



School of Communication and the Arts

FACT SHEET

Master of Fine Arts

Major: Script & Screenwriting

Program Description

This 44 credit hour program is designed to be completed either on campus or online. The major is devoted to applying current knowledge, research and skills in communication to develop writers who effectively communicate through stage and media productions. Specific areas of writing focus are determined by the strengths of current faculty. The MFA degree is a professional terminal degree that emphasizes skills and performance rather than original research.

Degree Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of commonly discussed and applied film and television theories and aesthetics.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to conceptualize a film, television or video project, which includes development, research, scriptwriting, character development, scene analysis, and storyline development.
3. Students will demonstrate a knowledge of the cinema-television production process, including pre-production, production, and post-production.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to apply research skills to the process of creating film and television productions for public consumption.
5. Students will demonstrate an integration of the Christian faith and their professional media work.

Program Requirements

UNIV LIB University Library Information Course (no credit, fee based, online)

Residency

This program requires at least one week-long summer residency (registered under the SSW 680 MFA Practicum) during progress through the program.

Required Courses for the script & screenwriting major

CTV 505 Aesthetics & Techniques for Cinema-Television (3)

CTV 528 Leadership Issues in Media (3)

CTV 600 Theory & Criticism of Cinema-Television (3)

One of the following:

CTV 602 History of American Cinema 1 (3)

CTV 603 History of American Cinema 2 (3)

CTV 604 Redemptive Cinema (3)

SSW 510 Story Structure for Stage & Screen (3)

SSW 511 Playwriting (3)

SSW 512 Writing the Short Film (3)

SSW 514 Writing for Television (3)

SSW 612 Feature Film Scriptwriting (3)

SSW 614 Topics in Scriptwriting (3) – topics will vary

SSW 680 MFA Practicum (2-6)

SSW 698 MFA Portfolio (3)

Students will fulfill the 44 credit hour program with a minimum of 3 credit hours of critical studies and 6 general electives as approved by the advisor.

*Students who want to emphasize writing for theatre may take THE 600 History & Literature of the Theatre or THE 604 Theories of Acting & Directing in lieu of either CTV 602 or CTV 603

Department Chair

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