

Interdisciplinary Major Proposal: Film Studies

Although my interest in film began during high school with the actual creation of films, my interest has expanded with the film theory courses I have taken at Hendrix. When I first arrived at Hendrix I declared an English major. I had always found textual analysis engaging in my high school classrooms, so it seemed the logical choice. The labor itself involved in sifting through words and the chance of discovering the intended meaning or bits of wisdom within the text captivated me. Not long after starting at Hendrix, however, I found myself wanting to do more than pick apart pieces of literature. I moved from English to Art History. There I could analyze and break down images in the same way that I did with writing. This past fall semester while taking Great Directors and Theories of Cinematic Time I realized that Film Studies was the field of study where all of my interests converged. With a Film Studies major I will practice textual analysis (both print and non-print texts) and continue to study art, through a medium that has intrigued me for years.

Hendrix has already acknowledged the merits and place of Film Studies within a liberal arts setting by offering a minor; I have expanded this set of courses so that I can learn about film through a more interdisciplinary approach. Because I plan to continue my studies in film after Hendrix in a graduate program, a film studies major will give me a strong foundation for further study and introduce me to new ideas that I can take with me to the graduate level. I have incorporated theoretical, cultural and philosophical courses that approach cinema from multiple disciplines yet provide a focused field of study. These courses will develop and sharpen my analytical skills and make me a more informed and curious spectator.

The majority of the classes I have included in this major are film theory courses though I have included classes on national cinema and auteur theory. Another, Literary Theory, will provide sufficient background for the film theory I will be studying. My capstone experience for this major will be a paper that will conclude the FILM 399 Independent Study course in which I will incorporate film theory into an in-depth study on a subject to be decided.

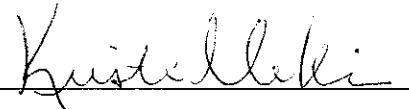
Major Requirements:

1. ENGL 269 Introduction to Film Studies (Spring 2007)
2. ENGL 375 Theories of Cinematic Time (Fall 2008)
3. ENGL 376 Theories of Cinematic Spectacle (Spring 2009)
4. FILM 381 Film Theory (Fall 2009)
5. FILM 382 Non-Fiction Film (Spring 2010)
6. ENGL 358 African Film (Spring 2010)
7. FILM 392 Great Directors (Fall 2008)
8. PHIL 289 Aesthetics (Spring 2010)
9. ENGL 362 Contemporary Literary Theory (Spring 2010)
10. FILM 399 Independent Study with Dr. McKim (Fall 2009)

Current Status: Junior

Faculty Committee:

Dr. McKim (Interdisciplinary Studies Committee Chair)



Dr. Stuber

