Television, Film and New Media Production

In the School of Theatre, Television, and Film
In the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts

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Faculty
Donald J. Hopkins, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film (Graduate Adviser)
Gregory C. Durbin, M.F.A., Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film
Mark W. Freeman, M.F.A., Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film
Martha M. Lauzen, Ph.D., Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film
Jack Ofield, Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film, Emeritus
Filmmaker in Residence
Timothy A. Powell, Ph.D., Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film
Randy Reinholz, M.F.A., Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film
David A. Morong, M.F.A., Associate Professor of Theatre, Television, and Film

Associateships and Assistantships
Graduate teaching associateships and graduate assistantships are available to a limited number of qualified students. Application forms and further information may be obtained from the school.

General Information
The School of Theatre, Television, and Film offers graduate study leading to the Master of Arts degree in television, film and media production. The degree prepares students for careers in creative areas of media design and production.

The School of Theatre, Television, and Film houses the Production Center for Documentary and Drama. Established in 1990, the center has produced over 305 national and regional television programs and non-profit social, cultural, and institutional documentaries. These productions offer seniors and graduates opportunities to work in key roles (writer, director, line producer, crew, editor, composer, graphic design, etc.).

The center exists to serve the school, university and community, to mentor senior and graduate film/video projects, and develop forums for their exhibition. An example is the Emmy Award-winning, "The Short List," the long-running public TV showcase for U.S. and international short film, produced in the Production Center since 1992.

Filmmaker in Residence
The position of Filmmaker in Residence is unique in the CSU system. It was established to provide a professional link between the Television and Film program and the media industry in a rapidly evolving technological environment. The Filmmaker in Residence is the film and television producer, Jack Ofield.

Master of Arts Degree in Television, Film and New Media Production

The School of Theatre, Television, and Film, in the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts, offers graduate study leading to the Master of Arts degree in television, film and new media production. This degree stresses hands-on creative endeavor. It is especially useful for those pursuing careers in film, television, radio, new media, or related production activities where sophisticated and disciplined ability to conceive, initiate and complete original media is required. Graduates of this program gain the essential education, technical training, and creative experience necessary for professional careers, further study in the field, and/or professional careers in teaching. This degree offers advanced study in the history and criticism of broadcasting and film; scriptwriting; financing, preproduction, and postproduction; advanced audio, video, and film production; production design and art direction; international cinema; and development of production expertise in a wide range of emerging communication technologies.

Admission to Graduate Study

Students will be admitted for the fall semester only. Application packages must be received and complete by the previous March 1.

In addition to meeting the general requirements for admission to the university with classified graduate standing, as outlined in Part Two of this bulletin, students applying for admission to the Master of Arts degree in television, film and new media production are evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Undergraduate major or minor in television, film, or a related communication discipline. Those lacking adequate undergraduate preparation or equivalent professional experience for the program should consider enrolling in media courses at community colleges or in intensive craft training programs before applying to the television, film and new media production program.

2. Minimum grade point average of 3.0 (when A equals 4.0) in the last 60 semester (90 quarter) units attempted (this calculation may not include lower division courses taken after award of a baccalaureate degree).

3. All applicants must post a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) verbal score of 450 or higher; a GRE quantitative score of 450 or higher; a combined GRE verbal and quantitative score of 950 or higher; and a GRE writing assessment (GRE-W) of level 4 or higher. For applicants deficient in the GRE quantitative, a score of 450 or higher on the GRE analytic may be substituted.
4. For international applicants for whom English is not their first language, English language paper scores of 550 (or 213 online) or higher and a Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), indicating successful passage of the reading, writing, listening, and English usage test offered by the Cambridge English for Life (EFL) testing program.

Students applying for admission should electronically submit the university application available at http://www.csumentor.edu along with the $55 application fee.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the School of Theatre, Television, and Film.

