priorities of the MDST curriculum, but students work with faculty to develop their own concentrated emphasis (to help determine which courses may or may not need to be available). Degree requirements will continue to be consistent: students must complete the core curriculum of courses, must meet the mandated numbers of hours, MDST requires an internship (3 hours) in a field of the student’s choice, and a 3 hour capstone course, both usually completed in the senior year. The concentrations represent the priorities of the MDST curriculum, but students work with faculty to develop their own concentrated emphasis (to help determine which courses may or may not need to be available). Degree requirements will continue to be consistent: students must complete the core curriculum of courses, must meet the mandated numbers of hours, MDST requires an internship (3 hours) in a field of the student’s choice, and a 3 hour capstone course, both usually completed in the senior year.

Secondary Area of Study

In addition to coursework required for the major, all students in MDST must complete a secondary area of study outside of MDST. This secondary area of study can be met by any of the following: a minor, a...
second major within CMCI, a double degree or any credit-based certificate program of at least 12 credit hours.

**Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year One</th>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMCI 1010</td>
<td>Concepts and Creativity 1: Media, Communication, Information</td>
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<td>MDST 1001</td>
<td>Foundations of Media Studies</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Quantitative Thinking</td>
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<th>Year One</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Title</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMCI 1020</td>
<td>Concepts and Creativity 2: Media, Communication, Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDST 1002</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Media</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMCI Core Computing</td>
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<td>CMCI Core or elective (P/S; H &amp; A; Hist V; Div &amp; Global)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Year Two</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDST 2002</td>
<td>Media and Communication History</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMCI Core (Natural World)</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Media Practice course</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMCI Core (Natural Work w/Lab)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDST 3001</td>
<td>Media Research</td>
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<td>Media Practice course</td>
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<td>MDST 3002</td>
<td>Digital Culture and Politics</td>
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<td>Area of Media Concentration</td>
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<td>Area of Media Concentration</td>
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<p>| Secondary Area | 6 |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<tr>
<td>MDST 4931</td>
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<td>CMCI Core or elective (P/S; H &amp; A; Hist V; Div &amp; Global)</td>
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Total Credit Hours | 120 |