DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND FILM

Media Center 103  
Phone: 410-704-3184  
Fax: 410-704-3337  
Email: kmerriken@towson.edu

Programs of the Department

The Electronic Media and Film (https://www.towson.edu/cofac/departments/mediafilm) major is an undergraduate degree program that balances liberal arts with professional training. The program leads to either the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree and is designed to prepare students for career positions in film, television, video, radio, audio and other media—as well as graduate studies.

The Electronic Media and Film major focuses on the aesthetics, history, theory, and production of film, television, digital media, audio and radio. The major is divided into three concentrations: Film/Video/Digital Media, Radio/Audio, and Film and Media Studies. Within the concentrations, students are encouraged to develop skills in storytelling and writing, criticism and analysis and media production.

The Department of Electronic Media and Film strives to inspire creativity and foster talent and skills in a constantly changing digital world. Students are encouraged to create collaborative and interdisciplinary partnerships; to discover real-world experiences through internships and service-learning opportunities; to explore artistic, social and cultural diversity through civic engagement; and to grow as enterprising and self-directed individuals who can practice creative entrepreneurship.

Bachelor of Arts Degree Option

Students may earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Electronic Media and Film by completing the intermediate (200) level of a foreign language.

Department Honors

The department sponsors departmental honors where students pursue directed study leading to the completion of a thesis. Students interested in departmental honors should consult the chair of the department no later than the first term of their junior year. Honors are indicated on the graduate’s transcript and diploma.

Internships

Internship eligibility requirements for Electronic Media and Film are as follows:

1. Junior or senior status
2. Admitted to the EMF major
3. Completion of courses related to the area of internship concentration, specifically:
   • EMF 140 and EMF 222 prior to any video or television broadcast journalism-related placement
   • EMF 221 and EMF 222 prior to any film placement
   • EMF 140 and EMF 265 prior to any radio or radio broadcast journalism-related placement
   • Cumulative GPA requirement: 2.75 overall; 3.00 in the major. Waivers are considered by the department. Of the 12 units of internship (and/or directed study) that can be applied toward graduation, only 3 units may also be applied toward the Film/Video/Digital Media concentration; only 6 units may also be applied toward the Radio/Audio concentration; and only 6 units may also be applied toward the Film and Media Studies concentration.

For additional information, see Student Opportunities on the EMF website.

Scholarships

The Department of Electronic Media and Film offers several scholarships for majors. For more information, see Student Opportunities on the EMF website.

Departmental Activities

Department activities include Annual Fall Film Series, the Annual Student Media Arts Festival, WAMM and other media events. Students are encouraged to participate in organizations such as The Movie Club, TAPS, Lambda Kappa Tau, NBS-AERho, XTSR radio, WMJF-TV, and the Digital Media Labs.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the EMF major is granted only by the department. Admission to the university does not constitute or guarantee admission to the major.

Students should file a Declaration of Major Form with the department and list themselves as a pre-EMF major (PEMF).

1. All students, before being considered for admission to the major, must attain a 3.00 GPA in the following three required courses:
   • EMF 120
   • EMF 140
   • EMF 221
   Transfer students may complete the equivalent courses at their previous college or university, but they must attain the overall 3.00 GPA in the equivalent courses.

2. Students who have completed the required three courses with a 3.00 GPA must complete and submit a Declaration of Eligibility Form to become part of the student major pool. Successful completion of the EMF required courses does not guarantee admission to the EMF major. Admission to the EMF major is competitive and is determined by the satisfactory completion of the required courses, the cumulative GPA and the evaluation of a submitted creative essay. This policy will apply to native and transfer students.

