

**Film Studies Graduate Program  
Department of Cinematic Arts  
University of Iowa**

**Template for Plan of Study:**

The Plan of Study document consists of the following general sections:

- I. Historical Research Area
- II. Theoretical Research Area
- III. Third Research Area
- IV. Research Tool
- V. Transfer Credits (if relevant)

Sections I-III should each contain the same sub-sections:

1. The named (Historical, Theoretical, Third) area with a brief paragraph clearly identifying the primary significance, content and contours of the area.
2. A short list of 3-5 key research questions to be explored within the area.
3. A list of completed and anticipated coursework, as well as of courses taught or other research projects relevant to acquiring expertise each area. (Please provide full info on courses taken, including course number/title, semester, and instructor.)

Sections I-III should be followed by Section IV and (if relevant) V:

- IV. The named Research Tool and a brief paragraph clarifying its relevance for the student's anticipated research goals. Any courses (taken or to be taken) or experience relevant to the Research Tool should be noted.
- V. Information on relevant previous coursework: the Department allows up to 33 hours of previously earned course credit to be applied to the minimum requirement of 72 hours for the PhD in Film Studies.