

FILM AND TELEVISION (MFA)

Department Website (<http://www.tisch.nyu.edu/grad-film/>)

NYSED: 08101 **HEGIS:** 1010 **CIP:** 50.0602

Program Description

The Graduate Division of the Maurice Kanbar Institute of Film and Television at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts is an intensive three-year conservatory graduate film production program that trains students in the art of cinematic storytelling. We focus on helping writer/directors develop a narrative voice and the technical virtuosity to express that voice in cinema. Our students learn by doing— writing scripts, directing and producing films and exercises, and shooting and crewing on each other's projects. Every student has an opportunity to make a minimum of five movies while at NYU.

The program confers a Master of Fine Arts degree. The Graduate Film Program encompasses both fiction and documentary filmmaking. Each semester, courses in screenwriting, directing, aesthetics, acting, cinematography, editing, producing, and sound design complement specific filmmaking projects that provide hands-on training. Our students are well-prepared to transition into the professional world with a range of technical skills which often lead to employment in the industry, a reel of short films that can serve as calling cards, and a feature film script or television bible.

Admissions

All graduate applicants to the Tisch School of the Arts are required to submit the General Graduate Application (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/generalapplicationrequirements/>), as well as a department-specific portfolio or creative supplement. Each of these can be submitted online.

See Graduate Admissions (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

For international applicants, see International Applicant Requirements (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/internationalapplicantrequirements/>). Applicants with international credentials should be sure to check to see if their credentials are equivalent to an American Bachelor's degree (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/USbaequivalency/>) before applying.

Dual Degree

This program offers a dual degree with the NYU Stern School of Business (<https://www.stern.nyu.edu/programs-admissions/mba-programs/dual-degrees/mba-mfa/>). See Admissions (<https://tisch.nyu.edu/mba-mfa/admissions/>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
GFMTV-GT 2000	First Year Colloquium	1
GFMTV-GT 2001	Editing I	2
GFMTV-GT 2002	Editing II	2
GFMTV-GT 2007	Introduction to Producing	2

GFMTV-GT 2010	Aesthetics/Silent	2
GFMTV-GT 2011	Aesthetics:	2
GFMTV-GT 2012	Mot Pic Cam Tech Beg I	2
GFMTV-GT 2017	INTRODUCTION TO PRODUCING II	1
GFMTV-GT 2031	Location Sound II	2
GFMTV-GT 2034	Directing Wkshp Beg I	3
GFMTV-GT 2035	Directing II	3
GFMTV-GT 2038	Location Sound	1
GFMTV-GT 2043	Actors Craft	2
GFMTV-GT 2044	Actors Craft II	2
GFMTV-GT 2083	Motion Pic Cam Tech II	2
GFMTV-GT 2085	Fundamentals of Screen Writing	3
GFMTV-GT 2086	Screen Writing	3
GFMTV-GT 2099	Production Safety and Set Protocol	1
GFMTV-GT 2101	Narrative Editing	2
GFMTV-GT 2102	Editing Workshop	2
GFMTV-GT 2103	Producing The Short Narrative Film	2
GFMTV-GT 2104	Producing for Directors: Independent Features	2
GFMTV-GT 2113	Directing The Actor I	2
GFMTV-GT 2116	Intermediate Cinematography I	2
GFMTV-GT 2117	Writing The Short Screenplay	2
GFMTV-GT 2118	Developing the Treatment for Feature Films	4
GFMTV-GT 2125	Aesthetics: Narrative Film Style	2
GFMTV-GT 2134	Directing III	4
GFMTV-GT 2135	Directing IV: Director's Cut	4
GFMTV-GT 2169	Tech Workshop	2
GFMTV-GT 2170	Post Production Sound Design	2
GFMTV-GT 2213	Writing The Feature I	4
	or GFMTV-GT 2256	Television Writing & Series Development
GFMTV-GT 2246	Advanced Directing	4
	or GFMTV-GT 2247	Directing Projects: Collaborations

Electives

Other Elective Credits ¹	32
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Total Credits **108**

1

Chosen in consultation with an academic adviser.

General Program Information

First Year

First-year students are immersed in all aspects of film production, attending classes that explore aesthetic principles as well as technical applications. In addition to their course work, students write and direct three short films in their first year, working on each other's projects by rotating crew positions.