3. Admission to the EMF major is based on:
   • The number of majors that the department can reasonably accept without compromising the quality of its educational experience. No fewer than 75 students will be admitted to the EMF major within an academic calendar year.
   • The satisfactory completion of the required admission courses, the student’s cumulative GPA and submitted creative essay. The candidates with the highest ranking GPA from the pool of applicants will be selected.
   • Creative Essay: As part of the admission process, students will be required to write a creative essay. All transfer students will also be required to submit an essay. Please tell us why you want to pursue a course of study in Electronic Media and Film. How have your life experiences, creative interests and professional goals influenced your choice of this major?
Compose and attach on separate pages the essay (no more than 500 words or approximately two pages double spaced, printed with 12-point font). The EMF Admissions Committee will use your essay to determine your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself clearly. The committee evaluates the essays for originality, clarity, personal insight and creativity. The essay will be used to make decisions in cases where the applicant’s cumulative GPA is marginal. In such cases, it will be used to provide an additional means of evaluation for those who might not otherwise be admitted to the major. This policy is in effect for students entering Towson University as of July 1, 2007.

• Major in Electronic Media and Film with concentrations in:
  • Film/Video/Digital Media (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/fine-arts-communication/electronic-media-film/film-video-digital-media)
  • Radio/Audio (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/fine-arts-communication/electronic-media-film/radio-audio)
  • Film and Media Studies (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/fine-arts-communication/electronic-media-film/film-media)

• Minor in Electronic Media and Film (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/fine-arts-communication/electronic-media-film/electronic-media-film-minor)

Electronic Media and Film Courses

EMF 110 DIGITAL STORYTELLING FOR NON-MAJORS (3)
Introduces students to a range of media in which narrative can strengthen their work. Digital storytelling combines video, audio, images, and text to convey stories, information, and ideas. Projects and discussions will help students develop a critical perspective on digital technologies, emphasizing creativity, story-sharing, and community-building. Core: Creativity & Creative Development.

EMF 120 CONCEPT AND STORY (3)
Introduction to concept development and storytelling methods through a variety of writing assignments, related to electronic media and film.

EMF 140 INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND FILM (3)
Exploration of electronic media and film history, technology, aesthetics, and culture from the perspective of the media professional. GenEd II.B.3.

EMF 205 GENDER IN FILM AND MEDIA (3)
Treatment of women and gender issues in film and media from silent movies to the Internet. GenEd II.C.3 or Core: Diversity & Difference.

EMF 210 AFRICAN-AMERICAN CINEMA (3)
Historical and current representations of African-Americans in film can often present contradictions and controversies. Using the lens of American cinema, this course explores the history and critical discourses that contribute to our cultural understanding of African-American identity. By exploring difference in cinematic representation from within and outside the African-American community, this course will cultivate awareness of the confluence of history, politics, power and ideology undergirding the larger creative-industrial Hollywood system. This course will help students better recognize the lenses by which they view the world by expanding their understanding of critical race theory and Black film criticism. Students will increase their ability to engage in ethical and responsible creative practices as artists and consumers. Core: Diversity and Difference.

EMF 221 PRINCIPLES OF FILM AND MEDIA PRODUCTION (3)
Basic techniques and principles of film, video and audio. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 222 FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION (3)
The art and technique of single camera media production with focus on learning and exploring applications for camera, lens, lighting, composition, and editing. Not open to students who have successfully completed EMF 267. Prerequisite: EMF 221. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 265 AUDIO PRODUCTION I (3)
Theory and practice of audio production and its relationship to other aspects of media production. Prerequisite: EMF 221. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 275 PRINCIPLES OF FILM AND VIDEO EDITING (3)
Theory, history, and practice of post-production methods and aesthetics, emphasizing narrative continuity techniques. Prerequisites: EMF 222 or EMF 373 and EMF 265 (EMF 265 may be taken concurrently). Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 295 SOUND CREATION AND DESIGN (3)
Electronic and digital sound creation and design for audio and video using software such as Propellerhead Reason. Prerequisite: EMF 265.

EMF 311 HISTORY OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA (3)
Economic, social, technical and artistic factors in the development of radio, television, and other media from 1900 to the present. Prerequisites: EMF 140 and ENGL 102.

