How does film use image and sound to tell a story? What kinds of stories do we seek out in cinema, and how do those stories reflect—or anticipate—the larger cultural and political world in which they are made? Should movies reflect reality, or is their purpose something else entirely? A consideration of film means thinking about this medium as entertainment, as art, as societal artifact, and as a rapidly changing technology.

The Minor
The film studies minor is housed in the English program, which emphasizes similar tools for critical and narrative analysis, though students do not have to be English majors in order to pursue the minor. Film students at Centre study the history and philosophy of film and can choose to explore topics like international film traditions, major film genres, and how film relates to other media and disciplines. Although this minor focuses on the study of film rather than its production, occasional classes in filmmaking are offered, and students can also get involved in various broadcasting groups on campus.

Movies are a part of everyone’s life, and film studies encourages students to see them in a deeper, richer context and in ways that relate to students’ other academic and personal interests. This minor provides a basic foundation for those considering graduate school in film or a career in production, and can enhance students’ studies in related areas like psychology, English, creative writing, drama, foreign languages, and history, among others.

What Courses Will I Take?
The film studies minor consists of five courses—two are required and three can be chosen from an approved list.

Introduction to Film (FLM 205), the first required course, traces some of the major movements in film history while reviewing a basic vocabulary for film study, the relationship of art and life, notions of authority and resistance, the attractions of genre, and the place of film in the digital era. Film Theory (FLM 305), the second required course, introduces students to the major developments in film criticism and theory beyond the basics of film technique and history covered in FLM 205, and addresses ideas about spectacle and surveillance, audience reception, gender and psychoanalytic theory, and postcolonialism.

The remaining three courses can be chosen from a list of courses approved for the minor each term. Recent offerings have included Silence and Sound in Film, Global Cinema, Screenwriting, and Iranian Cinema.

Faculty
STACEY PEEBLES (Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin), NEH Associate Professor of English and Director of Film Studies

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Related Website
Film Studies Program Overview

Visit Centre
The best way to judge Centre is to tour the campus, attend a class, talk to the professors and students, and spend the night in a residence hall. We invite you to visit and encourage you to contact the Admission Office if you have any questions.

The Centre Commitment
We back our promise with a deeply engaging and intensely personal education guarantee. If you meet regular academic and social expectations, you will complete all three parts of the Centre Commitment, or the college will provide up to an additional year of study tuition-free.

Centre students will:
- Study abroad
- Have an internship or research opportunity
- Graduate in four years