# Film and Media Culture

## Learning Goals

1. To be exposed to a broad background in film and electronic media across historical eras and international borders.
2. To learn a disciplinary vocabulary and develop the ability to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the properties of film and media.
3. To develop the research skills and methods, and deepen a theoretical background, as necessary to write and communicate about film and media from a range of academic perspectives.
4. To develop an understanding of the relationship between film and media as sites of representation, and their creators, industries, audiences, and cultural contexts.
5. To develop the skills to create media works that are influenced by the works studied, and in turn to shape critical analytical abilities.

## About the major

The Film and Media Culture Department is dedicated to the study of film and visual media as a vital aspect of a liberal arts education. Our students study film and a wide range of visual media, including television, digital games, online video, and video art, as aesthetic forms as well as in relation to the cultures that produced them.

While we are not a production-centered department or a traditional "film school," we fully integrate the creation and critical study of film and media in a manner appropriate to a liberal arts education. Students will balance the critical studies of film and media with the creation of media work, often within the same course.

The faculty in film and media culture are active scholars and creators, writing books, creating videos, and contributing to the vibrant academic field of film and media studies. Our classes incorporate numerous screenings of films and media texts, with scheduled evening sessions and hands-on lab sections.

"I work every day to make a positive impact through media, technology, art, and music. The film major helped me develop the creative practice and analytical mindset I use to provide people with life-enriching experiences."

—Eric Benoit '16
*Musician*

## Reasons you might choose this major

- You are interested in how popular media influences our understanding of everyday life.
- You want to be able to write, think, and discuss popular media critically and analytically.
- You see film and media as creative forms of expression and are interested in communication processes and their effects.
- You are ready to explore how history, nationalities, popular movements, and identities are expressed and intersect in various media.
- You want to explore the aesthetic, technological, historical, theoretical, and cultural developments of film and media.
- You are looking to explore a major that will provide a solid foundation for a career not just in film, but in many industries.

Middlebury College
*Center for Careers and Internships*

## Translating Learning into Professional Competencies

Throughout your time at Middlebury, you will develop and enhance the following core professional competencies, skills, and dispositions highly valued by employers that will prepare you for leadership and success in any given field:

**Critical Thinking:** Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems.

**Oral/Written Communications:** Articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral forms.

**Teamwork/Collaboration:** Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and customers from diverse backgrounds.

**Leadership:** Leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals, and use interpersonal skills to coach and develop others.

**Professionalism/Work Ethic:** Demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits.

**Global/Intercultural Fluency:** Value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions.

**Digital Technology:** Leverage existing digital technologies ethically and efficiently to solve problems, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

**Career Management:** Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional development.

# Where film and media majors go

## Applying your learning through internships . . .

Students pursue internships and research in a variety of fields, enabling them to apply their liberal arts learning in real-world settings. Internships, research, and self-directed projects enrich your academic experience and help prepare you for life after Middlebury. Students have interned or done research at the following:

Steeplechase Films

The Ellen DeGeneres Show

Universal Studios

Mad Chance Productions

Independent Project: Unscripted Television Development

Riveting Entertainment

Polymorphic Pictures

Middlebury New Film Maker's Festival

BlueWater Media

Warner Brothers

Telluride Film Festival

Antiques Roadshow

Focus Advisory Services

Awesomeness TV

Balaji Motion Pictures

Filmosonido

MVS Comunicaciones

National Public Radio (NPR)

Sony Music

Hearst Corporation

## . . . leading to meaningful, dynamic, and engaging career paths.

See just some of the many interesting ways our graduates have applied their liberal arts learning to engage the world. If you want to see what other Middlebury alumni are doing now, log into Midd2Midd and search by major. **go/midd2midd**

Ark Films, *Cinematographer*

KVBC-TV (Las Vegas), *Special Projects Producer*

Georgeville Television—GVTV, *Vice President, Creative/Script Specialist*

The Daily Show with Trevor Noah, *Supervising Producer*

Salesforce Foundation, *Digital Director*

Insight Visual Co., Creative Director, *Director of Photography*

Paxson Design LLC, *Graphic and Web Designer, Artist, Animator*

HBO, *HBO Sports Production Associate*

Vimeo, *Content and Community Manager*

Sony/NBC, *Writer*

Animal Kingdom Films, *Producer*

WBUR Radio, *NPR News Radio and Podcast Producer*

Sundance Institute, *Senior Manager, Corporate Development*

The Golden State Warriors, *Producer*

Snapchat, *Story Editor*

E Networks, *Producer/E! News*

Popular Mechanics/Hearst Magazines, *Editor-in-Chief*

Sacks & Co., *Publicist*

Inkwell Media Company, *Content and Social Strategy Consultant*

R.O.C. (Reach One Child) Foundation, *President and Co-Founder*

Lazard Asset Management, *Senior Vice President, Trader/Analyst*

Arup, *Senior Storytelling Specialist*

Bose Corporation, *User Experience Designer*

William Morris Endeavor WME, *Talent Agent*

Many of our alumni in Film and Media Culture are self-employed as filmmakers, directors, and screenwriters.