

FILM AND NEW MEDIA (FILMM-UH)

FILMM-UH 1010 Sound, Image, and Story (4 Credits)

Typically offered Fall and Spring

Sound, Image, and Story is designed to give students the opportunity to explore their creative talent while gaining an understanding of the fundamentals of the art of filmmaking and its essential tools - from generating creative ideas through writing and directing to editing and post-production. As an integral part of the course, weekly workshops will cover the technical aspects of camera, lighting, sound, and post-production as well as methods in digital film production and set-protocol. Each student will participate actively in exercises, both individually and in groups, allowing them to discover and develop their unique artistic voice while gaining technical skills. This is a first-year production course designed for film majors, and open to all students.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

- Bulletin Categories: Art Art History: Art Practice/Design Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Art History Elective for Visual Arts Track
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media Major: Required
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media
- Crosslisted with: Art Art History
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media

FILMM-UH 1011 Concepts of Film and New Media (4 Credits)

Typically offered Fall and Spring

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts of film and new media studies. The course provides an overview of the historical development of film as an art, technology, and industry and the role of new media as an extension to and reinvention of models for production, distribution, exhibition, and reception. Students are introduced to documentary, experimental, narrative, and new media within different historical and cultural contexts, comparative aesthetics, and the lines of critical enquiry that have been developed for film and new media in dialogue with other fields in the arts and humanities.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

- Bulletin Categories: Digital Arts Humanities Minor: Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media Major: Required
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media
- Bulletin Categories: Pre-Professional Media, Culture Communication
- Crosslisted with: Digital Arts Humanities
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media
- Crosslisted with: Pre-Professional Media, Culture Communication

FILMM-UH 1012 Forms of Writing for the Screen (4 Credits)

Typically offered Fall

Whether narrative or non-narrative, the visceral, emotional, and intellectual power of film depends on understanding the elements that make for engaging and effective screenwriting across forms and genres. This course analyzes and puts into practice principles of different forms of dramatic and dynamic writing: narrative and documentary films as well as various non-dramatic forms, including music videos, video art, and experimental films. No single style or genre is prescribed. Writing assignments include both critical analyses and creative exercises.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives
- Bulletin Categories: LITCW: Creative Writing Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Literature: Topics Electives
- Bulletin Categories: No longer in use
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media
- Crosslisted with: LITCW: Required
- Crosslisted with: Literature Creative Writing

FILMM-UH 1013X Understanding MENASA Film and New Media (4 Credits)

Typically offered Spring

This course introduces students to the diverse history of film within the so-called Middle East (Southwest Asia), North Africa, and South Asia as a context for understanding culture and media on the Arabian Peninsula, especially the UAE. By examining pre-cinematic aesthetic, performative, and representational practices, alongside factors such as colonial and state censorship, public and private funding, and social change, the course provides different understandings of films made by Western foreigners, film production from major industries in Cairo, Chennai, Istanbul, Mumbai, and Tehran, and work by independent filmmakers and new media collectives who deconstruct tropes of colonialism, eurocentrism, nationalism, and patriarchy.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded

Repeatable for additional credit: No

- Bulletin Categories: Arab Crossroads Studies: Arts Literature
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media Major: Required
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media
- Bulletin Categories: Islamic Studies
- Bulletin Categories: Pre-Professional Media, Culture Communication
- Crosslisted with: Arab Crossroads Studies Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Arab Crossroads Studies
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media
- Crosslisted with: Pre-Professional Media, Culture Communication

FILMM-UH 1510 Techniques for Safety and Production (2 Credits)*Typically offered Fall and Spring*

Filmmaking is collaboration between highly specialized crafts. Students will learn how to operate equipment and direct crew safely in multiple hands-on production scenarios. With these skills at their disposal, students will learn methods for executing creative choices from a technical perspective. By the end of the course, students will have abilities that not only allow them to operate safely and productively, but also allow for artistic growth and flexibility.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Corequisites:** FILMM-UH 1010.

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media Major: Required
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media

FILMM-UH 1513 Directing the Non-actor: Singular Drama (4 Credits)*Typically offered Spring*

This practical workshop offers students hands-on insight into the process of creating drama in a film using the human capacity to respond emotionally to a fictional situation. Students learn how to direct films that have a precise screenplay and a well-constructed plot in a way that brings non-actors to act out a story without being aware that they are being directed according to a pre-written script.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives

FILMM-UH 1514 Cinematography: Art & Craft (4 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

An introductory studio practice course in cinematography and digital image-making. Students learn essential technical foundations including video formats, camera sensors, and equipment operation, then advance to practical skills in lighting, camera movement, and visual storytelling. Through exercises on sound stages and locations, students practice various lighting techniques, camera setups, and specialized shooting scenarios. Students rotate roles as Director of Photography on working film sets thus getting practical experience while developing their visual expression.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives

FILMM-UH 1516 Producing the Short Film (2 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

