MEDIA AND CINEMA STUDIES (MACS)

MACS Class Schedule (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/MACS)

Courses

MACS 100 Intro to Popular TV & Movies credit: 3 Hours.
The goal of this course is for students to begin to develop a critical understanding of the role of popular movies and television in their own lives and in U.S. culture. The course looks at issues of the relationship of media to social violence, gender identities, sexual identities, adolescents, minority cultures, and the role of the U.S. media globally. It also considers some of the major media genres that characterize U.S. popular television and movies.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

MACS 101 Intro to the Media credit: 3 Hours.
Introduces students to core issues in communication, ranging from the role of language in human history to political questions posed by electronic and digital technologies. Exploring key contemporary problems through timely readings, students learn and write about how the media affect everyday life. Prerequisite: Freshman or sophomore standing. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Advanced Composition

MACS 104 Intro to Film credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ENGL 104. See ENGL 104. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts

MACS 107 Shakespeare on Film credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ENGL 117. See ENGL 117. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts

MACS 117 Intro to African-American Film credit: 3 Hours.
Examines the history, theory, and aesthetics of African-American filmmaking from the silent era to the present. Films are analyzed within their sociocultural contexts, with particular attention to how constructions of race, identity, and community interact with class, gender, and sexuality; and the link between film and other forms of Black expressive culture. The impact of African-American film on popular culture, links to the African Diaspora, and relations with other communities of color will also be discussed. Same as AFRO 211. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: US Minority Culture(s)

MACS 120 American Cinema credit: 3 Hours.
Provides a critical context for recent international cinema by exploring several kinds of genres, aesthetics, and technologies. We will discuss transnational trends in cinema relating to the influence of other media such as gaming, social networking, and personal electronics, as well as consider impacts of economic structures of global filmmaking production and exhibition. We will view popular and art movies, and query longstanding categories such as the teen pic, “woman’s” film, and documentary.

MACS 203 Contemporary Movies credit: 3 Hours.
Provides a critical context for recent international cinema by exploring several kinds of genres, aesthetics, and technologies. We will discuss transnational trends in cinema relating to the influence of other media such as gaming, social networking, and personal electronics, as well as consider impacts of economic structures of global filmmaking production and exhibition. We will view popular and art movies, and query longstanding categories such as the teen pic, “woman’s” film, and documentary.

MACS 205 Introduction to Documentary credit: 3 Hours.
This course introduces students to one of the fastest growing areas in media today: the documentary. It’s designed for students who want to expand their knowledge and appreciation of documentaries in all their forms. Using weekly in-class screenings, discussion, readings, and writing, students will examine a wide variety of documentaries, looking at their styles, purposes, and storytelling “voices”, as well as learning the language and other fundamentals of documentary. We will also cover some of the basic methods involved in planning and creating a documentary. Please note: this is NOT a hands-on production course. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above required.

MACS 207 Indian Cinema in Context credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 207. See CWL 207. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts
UIUC: Non-Western Cultures

MACS 211 Intro to African-American Film credit: 3 Hours.
Examines the history, theory, and aesthetics of African-American filmmaking from the silent era to the present. Films are analyzed within their sociocultural contexts, with particular attention to how constructions of race, identity, and community interact with class, gender, and sexuality; and the link between film and other forms of Black expressive culture. The impact of African-American film on popular culture, links to the African Diaspora, and relations with other communities of color will also be discussed. Same as AFRO 211. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: US Minority Culture(s)

MACS 224 Sportmedia Technology & Culture credit: 3 Hours.
This course is designed for students who are curious about (a) how new technologies are changing sportsmedia cultures, and (b) the kinds of knowledge and skills needed to effectively engage with this powerful cultural and economic industry. We’ll use four primary focal points (ESPN, Sport Fandom, Action-Sports, Data Production / Smart Stadiums) to help us understand today’s sportsmedia cultural industry’s challenges and possibilities, and the kinds of challenges and possibilities that the sportsmedia cultural industry creates for society. We’ll also use our course focal points and related industry websites to concretize the key concepts (drawn from theoretical readings and applied studies in media studies, sociology, sport studies, and technology studies).