EMF 313 FILM HISTORY (3)
Exploration of the social, artistic, economic and technical factors in the development of the motion picture from 1900 to the present. Prerequisite: ENGL 102. Core: Arts & Humanities.

EMF 320 PRODUCTION SOUND FOR FILM AND VIDEO (3)
Theory and practice of location and post production sound recording for film and video. Topics covered include production mixing, booming techniques, ADR, and Foley. Prerequisite: EMF 265.

EMF 322 LIVE SOUND REINFORCEMENT (3)
Theoretical, practical, and hands-on experience with live sound reinforcement with application for broadcast and recording. Prerequisites: EMF 265; majors only; or with instructor consent.

EMF 331 BROADCAST/CABLE PROGRAMMING (3)
Programming principles, strategies and practices for the radio, television and cable industries. Analysis and evaluation of programs and program formats. Prerequisites: EMF 222 or EMF 265.

EMF 340 LIGHTING FOR FILM AND VIDEO (3)
The theory and practice of lighting techniques for single camera film and video production. Prerequisite: EMF 222 and EMF 275 (EMF 275 may be taken concurrently). Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 351 TELEVISION STATION OPERATIONS (3)
Theory and practice of station operations. Work is required at WMJJF-TV, the university’s television station. Prerequisite: EMF 222 or consent of instructor.

EMF 355 ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND FILM LAW AND REGULATION (3)
Examination of the laws and rules that affect the file and electronic media industries and the regulatory framework through which they are applied. Prerequisite: EMF 140.

EMF 360 AUDIO DOCUMENTARY (3)
Theory and practice of combining field recording, interviewing, audio mixing, and editing to create short audio documentaries. Working closely with local groups, students will create audio documentaries about local and regional issues. Prerequisite: EMF 265. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.
EMF 364 AESTHETICS OF FILM AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA (3)
Theory and aesthetics of film, radio, television and related media.
Prerequisite: EMF 221.

EMF 365 AUDIO PRODUCTION II (3)
Multi-track studio recording and mixing; digital recording and editing.
Prerequisite: EMF 265. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 366 SOUND IN MEDIA (3)
Introduction to sound design principles as applied to moving pictures and interactive systems. Examination of the relationship of music to image with an emphasis on the creative and technical skills necessary to create and work with sound on sound track development for visual media. Prerequisite: EMF 265. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 367 NARRATIVE FILMMAKING (3)
Filmmaking methods and aesthetics emphasizing narrative storytelling and production techniques. Lab/Class fee will be assessed. Prerequisites: EMF 222 and EMF 275; may be taken concurrently with EMF 275.

EMF 368 GENRE THEORY AND CRITICISM (3)
Principles and aesthetics of different film genres. Prerequisite: EMF 313 [EMF 363] or consent of instructor.

EMF 370 ELECTRONIC MEDIA NEWS PRODUCTION (3)
Theory and practice of gathering, writing and producing news for television, radio, the Internet and other media using audio/video technology. Prerequisites: EMF 222 and EMF 265 or consent of instructor. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 371 LIVE MULTI-CAMERA PRODUCTION (3)
The design, planning, and completion of television studio productions. Possible options include television drama, comedy, documentary, performance, and experimental programs. Prerequisite: EMF 222. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 373 ELECTRONIC FIELD PRODUCTION (3)
Principles of electronic field production, exploring field camera operation, video editing, and video producing techniques for commercial and non-commercial arenas. Prerequisite: EMF 140, EMF 275, and (EMF 222, EMF 267 or EMF 371/ EMF 271); may be taken concurrently with EMF 275. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 375 BROADCAST PERFORMANCE (3)
The process of communication through broadcast performance. The principles of broadcast communication will be applied to such functions as television and radio news announcing, commercial announcing, sports announcing, and music announcing. Laboratory experiences provided. Prerequisite: EMF 265. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 377 BROADCAST/FILM WRITING (3)
Training and practice in writing non-fiction, fiction, and commercial/PSA scripts for the broadcast media and film. Requires grade of C or better to fulfill Core or GenEd requirement. Prerequisites: ENGL 102 or ENGL 190 and EMF 120. Core: Advanced Writing Seminar or GenEd I.D.