This course focuses on the duties of a producer throughout a film's life cycle; from development to execution. An intensive seven-week course, 'Producing the Short Film', acquaints students with industry positions, set protocols and gives them critical skills in scheduling and budgeting across digital platforms, including narrative and documentary filmmaking. After completing the course, students will be empowered, as producers, to manage film productions and strategically bring creative ideas to fruition.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives

FILMM-UH 1517 Production Sound for Film and New Media (2 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

The importance of quality sound in film and new media cannot be overstated - it is often said that "sound is seventy-percent of what you see." Production Sound for Film and New Media explores a variety of recording techniques, emphasizing dialogue and capturing the nature and aesthetics of sound on location. This course aims to give students high quality training in the theory and practice of sound recording using state-of-the-art 4K multi-camera. as well boom training. Additional topics include basic sound editing, microphone characteristics, the sound recording chain, and discerning what can be fixed in post versus what can only be done during production.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives

FILMM-UH 1910 Docu-Fiction (4 Credits)*Typically offered Spring*

Fact may or may not be stranger than fiction, but invariably both exert strong influences in creating narrative. This course explores how documentary and fiction are combined throughout history and in different cultures. The course will include an examination of the work of ten filmmakers who have merged both formats to create singular hybrid films. Dramatic reconstructions, manipulated imagery or fictional interstitials are frequently incorporated into documentaries to elevate realism. Conversely, fiction occasionally crosses over into documentary to create a sense of authenticity or truthfulness. Lastly, the division is sometimes completely eradicated making it difficult to distinguish the reality from the imaginary. Over the course of the semester, students will create their own docu-fiction short films. Students will bring together fiction and non-fiction story elements, reflecting on how each form complements the other.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives

FILMM-UH 1911 Introduction to Documentary Film (4 Credits)*Typically offered Spring*

This course will present an introduction to the history and stylistic range of the documentary film genre with a focus on film language, techniques, aesthetics, structure and other elements of visual non-fiction storytelling. Through the study of selected films, readings, lectures and discussions, we will gain a foundational knowledge of various stances filmmakers take in relation to their subjects and stories. We will also analyze the constructed nature of documentaries, and the problematic notions of representing "truth" and "unbiased" representations.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media

FILMM-UH 1912 Practices of Documentary Filmmaking: Record and Representation (4 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

This course focuses on the practice of Creative Documentary while engaging critical debates in documentary filmmaking. This course enables student to explore their artistic practice to expand the idea of both storytelling and knowledge production. The emphasis through the semester is on developing the students critical ways of seeing and supporting the process to develop artistic choices to express their vision. Documentary filmmaking is anchored around a research question and the use of cinematic language (image, sound and editing) to express the exploration of the subject. Students will be expected to develop, execute and present an independent documentary film project at the end of the semester. Students are required to crew for each other and are discouraged from shooting their own projects in a one-person crew.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media

FILMM-UH 2510 Practices of Narrative Filmmaking (4 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

This course is designed to develop techniques and skills in generating ideas for short narrative films that are shot on digital video and edited on nonlinear editing software. It will focus on strong visualization of story and camera techniques, as opposed to dialogue-based work. Students will develop skills in the elements of visual storytelling through the process of storyboarding and creating shot lists, then working in small crews to direct and shoot the projects. Students will gain knowledge of new photographic techniques, moving the camera dynamically, and the ways in which editing and sound design can be used to support story.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** FILMM-UH 1010; Pre- or Corequisite: FILMM-UH 1510.

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Practice Required

FILMM-UH 2513 Principles of Post-Production for Film and Video (2 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

Principals of Post Production focuses on techniques for editing, color grading, and compositing motion pictures. Using industry standard software, students will explore continuity editing techniques and theory, color grading and picture finishing, and compositing effects such as green screen and set extensions. Students will also engage new media technologies such as post for 360 Video, and VR Cinema. The course is designed to give hands-on experience that enable students to work across the production pipeline to meet international standards in the creation of entertainment products and communications media.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Counts towards IM 2000-Level
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives
- Bulletin Categories: IM 2000-Level
- Bulletin Categories: Interactive Media:Media Design Thinking Elective
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media
- Crosslisted with: Interactive Media Minor: Required
- Crosslisted with: Interactive Media

FILMM-UH 3110 Archives, Methods, Screens (4 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

This course focuses on practice-led research and research-led practice as methodologies for thinking about art and media in relation to archives and screens. Its central argument is that making and studying are not separate activities that corrupt one another but instead entwined and mutually constitutive activities that augment creativity and curiosity. Assignments encourages students to understand differences between making and studying in non-hierarchical and non-sequential ways.

By emphasizing feminist postcolonial transnational indigenous and posthuman approaches the course shifts attention from dominant modes such as flat-on-the-screen time-based commercial films as entertainment to immersive interactive locative auto-generative mobile nonlinear and tactical modes for producing research through arts practice and producing arts practice through research.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

Prerequisites: FILMM-UH 1011, FILMM-UH 1013X, ARTH-UH 1110X, ARTH-UH 2118X, IM-UH 1012, IM-UH 1013, MUSIC-UH 1004, MUSIC-UH 1005, THEAT-UH 1011 or ARTH-UH 1010.