MACS 250 Latina/os on the Bronze Screen credit: 3 Hours.
Same as LLS 250. See LLS 250. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts
UIUC: US Minority Culture(s)

MACS 261 Survey of World Cinema I credit: 3 Hours.
Survey of the development of equipment, techniques, and themes of the cinema from its origins through the coming of sound; lectures, discussions, and showings of selected films.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts
MACS 262  Survey of World Cinema II  credit: 3 Hours.
Survey of the development of equipment, techniques, and themes of the
cinema from the coming of sound to the present; lectures, discussions,
and showings of selected films.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts

MACS 264  Creative and Information Economies  credit: 4 Hours.
An introduction to the political economy of the media in the U.S. The
purpose of the class is to acquaint students with a core understanding
of how the media system operates, and with what effects, in a capitalist
society. The course examines the role of advertising, public relations,
corporate concentration, and government regulation upon journalism,
entertainment, culture, and participatory democracy. The class
also examines issues such as the Internet, globalization, and public
broadcasting.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: HistPhilosorPersp
UIUC: Western CompArts Cult

MACS 273  American Cinema Since 1950  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ENGL 273. See ENGL 273.

MACS 275  Am Indian and Indigenous Film  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AIS 275 and ENGL 275. See AIS 275.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts
UIUC: US Minority Cult(s)

MACS 295  Intro Media/Cinema Topics  credit: 3 Hours.
Introduction to the study of special topics in media and cinema studies,
including cultural, social, historical, economic, and/or political issues
in media and/or cinema. Topics vary but may include: genres, stars,
historical movements, thematic studies, television, convergence
culture, new media. May be repeated in the same or separate terms to a
maximum of 6 hours if topics vary.

MACS 300  Topics in Film and History  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 300. See HIST 300.

MACS 317  Media History  credit: 3 Hours.
Presents the nature and development of communication systems;
history of communication media; history of journalism, advertising, and
broadcasting; and communications in the modern world.

MACS 320  Popular Culture  credit: 3 Hours.
Examines the critical literature on mass media entertainment; reviews
significant contemporary issues and develops perspectives for
understanding popular culture.

MACS 321  Film Culture  credit: 3 Hours.
Introduces students to key issues of, major theoretical approaches
to, and current debates about the cultural function of films. Course
addresses theories of spectatorship, the politics of pleasure, the culture
of entertainment, and the cinematic construction of race, class, and
gender.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Western CompArts Cult

MACS 322  Politics and the Media  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CMN 325 and PS 312. See PS 312.

MACS 323  Studies Film/Media Production  credit: 1 to 3 Hours.
Provides analytical framework for pursuing film/media production.
Emphasizes critical analysis of various aspects of production: e.g.,
scriptwriting, storyboarding, cinematography, editing, set and costume
design, location and studio shooting, sound. Covers theories of
representation, narrative, meaning-making, experimentation, and
audience in relation to film/media production practices. Does not,
however, teach students how to do film and media production (e.g., how
to work a camera, etc.). Therefore, students must come to the course
with experience in film and/or media production (can be self-taught).
Both individual and group projects are encouraged. Students should
expect to work as crew for other students in class. Culminates in a
public screening at which students present an analysis of their own
project–both the process and the finished product. To apply for course,
students (individually or in groups) must propose an idea or concept for
a film/media project they would like to produce during the class. May be
repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 6 hours. May be repeated
by students who wish to pursue a longer project in two consecutive
semesters (may include summer). Students may not repeat the course to
pursue separate projects. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

MACS 326  New Media, Culture & Society  credit: 3 Hours.
Digital media is an immensely pervasive and powerful form of
communication that despite its rapid growth has yet to reach most of the
world's population. This lecture-based survey course for undergraduates
traces the history and formation of personal computing and the Internet,
the development of virtual communities and virtual worlds, evolving
forms of digital representation and communication, digital visual
cultures, features of new media industries, and the rise of participatory
media. Evaluation and assessment is based on written exams, quizzes,
class discussion in section, and practice-based assignments using
new media technologies such as wikis, blogs, games, and digital video.
Emphasis is on mastering key concepts of digital media through theory
and history, and on critical discussion of distinctive features of digital
media objects. Lectures and discussion sections are held in computer
equipped classrooms. Same as INFO 326.