Second Year

Course work continues through the second year and culminates with each student directing a 10-minute second year narrative film, and also crewing on five of their classmates' second year films, which culminates in a year-end Second Year Showcase of all the completed films. While most students will graduate as writer-directors, they can begin to

specialize in the areas of Editing, Cinematography and Producing in the spring of second year.

Third Year

The primary focus of the third year is the development of a thesis project, which can be a narrative or documentary film, a TV pilot or web series, a feature screenplay or TV/web series written pilot and bible; or an editing or cinematography reel of work done on other students' projects. Students may also graduate as producers, with a producing thesis portfolio. During this third year, students are also able to participate in collaboration classes with students from other Tisch School of the Arts programs, such as the Design, Graduate Acting and ITP departments. Students undergo rigorous training in and out of the classroom in preparation for their thesis project. Several advanced courses are also available as electives in the third year that prepare students for their transition to the professional world. Students may elect courses in feature screenplay writing and are encouraged to complete a feature-length script by graduation. Each thesis is reviewed by a faculty committee, which then recommends the student for graduation.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
GFMTV-GT 2034	Directing Wkshp Beg I	3
GFMTV-GT 2085	Fundamentals of Screen Writing	3
GFMTV-GT 2000	First Year Colloquium	1
GFMTV-GT 2012	Mot Pic Cam Tech Beg I	2
GFMTV-GT 2001	Editing I	2
GFMTV-GT 2038	Location Sound	1
GFMTV-GT 2043	Actors Craft	2
GFMTV-GT 2007	Introduction to Producing	2
GFMTV-GT 2010	Aesthetics/Silent	2
Credits		18
2nd Semester/Term		
GFMTV-GT 2035	Directing II	3
GFMTV-GT 2086	Screen Writing	3
GFMTV-GT 2099	Production Safety and Set Protocol	1
GFMTV-GT 2017	INTRODUCTION TO PRODUCING II	1
GFMTV-GT 2011	Aesthetics:	2
GFMTV-GT 2000	First Year Colloquium	1
GFMTV-GT 2083	Motion Pic Cam Tech II	2
GFMTV-GT 2002	Editing II	2
GFMTV-GT 2031	Location Sound II	2
GFMTV-GT 2044	Actors Craft II	2
Credits		19
3rd Semester/Term		
GFMTV-GT 2103	Producing The Short Narrative Film	2
GFMTV-GT 2134	Directing III	4
GFMTV-GT 2117	Writing The Short Screenplay	2
GFMTV-GT 2116	Intermediate Cinematography I	2
GFMTV-GT 2169	Tech Workshop	2
GFMTV-GT 2113	Directing The Actor I	2
GFMTV-GT 2101	Narrative Editing	2
GFMTV-GT 2125	Aesthetics: Narrative Film Style	2
Credits		18
4th Semester/Term		
GFMTV-GT 2135	Directing IV: Director's Cut	4
GFMTV-GT 2118	Developing the Treatment for Feature Films	4
GFMTV-GT 2102	Editing Workshop	2
GFMTV-GT 2104	Producing for Directors: Independent Features	2
GFMTV-GT 2170	Post Production Sound Design	2

Other Elective Credits	4	
Credits	18	
5th Semester/Term		
GFMTV-GT 2213 or GFMTV-GT 2256	Writing The Feature I or Television Writing & Series Development	4
GFMTV-GT 2246 or GFMTV-GT 2247	Advanced Directing or Directing Projects: Collaborations	4
Other Elective Credits	9	
Credits	17	
6th Semester/Term		
Other Elective Credits	18	
Credits	18	
Total Credits	108	

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will:

1. Understand the technologies involved in making narrative films including film and digital cameras, AVID editing systems and workflows, audio recording and mixing, lighting instruments and related grip equipment.
2. Understand dramatic structure and dialogue in writing of short and feature-length narrative scripts.
3. Understand the stages and elements involved in the safe production of short and feature-length narrative films, including development, financing, budgeting, scheduling, set operations, post-production, marketing and distribution. Also includes learning how to use industry-standard software for budgeting and scheduling.
4. The understanding of the director's role and capacity to execute same with originality, including drawing out and shaping performances from actors, design and direction of mise-en-scene (camera and staging), and the use of design and location elements appropriate to the original telling of the author's narrative, in a cinematic (as opposed to theatrical) way.

Policies NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

Tisch Policies

Additional academic policies can be found on the Tisch academic policy page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/arts/academic-policies/>).