- Bulletin Categories: Art Art History: Art Practice/Design Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Art History Elective for Visual Arts Track
- Bulletin Categories: Counts towards IM 2000-Level
- Bulletin Categories: Digital Arts Humanities Minor: Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media Major: Required
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media
- Bulletin Categories: IM 2000-Level
- Bulletin Categories: Interactive Media:Media Design Thinking Elective
- Bulletin Categories: Literature: Topics Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Pre-Professional Media, Culture Communication
- Crosslisted with: Art Art History
- Crosslisted with: Digital Arts Humanities
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media Major: Required
- Crosslisted with: Film New Media
- Crosslisted with: Interactive Media Minor: Required
- Crosslisted with: Interactive Media
- Crosslisted with: LITCW: Required
- Crosslisted with: Literature Creative Writing
- Crosslisted with: Pre-Professional Media, Culture Communication

FILMM-UH 3511 Cinematic Expression: Methods, Sketches (4 Credits)*Typically offered Spring*

In this intensive course, Film and New Media majors will define a research question and explore different iterations of the same theme through different modes of film making. These iterations will be in the form of sketches where students will be encouraged to experiment the same set of ideas/subjects/narratives using different combinations of the tools at their disposal. Different formal choices will lead to entirely new set of explorations and meanings embedded in the same theme. This course attempts to blur boundaries between documentary and narrative film, conceptual and emotive cinema, art and communication. Students are encouraged to reflect on 'what' they want to express and 'how' they intend to express this. But the key motivation for the assignments is to lead students to addressing the question - 'why'. Why am I making this image and what is my relationship with and responsibility towards this image - this is the core concern that students will grapple with. Students are encouraged to locate their research question within Abu Dhabi or the UAE.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

Prerequisites: FILMM-UH 2510 or FILMM-UH 1912.

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media Major: Required
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives
- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media

FILMM-UH 3512 Short Projects in Cinematography & Directing (4 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

This course focuses on developing and producing three short projects: a music video, a short narrative, and a commercial. Students will research the historical development of each project's form as they develop their work. The course will advance the student's conceptual and practical knowledge of directing, cinematography, and film production. The course will formally link students to collaborate in post-production with editors and colorists in Principles in Post-Production, and sound designers in Immersive Audio Storytelling. Students will conclude the course by submitting at least one of the projects to regional and global film festivals.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

Prerequisites: FILMM-UH 1514 and FILMM-UH 2510.

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Electives

FILMM-UH 4000 Capstone Seminar: Film and New Media (4 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

The Capstone Seminar provides senior Film and New Media Studies majors with the opportunity to research and develop the concept for their senior Capstone Project. Students are encouraged to integrate studies and practice in (a) writing a research paper that explores a historical, cultural, or theoretical question related to film and new media broadly conceived and (b) making an accompanying creative or curatorial project. Such projects must include screen media, such as micro-short films, interactive installations or locative media that involve mobile apps or projection, or take the form of a prototype for multi-level videogames or interactive narrative or documentary projects. Creative projects must engage with the student's academic research into both the content and form of their creative project.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** FILMM-UH -UH 3110 or FILMM-UH 3511.

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Capstone

FILMM-UH 4001 Film & New Media Capstone Project (4 Credits)*Typically offered Spring*

The Capstone Projects course in Film and New Media provides seniors with the opportunity to complete a Capstone project, which ranges in form from a research paper to time-based media (narrative, documentary, experimental) or digital object involving an installation or performance (video art, new media art, video game, mobile app, locative media) or a combination of these forms. The course focuses on identifying and articulating the objective of each student's project through editing, self-assessment, and peer review. Ongoing emphasis will be placed on a writing portfolio, which will include critical analysis of arts practice or a conference version of a research paper. The course prepares students for a defense of the project before a faculty panel and a public presentation of the project. The course also explores topics of interest to future graduates, including festivals, programming, research, and graduate programs.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** FILMM-UH 4000.

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Capstone

FILMM-UH 4110 Film and New Media Capstone Seminar (4 Credits)*Typically offered Fall*

The Capstone Seminar provides senior Film and New Media majors with the opportunity to research and develop the concept for their senior Capstone Project. Students are encouraged to integrate studies and practice. In coordination with their Capstone adviser, students will develop a proposal to be presented to the faculty.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Capstone

FILMM-UH 4501 Film and New Media Practice Capstone Seminar (4 Credits)*Typically offered Spring*

Required for FNM Practice. Senior FNM students arrive with a Capstone proposal/screenplay. After further development students will produce their Capstone project. Students are encouraged to integrate studies and practice with the intention of creating a time-based media project, including but not limited to single or multichannel, multi-platform documentary, experimental, live action or animated narrative. Students are required to crew on their classmates Capstone shoots.

Grading: Ugrd Abu Dhabi Graded**Repeatable for additional credit:** No**Prerequisites:** Must be a declared film and new media major and Senior standing.

- Bulletin Categories: Film New Media: Capstone