

Preparing to Complete the CIN-Production Concentration

SENIOR THESIS FILM PROJECT

The Department of Media Culture offers two Cinema BA degrees: Cinema Studies, and the Cinema Production Concentration. The Cinema Production Concentration requires a senior thesis video or film. A thesis film requires extensive planning, excellent communication with an advisor, and a great deal of self-reliance and organization. Failure to complete the thesis film can delay or even prevent graduation. Preparation begins during your junior year or upon earning 90 credits.

Thesis courses

CIN 497 is an independent study required for all production majors.** An advanced production course co-rec is recommended for CIN 497. This provides departmental support and guarantees equipment access. CIN 311 and CIN 312 can be repeated for this purpose. Thesis projects are most often completed in two semesters. This is recommended.

First-semester thesis

- CIN 497 Thesis Pre-production and production
- CIN3XX Co-rec for CIN497 Thesis Pre-production and production

Second-semester thesis

- CIN XXX/594 Thesis Post-production and distribution a second semester for completion of the thesis
- CIN 3XX Co-rec for CIN 594

Cinema 497 Guidelines

Requirements for proposing a senior thesis.

- CIN Production major
- 3.0 GPA
- Junior or 90 credits

Cinema production faculty

Professor Tara Mateik

Professor Sherry Milner

Professor Jason Simon

Please list the faculty you'd like to work with in order of preference. Note: Not all students will be selected to work with their first choice. To work with a non-production faculty member, you will need approval from the non-production faculty member, the Production Coordinator, and the Chair.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

To have your thesis plan approved you must have completed the following:

- A review of the major, thesis guidelines and production calendar with production advisor
- One-page written project proposal including: title, format, genre, logline, summary, and intended audience.
- For fiction: completed script or treatment
- For non-fiction or experimental: completed research questions/subjects related to content and technical execution
- Proposal review. Meet on Zoom or in-person with CIN production faculty.
- Revise written proposal.
- Define your specialized production role(s) e.g., writer, director, producer, cinematographer, editor
- Add production timeline
- Add filmography and bibliography
- Resubmit proposal and timeline for approval by the Department Chair or a faculty committee designated by the Chair
- After approval, theses are nominated for independent study course approval with Registrar

Proposal Rubric

TRT 10 minutes

Includes description of research, conclusion and/or breakdown of technical skill.

Provide a clear statement supported by examples that support the main conceptual idea(s).

Articulate historical, theoretical and/or aesthetic influences.

**** Note:** In the rare event that an internship is secured in the motion picture industry, CIN 390 may sub for CIN 497. **This does not replace the production thesis film requirement.** The same preliminary steps for a thesis film should be followed with an advisor.