Graduate Admissions

The following materials should be submitted together directly to:

Graduate Admissions
Enrollment Services
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-7416

(1) Official transcripts (in sealed envelopes) from all postsecondary institutions attended;

Note:
- Students who attended SDSU need only submit transcripts for work completed since last attendance.
- Students with international coursework must submit both the official transcript and proof of degree. If documents are in a language other than English, they must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

(2) GRE scores (http://www.ets.org SDSU institution code 4682);

(3) English language score, if medium of instruction was in a language other than English (http://www.ets.org SDSU institution code 4682);

School of Theatre, Television, and Film

The following materials should be submitted by March 1 for the fall semester to:

School of Theatre, Television, and Film
(Attention: Graduate Adviser)
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-7601

(1) Three letters of recommendation. At least one letter from an academic reference and at least one letter from a professor or professional acquainted with the applicant's creative activities;

(2) A resume that includes any film and/or video production experience you have had;

(3) The best evidence applicant can provide of creativity relevant to media productivity, technical skill level, and command of the medium. Generally, a sample reel is the most useful. The sample reel should be a DVD (NTSC, region 0 or 1) of work in which applicant held a key creative role (writer/director, cinematographer, editor, sound designer, production designer). Credits must be clearly indicated. Even though long work may be submitted, no more than 10 minutes of the work provided will be viewed, so cue, or specify appropriate cueing, of sample. In lieu of a sample reel, other examples might include a sample of original textual work (play, story, or screenplay for writers/directors) or visual material (drawings, storyboards, designs, or studio photography that may reflect lighting, framing, or composition skills);

(4) A list, by author and title, of six books (novels, plays, essays) that have influenced applicant artistically;

(5) A list of three films (narratives, documentaries, experimental), plays or television programs that applicant admires, devoting one paragraph to each work;

(6) A list and description (in a sentence) of applicant's hobbies and interests outside of film, video, and theatre;

(7) Personal Statement: A short essay describing your creative and career goals and how you think this program will benefit you. (Maximum two pages.)

Admission to the program is competitive, and satisfying these requirements does not guarantee admission. The decision to admit is based on consideration of the entire application file; promising applicants in unusual circumstances are encouraged to apply.

Students accepted for graduate study in the Master of Arts degree in television, film and new media production are initially admitted with conditional graduate standing (classified). Full classified standing is awarded only after the student has completed Television, Film and New Media 605 with a grade of B or better.

Advancement to Candidacy

In addition to meeting the general requirements for advancement to candidacy described in Part Four of this bulletin, students seeking the Master of Arts in television, film, and new media production must complete Television, Film and New Media 670 with a grade of B or better prior to advancement.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

(Major Code: 06031) (SIMS Code: 667307)

Candidates for the Master of Arts degree in television, film and new media production must complete 30 units of coursework to include the following:

1. Television, Film and New Media 799A (Plan A, the thesis option, is required of all students in the program), Television, Film and New Media 605, 625, 670, 675, and six units selected from Television, Film and New Media 530, 571, 573.

2. With approval of the graduate adviser, nine additional graduate units in Television, Film and New Media, Theatre, and other departments.

3. No more than three units of electives outside the School of Theatre, Television, and Film.

Courses Acceptable on Master's Degree Program in Television, Film and New Media Production (TFM)

Refer to Courses and Curricula and Regulations of the Division of Graduate Affairs sections of this bulletin for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

TFM 510, Advanced Script Writing for Television and Film (3)
Prerequisite: Television, Film and New Media 314 (or consent of instructor).
Scripting of dramatic original and adaptation forms, and documentay. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units.

TFM 522, Advanced Film and Television Cinematography (3)
Two lectures and three hours of laboratory.
Prerequisite: Television, Film and New Media 314 (or consent of instructor).
Advanced theory and practice of cinematography for film and television production. Lighting for mood and character; camera movement for story telling; and new techniques in film, digital, and HD formats. Careers in the purely visual aspects of film making. (Not the same course as Television, Film and New Media 522 in the 2004-05 catalog and previous SDSU catalogs.)

TFM 530, Selected Topics in Genre Studies for Television and Film (3)
Film and television genres (noir, western, comedy, musical, science fiction, soap opera, etc.) including key media texts, aesthetics, themes, history, and social context. May be repeated with new course content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units.
TFM 540. Documentary Production (3)
Two lectures and three or more hours of activity.
Prerequisites: Television, Film and New Media 314 and 361.
Hands-on field experiences in documentary production to include research and writing techniques, investigative procedures, interviewing, shooting and editing. Analyze significant documentaries. (Formerly numbered Television, Film and New Media 340.)

