

Cinema Studies at Rutgers University

CINEMA STUDIES is an interdisciplinary program dedicated to the promotion of visual literacy and cross-cultural exploration, through the focused study of film in its various historical and aesthetic contexts. At the undergraduate level, we offer a **MAJOR** as well as a **MINOR** (see reverse). ➡

Cinema Studies faculty teach **a rich variety of courses**, engaging with a diverse range of topics, from Hollywood to Bollywood; from early surrealist experimentation to the latest trends in digital moving image media and gaming; from theories of genre to theories of gender; from Mexican melodramas to Mafia movies; and from revolutionary and environmental cinema to global cult films and horror.

Cinema Studies courses enable students to hone their **analytical, communication and writing skills**, in preparation for a broad variety of professional and educational pursuits after graduation. Cinema Studies majors and minors will be especially well prepared for an ever-expanding range of **twenty-first century jobs**, for which **visual literacy and creativity** are essential skills.

Many Cinema Studies graduates successfully pursue careers in film education, criticism, production, and distribution. While they are enrolled at Rutgers, Cinema Studies students may undertake **internships on campus** with the **New Jersey Film Festival**; they may also intern with New York City-based film production and distribution companies or film festivals. A significant number of our students are involved in **filmmaking**, writing their own scripts and shooting their own films, as well as working on independent and industry films in the area. The major offers a track in "Production and Criticism" for students who are interested in combining filmmaking and film analysis; we also share courses and students with the Filmmaking BFA Program in the Mason Gross School of the Arts.

Questions? Please contact us!

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Professor Al Nigrin, Executive Director/Curator, Rutgers Film Co-op/NJMAC, New Jersey Film Festivals: NJMAC@aol.com; <http://www.njfilmfest.com/> AB-4170

Cinema Studies Major Program Requirements

The interdisciplinary major in Cinema Studies consists of **eleven courses**, completed with a grade of C or better, and with a minimum of five courses at the 300 level or above. Majors choose **one of two options**: “History and Theory” or “Production and Criticism.”

All majors must complete the following core requirements:

1. Introduction to Film I and Introduction to Film II (Close Readings may substitute for ONE of those)
2. Three electives
3. The Senior Seminar in Cinema Studies OR Seminar: Film Theory

Five additional courses are required for each option.

Options within the Major

A. “History and Theory” Option

1. Two survey courses: American Cinema I and II OR World Cinema I and II
2. Two courses in Non-US Cinemas
3. One Theory course: Seminar in Film Theory OR Theories of Women in Film

B. “Production and Criticism” Option

1. Two Survey courses: World Cinema I and II
2. One course in Auteur or Genre Studies
3. Two Production courses [more may be taken to fulfill the 3-elective requirement above]

Cinema Studies Minor Program Requirements:

The interdisciplinary minor in Cinema Studies consists of **seven courses**, completed with a grade of C or better, and with a minimum of three courses at the 300 level or above. They include **three required courses**: Introduction to Film I and Introduction to Film II (Close Readings may substitute for ONE of those), and the Senior Seminar in Cinema Studies; **and four electives**.

Please note that Cinema Studies courses generally include an additional mandatory weekly meeting time for screenings, or require students to view films outside of class.

For more information on Cinema Studies see: <http://www.cinemastudies.rutgers.edu>

FOR NEXT SEMESTER'S COURSES, PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE.



Rutgers Cinema Studies Courses for Summer and Fall 2026

Summer 2026

Cinema Studies

01:175:266:E6:00099 Cult Films in American Culture (Nigrin)

Online Course Dates/Time: 5/26/2026 – 7/2/2026 - Remote Instruction with Asynchronous Lectures + Film Screenings and Synchronous Zoom Review meetings at 6PM on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays.

English-Film Studies

01:354:312:E6:00963 Cinema and the Arts (Nigrin)

Online Course Dates/Time: 5/27/2026 – 7/1/2026 - Remote Instruction with Asynchronous Lectures + Film Screenings and Synchronous Zoom Review meetings at 6PM on Mondays and/or Wednesdays.

Fall 2026

NOTE: We will be joined by a new faculty member in the fall, Professor Nick Rueda-Sabater, a specialist in American and world cinema as well as in gaming. In the fall he will teach a section of Introduction to Film 1 and a 300-level class, still in the works. An updated list of courses will be sent out when his schedule is finalized.

Cinema Studies

01:175:201:01: 11241 Introduction to Film I (Fresko)

MW 3:50-5:10PM; M 5:40-8:40PM

01:175:265:01: 10150 American Experimental Film and Video (Nigrin)

TTh 5:40-7:00PM; Th 7:30-8:50PM

01:175:315:01: 11243 American Cinema I (Ginsberg)

MTh 10:20-11:40AM; T 5:40-8:40PM

01:175:316:01: 11244 American Cinema II (Ginsberg)

TTh 3:50-5:10PM; Th 5:40-8:40PM

01:175:350:01: 11245 Major Filmmakers (Ginsberg)

TTh 2:00-3:20PM; Screenings TBA

01:175:360:01: 11246 Classics of German Cinema (Ak)

TF 10:20-11:40AM; Screenings TBA

01:175:377:01: 10096 World Cinema: Film & Lit in So. Asia (Sen)

MW 3:50-5:10PM; Screenings TBA

01:175:377:02: 11248 World Cinema: Classics of Italian Cinema (Gambarota)

TTh 12:10-1:30PM; Screenings TBA

01:175:420:01: 11252 Seminar in Film Theory (Fresko)

MW 2:00-3:20PM; M 5:40-8:40PM

English-Creative Writing

01:351:314:01: 11843 Documentary Filmmaking for Writers (Hulme)

Th 10:20-1:20PM

English-Film Studies

01:354:210:01: 11850 Close Readings of Cinema (Sendur)

MW 3:50-5:10PM; W 5:40-8:40PM

Please note that some **Mason Gross BFA in Filmmaking** courses are open to CS students. For more information, email Professor Dave Fresko (df529@rutgers.edu) or Professor Susan Martin-Márquez (susanmm@rutgers.edu).

