

Film and Video Production MFA Timeline

This document outlines the course loads and academic expectations for the MFA Candidate in Film and Video Production (FVP). The document is in a timeline format, charting academic commitments from first year to third year and thesis. In addition to course work and academic expectations outlined in this document, self-directed development of creative practice and projects will be expected.

First Year Semester 1 (Fall)

Course load:

- Graduate Colloquium (required)
- FVP class (required)
- Film Studies class (recommended) or elective

Other academic expectations:

- First Year MFA candidates meet with Advisor regularly throughout the semester.
- First Year MFA candidates complete Plans of Study forms.
- First Year MFA candidates participate in an end-of-semester critique. All FVP faculty and MFA's are required to attend.

First Year Semester 2 (Spring):

Course load:

- FVP class (required)
- Film Studies class (strongly recommended)
- Elective outside of the department (recommended)

Other academic expectations:

- First Year MFA candidates meet with Advisor regularly throughout the semester.
- First Year MFA candidates participate in an end-of-semester critique. All FVP faculty and MFA's are required to attend.

Second Year Semester 3 (Fall):

Course load:

- Graduate Colloquium (required)
- Film Studies class (strongly recommended if you have not already taken two)
- Elective outside of the dept. or another FVP class

Other academic expectations:

- Second Year MFA candidates meet with Advisor regularly throughout the semester.
- Second year MFA candidates select Written Comprehensive exam committee.
- Second year MFA candidates submit an abstract that summarizes the subject and/or focus of the written comprehensive exam, and a 10-20 bibliography and 10-15 filmography of sources to be used for a written comprehensive exam.
- Second year MFA candidates submit five potential questions for written comprehensive exam. From these five questions, the comprehensive exam committee will select one and the MFA candidate will be expected to write an approximately ten-page paper (double-spaced) in response. The comprehensive written exam is a take-home exam, and will be completed early in the spring semester.

- Second year MFA candidates participate in an end-of-semester critique. All FVP faculty and MFA's are required to attend.

Second Year Semester 4 (Spring)

Course load:

- Media Production Workshop (required)
- Elective outside of the dept. or another FVP class
- Elective or another FVP class

Other academic expectations:

- Second Year MFA candidates meet with Advisor regularly throughout the semester.
- Second year MFA candidates submit written comprehensive exams in early spring semester.
- Second year MFA candidates must submit an artist statement that outlines creative and research interests. This statement will be submitted to the comprehensive exam committee members in advance of the Oral Comprehensive exam.
- Oral Comprehensive Exam: Second year MFA candidates meet with the Comps committee for approximately one hour to present work generated over the first and second year, contextualizing the work as it relates to research interests. The artist statement will also be discussed.
- Second year MFA candidates select their graduate thesis committee.
- Second year MFA candidates submit a proposal for a thesis project. Proposal includes abstract, timeline of production and estimated budget for production.
- Second year MFA candidates schedule 30 min. MFA Clearance meeting with thesis committee to discuss thesis proposal.
- Second year MFA candidates participate in an end-of-semester critique. All FVP faculty and MFA's are required to attend.

SEMESTER 5 (Fall)

Course load:

- Thesis – register for 6 sh with your Advisor
- Elective

Other academic expectations:

- Third Year MFA candidates meet with Advisor regularly throughout the semester.
- Third year MFA candidates must meet with the thesis committee once during the semester to discuss and view thesis production/progress.
- Thesis Workshop: Third-year MFA students will participate in an end-of-semester critique to chart his/her thesis progress. All FVP Faculty and all FVP MFA's are required to attend. External thesis committee members are welcome but not required to attend.

SEMESTER 6 (Spring)

Course load:

- Thesis – register for 6 sh with your Advisor
- Elective

Other academic expectations:

- Third Year MFA candidates meet with Advisor regularly throughout the semester.

- Third year MFA candidates must meet with thesis committee at least once during the semester (before Spring Break) to view and discuss the thesis project. A rough draft of the written thesis must be submitted in advance of this meeting.
- Third year MFA candidates are expected to screen and defend their thesis projects in late April of the sixth semester of study for a May graduation date. A written thesis of approximately twenty pages must also accompany the thesis moving image work.
- Third year MFA submits application to graduate
- First Deposit (written thesis only) due to Graduate College (follow GC deadlines)
- Third year student completes thesis screening and defense.
- Final Exam report due to Graduate College (follow GC deadlines)
- Final Deposit (written thesis & thesis film) due to Graduate College (follow GC deadlines)
- Third year MFA candidates are expected to attend the end-of-semester critique, though they are not required to show work.