MACS 331  Media and Democracy  credit: 3 Hours.
Studies the philosophical bases of the functions and the responsibilities
of mass communications.

MACS 335  Film, TV, and Gender  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as GWS 335. See GWS 335.

MACS 345  Digital & Gender Cultures  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as GWS 345, INFO 345, and SOC 345. See GWS 345.

MACS 346  Case Study: Endless Summer  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as KIN 346 and RST 346. See KIN 346.

MACS 351  Social Aspects of Media  credit: 3 Hours.
Explores media structures in relation to cultural content and social
functions; examines problems of life and society as treated in mass-
produced communications. Same as SOC 351.

MACS 352  Attitude Theory and Change  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as PSYC 352 and SOC 300. See PSYC 352.
MACS 356 Sex & Gender in Popular Media credit: 3 Hours.
Examines the notion that the mass media influence our development as
gendered individuals, looking at those who argue for and against this
notion. Considers different forms of feminist theory applied to the study
of mass media, the history and scholarly criticisms of the media and
their portrayal of women, and feminist attempts to create alternatives
to mainstream media images. Throughout, the course considers
representation of minorities in the dominant media and examines newly
created alternative representations. Same as GWS 356.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Western Comparsv Cult

MACS 361 Film Theory and Criticism credit: 3 Hours.
Study of major aesthetic and critical theories about film; study of theory
and practice of film criticism.

MACS 364 Topics in Media Business credit: 3 Hours.
Addresses the business, industry, and economic implications of the
interaction of Internet, television, radio, film, and print outlets through
digitization-driven platform and interactive technologies. Explores
historical and emergent business models, ownership and work patterns,
and investment arrangement related to media convergence. Investigates
novel forms of individual and collective labor structures and globally
distributed modes of production and consumption. Includes attention
to economic and scholarly models seeking to analyze media business
structures. Specific topics vary by semester, but may include Google,
Disney, and Hollywood studio system, or activist media organizations.
May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours if topics vary.

MACS 365 Asian American Media and Film credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AAS 365. See AAS 365.

MACS 373 Special Topics in Film Studies credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ENGL 373. See ENGL 373.

MACS 375 Latina/o Media in the US credit: 3 Hours.
Examines the portrayal and participation of Latinas and Latinos in the
U.S. media using a variety of interdisciplinary approaches. Addresses
historical and political movements that have been critical to Latina/ 
Latino print, broadcast, and electronic communication within the broader
cultural context of cultural diversity. Same as LLS 375.

MACS 377 Global Communications credit: 3 Hours.
Introduces students to the multiple dimensions of cross-national and
comparative communications. Specific topics will vary according
to instructor’s focus, but may include human dimensions of global
communication, intercultural communication, media impact, structure
and processes of institutional communication (i.e. propaganda,
diplomacy).

MACS 381 Black Women and Film credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AFRO 381. See AFRO 381.

MACS 382 French & Comparative Cinema I credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 387, FR 387, and HUM 387. See FR 387.

MACS 383 French & Comparative Cinema II credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 389, FR 389, and HUM 389. See FR 389.

MACS 389 International Communications credit: 3 Hours.
Provides an interdisciplinary approach to international communications;
its structure and content; the role of international communications
in conflict and conflict resolution; the semantics of international
communication; the technical and economic aspects of international
mass communications; and government-industry relations in
communications. Same as PS 389.

MACS 391 Individual Study credit: 0 to 3 Hours.
Individual research and exploration of media and cinema studies topics
under the guidance of a faculty advisor. May be repeated in the same or
in multiple semesters, if topics vary. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

MACS 395 Special Media/Cinema Topics credit: 3 Hours.
Cultural, social, historical, economic, and/or political issues in media and/
or cinema; topics vary but may include: genres, historical movements,
themetic studies, television, convergence culture, new media. May be
repeated to a maximum of 6 hours if topics vary.

