

Whatever your major, whether English or otherwise, Film Studies intersects with that discipline because movies deal with every aspect of human behavior and social significance. They dramatize and satirize our hopes, fears, and concerns in all areas of our lives. They show us where we've been, how we've acted, and what we've thought. They also give us art, great, popular, or trash. Students have a vast, passive, instinctive storehouse of knowledge about visual texts because they have grown up using and consuming visual texts in a culture that has become as much visually communicative as it is verbally communicative. A basic understanding of the importance of visual imagery and the ability to analyze it is fundamental to becoming educated in the field of English Studies and prepared for the job market.

In English, Film Studies coordinates perfectly with an interest in literature. Film scholars are wanted for teaching and publishing. For teachers, understanding film provides new techniques to use in the classroom. Plus, by following this sample four-year plan, you can fit in a second focus within English such as literature, creative writing, or pre-law studies. Or, you could use the flexibility in your program to choose a second major.

The English Department and Center for Film Studies also offer internships and special events such as a film series each semester and campus visits by artists such as producer Marie Cantin (Masked and Anonymous), screenwriter Michael Minor (the original Robocop), and actor Brian O'Halloran (Clerks). In sum, we offer multiple opportunities for students to get creatively involved in the program.



	Freshman Year	Junior Year
Fall	ENGL 101 ENGL 122 Wellness Math Science	ENGL Lit Survey ENGL Film Studies ENGL Film Studies Foreign Language Social Science
Spring	ENGL 202 ENGL 208 Science Religion/Philosophy Fine Arts	Internship ENGL Film or Lit Social Science
	Sophomore Year	Senior Year
Fall	ENGL Lit Survey ENGL 208 Intro to Film Foreign Language HIST 195, 197, or 198 Liberal Studies	ENGL Film or Lit Free Elective Free Elective Free Elective Free Elective
Spring	ENGL 220, 221, or 222 ENGL Film Studies Liberal Studies Foreign Language Social Science	ENGL 484 Capstone Course Free Elective Free Elective Free Elective Free Elective

**Film Studies Courses:** Some will appear more regularly than others. Look for course promotional materials before each semester. Work with your advisor to plan ahead and see what course are scheduled for future semesters. Literature courses often include a number of films as well, providing a valuable study of a topic from both a film and lit perspective.

**ENGL 208 Intro to Film Studies:** Students learn how filmmakers create their art through shaping the narrative and using various film techniques. The goal is not to define good or bad, but to understand how films achieve their effects.

**ENGL 332 Film Genres:** Students study the importance of genre in understanding films and in the making, packaging and selling of films. Different genres of films are studied to understand historical trends in films and film production.

**ENGL 350 Gender and Sexual Orientation in Film, Lit, and Theory:** Masculinity, femininity, transgender, and sexual identities on film are explored in this course.

**ENGL 440 Major Figures in Film:** This course generally studies the work of one or two specific directors. Some past subjects have been Darren Aronofsky, Alfred Hitchcock, and the Coen Brothers. Courses focusing on producers, performers, or cinematographers would not be out of the question.

**ENGL 450 Film Theory:** Students use concepts like seeing films as a door, window, or frame and understanding how we relate to them through our eyes, ears, and other physical reactions. We learn about films that puzzle us and challenge us intellectually as well.

**ENGL 460 Topics in Film:** Faculty might select a topic such as the films of a specific decade or focus such as films set in urban or rural environments, films concerned with depictions of families or marriage, or films in which governments play key roles.

**ENGL 463 Topics in Global Lit and Film:** Students study films from different parts of the world that provide a variety of perspectives. Global texts offer us a wonderful opportunity to explore lives and experiences that are different from ours and yet find grounds for identification, understanding, comparison, interpretation, and empathy.

#### **FACULTY:**

**Dr. Tom Slater:** Dr. Slater teaches the 208, 350, and 450 courses and founded the IUP Center for Film Studies through which he has organized campus visits for many screen artists and worked with colleagues and students to build the English Film Series.

**Dr. Reena Dube:** Dr. Dube teaches 208, 332, 460, & 463. She has a strong expertise in writing and teaching about global cinema and its intersection with American cinema. Currently she is interested in urban environments on film, a topic that includes all genres and national cinemas. So her courses always feature an exciting variety of films involving many intriguing topics.

**Dr. Judith Villa:** Dr. Villa teaches 208, using her interests in Popular Culture, Multicultural Studies, and Women's Studies as a focus for learning.

English Department  
Humanities and Social Sciences Building  
Fifth Floor  
Indiana, PA 15705-1094  
Phone: 724-357-2266

Office Hours  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