TFM 550. Art Direction for Television and Film (3)
One lecture and four hours of activity.
Prerequisites: Television, Film and New Media 350; 360 or 361 for television, film and new media majors, and Theatre 440 for theatre majors, and consent of instructor. Proof of completion of prerequisites required: Copy of transcript.
Aesthetic, technical, and practical aspects of design for television and film. Experience in scenic design, graphics, set decoration, budgeting, and scheduling.

TFM 551. Production Design for Television and Film (3)
Prerequisites: Television, Film and New Media 350 and credit or concurrent registration in Television, Film and New Media 401.
Theory and analysis of production design concepts for television and film. Development of designs and analysis of technical requirements for fictional and nonfictional productions.

TFM 560. Advanced Film (3)
Two lectures and more than three hours of activity.
Prerequisites: Television, Film and New Media 314 (or consent of instructor), 360, and 361.
Practicum in direction and production of dramatic and non-dramatic film. Cameras, lighting, design, sound techniques, experience in university sponsored productions. Completion of a short film.

TFM 561. Advanced Television (3)
Two lectures and more than three hours of activity.
Prerequisite: Television, Film and New Media 314 (or consent of instructor).
Production processes and techniques to include producing, critical analysis, directing, digital cinematography, and editing of scripted projects. Experience in individual and university-sponsored productions.

TFM 571. Selected Topics in Director Studies (3)
Prerequisite: Television, Film and New Media 310.
Historical significance of and theoretical approaches to major media directors (Welles, Hitchcock, Spielberg, etc.) including breadth of work, cultural and generic contexts, aesthetic innovation, and recurring themes. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific topic. Maximum credit six units.

TFM 573. Selected Topics in History of Film, TV, and Media (3)
Prerequisite: Television, Film and New Media 310.
Media history including cultural and generic developments, patterns of exhibition, technological influences, significant creative and industrial figures, commercial and social contexts. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific topic. Maximum credit six units.

TFM 590. Directing for Film and Television (3)
One lecture and six hours of activity.
Prerequisite: Television, Film and New Media 314 (or consent of instructor).
Directing fundamentals and production to include script analysis, director’s preparation and directing actors. (Formerly numbered Television, Film and New Media 390.)

TFM 596. Selected Topics in Television, Film and New Media (1-4)
Prerequisite: Twelve units in television, film and media.
Specialized study of selected topics from the areas of television, film and new media. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master’s degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

GRADUATE COURSES

TFM 605. Seminar: Production for Television and Film (3)
Prerequisite: Admission to M.A. program.
Film and television production. Lectures and production of two short media projects that link research to artistic process and familiarize students with all aspects of the television, film and new media program.

TFM 610. Seminar in Writing for Television and Film (3)
Prerequisite: Admission to M.A. program.
Non-dramatic and dramatic structures as they apply to non-fiction and fiction television programs and films. Writing full length script or scenario. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

TFM 625. Seminar: Writing Short Narrative and Documentary Films (3)
Prerequisite: Classified graduate standing.
Creating scripts for short narrative films and documentary productions.

TFM 670. Seminar: Midway Review Production (3)
Prerequisites: Television, Film and New Media 605 and 625.
Development and completion of midway project for presentation before faculty jury. Research, presentation and analysis of related work, and creative engagement with material and subject matter to include retrospective written analysis of the work.

TFM 675. Seminar: Research and Bibliography in Media Production (3)
Prerequisites: Television, Film and New Media 670 and six units selected from Television, Film and New Media 462, 470, 530, 571, 573, and consent of instructor.
Methods of research, critical analysis, and writing in relation to creative work. (Formerly numbered Television, Film and New Media 600.)

TFM 761. Seminar: Selected Topics in Television, Film and New Media (3)
Prerequisite: Television, Film and New Media 462.
Intensive study in television, film and new media issues and trends. See Class Schedule for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit nine units applicable to a master’s degree in television, film and new media.

TFM 798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP
Individual study. Contract required. Arranged with graduate coordinator in area of study. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

TFM 799A. Thesis or Project (3) Cr/NC/RP
Prerequisites: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.
Preparation of a project or thesis for the master’s degree.

TFM 799B. Thesis or Project Extension (0) Cr/NC
Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis or Project 799A with an assigned grade symbol of RP
Following assignment of RP in Course 799A, registration in this course is required in any semester in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the university; also student must be registered in this course when the completed thesis or project is granted final approval.

_CLASS SCHEDULE_

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