FAVS INTRODUCTION/IDENTITY STATEMENT
George Mason University Film and Video Studies (FAVS) is a multidisciplinary BA program emphasizing personal growth within a vibrant cinema culture. Stressing academic excellence, FAVS features a well-rounded curriculum taught by experienced faculty, which gives students opportunities to interact with producers, writers, directors, editors, and other film professionals. The FAVS program cultivates the ability to adapt in a rapidly evolving industry. Students develop unique personal visions expressed through visual storytelling while being mindful of the impact their work has on the world at large.
The BA degree includes 40 credits of required general education courses, 50 credits of major courses, and courses within areas of the following concentrations: production, screenwriting, and business. Each concentration is 15 credits, with three required core courses and two elective courses.

**Concentrations**

**Production**

FAVS 499: Senior Project
FAVS 355: Business of Film and Video
FAVS 399: Special Topics in Film
FAVS 335: Sound and Lighting
FAVS 300: Film Colloquium
FAVS 365: Documentary Filmmaking
FAVS 483: Feature-Length Scriptwriting
FAVS 375: Fiction Film Directing
FAVS 498: Creative Producing and Development
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**Screenwriting**

FAVS 470: Film and Video
FAVS 450: Internship
FAVS 335: Business of Film and Video
FAVS 100: Film Colloquium
FAVS 350: Sound and Lighting
FAVS 200: Visual Thinking
FAVS 455: Business of Film and Video

**Business**

FAVS 483: Feature-Length Screenwriting
FAVS 481: Feature-Length Scriptwriting
FAVS 332: Story Design for Computer Games
FAVS 335: Sound and Lighting
FAVS 399: Special Topics in Film
FAVS 300: Film Colloquium
FAVS 365: Documentary Filmmaking
FAVS 375: Fiction Film Directing
FAVS 498: Creative Producing and Development
FAVS 499: Senior Project

**Portfolio Requirement**

Students are admitted to the Film and Video Studies (FAVS) program of study separately from their admission to the university and only by portfolio review. Admission to the university is determined by the Admissions Office. A student must be admitted to both the university and the program to be a FAVS major.

New students at Mason may apply to the BA program on admission to the university through a portfolio review. Information about the portfolio process, including dates and portfolio requirements, can be found on the FAVS web page, favs@gmu.edu. The portfolio must be submitted to favs@gmu.edu for assessment prior to scheduling an appointment for the portfolio review.

**Curriculum**

The FAVS program offers a 120-credit multidisciplinary BA degree, which spans units, including Art and Visual Technology, Communication, English, History and Art History, Modern and Classical Languages, New Century College, and Theater. Students study film theory, criticism, ethics, video production, screenwriting, and the business of film and video.

The BA degree includes 40 credits of required general education courses, 50 credits of major courses, including core courses; practicum courses; history, analysis, and theory courses; and courses within areas of the following concentrations: production, screenwriting, and business. In addition, all students must complete a minor or take a foreign language.

**Student Activities**

Employers seek those who do more than complete classes. We encourage students to take advantage of the many film and video opportunities outside the classroom.

**Connect2Mason—Web-based convergence of all Mason student media**

**GMView—Mason's student-produced video yearbook**

**Mason Cable Network—On-campus student-run channel for creation and distribution of student work**

**Student Video Center—Lab for students to produce work for class and other creative projects**

**Über Festival—Mason student film festival**

**Studio A**

Studio A is a GMU-TV/FAVS-produced interview show hosted by Rick Davis, executive director of the Hylton Performing Arts Center. The guest filmmakers come to Mason to talk to students about their professional work. Past guests include director Ron Maxwell (Gods and Generals), location manager Peggy Pridemore (Wedding Crashers and Mission Impossible II and III), editor Mark Stoeckinger (Star Trek and Mission Impossible II and III), Jonathan Gann, and senior sound editor Mark Steckelinger (Star Trek and Mission Impossible II and III). Students interact with the guests during the show and at the reception. The FAVS faculty strongly believes meeting and working with film professionals is imperative to success in the industry. To watch past Studio A shows, go to vimeo.com/channels/studioa.

**Internships**

All FAVS majors are required to complete an off-campus internship that aligns with their interests. Our students have interned at many organizations locally and nationally. Some include:

- 19th and Wilson Production (Arlington, VA)
- Arlington Independent Media (Arlington, VA)
- American Film Institute-Silver Docs (Silver Spring, MD)
- Cannes International Film Festival (Cannes, France)
- Discovery Channel (Silver Spring, MD)
- National Geographic (Washington, DC)
- Redskids Broadcast Network (Washington, DC)
- Samuel Goldwyn (Los Angeles, CA/New York, NY)
- Sirens Media (Manassas Park, VA)
- TriCoast Studios (Culver City, CA)
- WTTG/PBS (Washington, DC)

**Student Video center—High school students can produce work for class and other creative projects**

**Web-based convergence of all Mason student media**

**GMView—Mason’s student-produced video yearbook**

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