MACS 408 TV Studies credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Examines factors reshaping TV and its relationship to culture, including
genres, industry practices (advertising, production, distribution), new
media technologies (YouTube, Twitter, and newer developments), and
computer gaming. Analyzes places/spaces of television, mobility,
surveillance, television as instruction/guide (dating, cooking, fashion),
citizenship, consumption, and TV in everyday life. Focuses on
contemporary aspects of TV, with some attention to earlier forms and
practices of television. Students required to view and analyze some
television programs outside of class. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate
hours.

MACS 410 Media Ethics credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Surveys the major ethical problems in news, advertising, publications
and entertainment media; includes case studies and moral reasoning
on confidentiality, privacy, conflicts of interest, deception, violence, and
pornography. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

MACS 419 Russian & East European Film credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as SLAV 419. See SLAV 419.

MACS 423 Language Acquisition credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as LING 423 and PSYC 423. See PSYC 423.

MACS 425 Intro to Psycholinguistics credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as LING 425. See LING 425.

MACS 432 Commodifying Difference credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as AAS 435, AFRO 435, GWS 435, and LLS 435. See LLS 435.

MACS 461 Politics of Popular Culture credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as AIS 461. See AIS 461.

MACS 464 Film Festivals credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Examines the history and significance of film festivals: What they mean
for the film industry (marketing, distribution, production), audiences (both
at the festival and beyond), film history, and the evolution of filmmaking.
Covers specific local, national, and international festivals including
festivals focused on particular issues (e.g., Chicago International
Children’s Film Festival, San Francisco International Asian American
Film Festival, Miami Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, and our own local
IU/B 48-Hour Film Contest). Coordinated with Roger Ebert’s Film Festival
(which is held in Champaign every April) including internship/volunteer
opportunities, screenings, and meetings with guests. Class culminates
with a UIUC student film festival, organized, judged, and sponsored by the
class. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

MACS 466 Japanese Cinema credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Examines the influence of Japan’s traditional aesthetics on its cinema
and surveys its major film movements, genres, and directors. Same as
EALC 466. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: One
course in the College of Media or East Asian Languages and Cultures, or
consent of instructor.

MACS 470 Topics in Italian Cinema credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as ITAL 470. See ITAL 470.
MACS 490  Green Screen: Film and Nature  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as EURO 489 and SCAN 490. See SCAN 490.

MACS 492  Scandinavian Cinema  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as SCAN 492. See SCAN 492.

MACS 493  German Cinema I  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as GER 493. See GER 493.

MACS 494  German Cinema II  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as GER 494. See GER 494.

MACS 495  Internship Seminar  credit: 0 to 1 Hours.
Seminar based on internship experience. Offered for College of Media students who complete an approved internship. 0 to 1 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit. Approved for S/U grading only. May be repeated in the same term to a maximum of 2 undergraduate hours. May be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 3 undergraduate hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

MACS 496  Advanced Media/Cinema Topics  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Advanced study of cultural, social, historical, economic, and/or political issues in media and/or cinema; topics vary but may include national and transnational cinemas, directors, genres, historical movements, social and political movements, thematic studies, television, convergence culture, new media. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated in the same or separate terms to a maximum of 6 undergraduate hours or 8 graduate hours as topics vary. Prerequisite: One College of Media course or consent of instructor.

MACS 498  Senior Seminar  credit: 3 Hours.
Seminar and tutorial in selected Media and Cinema Studies topics. 3 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit. May be repeated in the same or subsequent semesters to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: Senior standing, a declared Media and Cinema Studies major, or consent of instructor.

MACS 499  Senior Thesis  credit: 3 Hours.
Individual research for majors in Media and Cinema Studies leading to the completion of a thesis. 3 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: Senior standing, a declared Media and Cinema Studies Major, and consent of advisor.

MACS 503  Historiography of Cinema  credit: 4 Hours.
Seminar on historical perspectives on cinema as an institution, a body of signifying practices, a product to be consumed, a phenomenon of modernity, and a cultural artifact, and on cinema in relation to other screen media. Same as CWL 503 and ENGL 503.

MACS 504  Theories of Cinema  credit: 4 Hours.
Seminar on influential theories and accompanying debates about the textual/extra-textual mechanisms and cultural/political impact of cinema and related screen media. Same as CWL 504 and ENGL 504.