EMF 380 VISUAL EFFECTS I (3)
Theory and practice of creating layered, time-based digital image and graphical manipulations with exercises in compositional and kinetic aesthetics. Prerequisite: EMF 222. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 385 RADIO, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY (3)
Examination and analysis of the ways in which the radio medium as influenced the nation's social and cultural environments since its beginning in the 1920s to the present. Topics include radio's role in community/public service; politics; war; race/ethnicity; gender; family; and religion. Prerequisite: EMF 311.

EMF 387 DEVELOPING THE SCREENPLAY (3)
Examination of the creative process of writing for film and TV. Emphasis on writing screen play treatments, developing characters, exploring dramatic structure, and addressing visual storytelling. Prerequisite: EMF 377.

EMF 403 SPORTSCASTING (3)
Theory and practical application of sportwriting, interviewing, and play-by-play description. Prerequisite: junior/senior standing, EMF 222 and EMF 265, or consent of instructor.

EMF 405 SCREENWRITING (3)
Narrative structure and mechanics; creation of a complete feature-length screenplay. Prerequisite: EMF 387.

EMF 421 RADIO STATION OPERATIONS (3)
Lecture and practice in the advanced study of the internal workings of radio stations and the radio industry. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisite: EMF 265 or consent of instructor.

EMF 430 THE MEDIA PRODUCER (3)
Management and administration of film and video projects. Prerequisite: EMF 222.

EMF 437 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY VIDEO (3)
Community-based, service-learning course where students work directly with a client organization, and apply advanced HD production techniques in the creation of a professional, portfolio-quality promotional video. Prerequisites: EMF 367 or EMF 373; major in EMF. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 455 DIRECTING FOR FILM AND VIDEO (3)
Fundamentals of screen directing, which includes script breakdown, scene blocking, communication with cast and crew, and the logistics of production. Prerequisite: EMF 367 or EMF 373. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 460 INTERNSHIP IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND FILM (1-6)
Practical field experience. Under faculty supervision, a student works as an intern with a professional in the field electronic media and film. Graded S/U. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 units, but only 6 units will apply to the major; the other 6 units may be used as general electives. Prerequisites: junior/senior standing, cumulative GPA of 2.75 and 3.0 in the major; completion of appropriate courses determined by the department.

EMF 461 DOCUMENTARY FILM AND VIDEO (3)
History, theory, and criticism of documentaries. Production required. Prerequisite: EMF 275 and EMF 367 or EMF 373. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 462 EXPERIMENTAL FILM AND VIDEO (3)
History, theory and criticism of avant-garde works. Production required. Prerequisite: EMF 275 and EMF 367. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

EMF 463 TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL CINEMA (3)
Thematic, stylistic, historical, social, and economic analysis of world cinema. May focus on a particular country, region, or period. Prerequisite: EMF 313 [363] or consent of instructor.

EMF 465 AUDIO PRODUCTION III (3)
A higher-level audio class that covers advanced mixing techniques for stereo and surround sound, and preparation for mastering for music and sound for video. The project-based class emphasizes effects using professional level software. Prerequisite: EMF 365 or EMF 366 or consent of the department.
**EMF 470 PRODUCING ONLINE VIDEO (3)**
Creating and producing multi-episode television programs for online delivery. Prerequisite: EMF 275 or [MCOM 258 and consent of instructor].

**EMF 473 SEMINAR IN NARRATIVE FILMMAKING (3)**
Seminar in professional digital filmmaking techniques leading to completion of an original narrative film. Prerequisites: EMF 367 or instructor's consent; major in EMF. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

**EMF 474 REEL WORLD: PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO (3)**
To identify and evaluate necessary professional skills in preparation for working in film or attending graduate school after graduation. This course will be a combination of lecture, guest speakers and collaborative group work focused on each student's individual artistic path. Students will critically analyze their visual communication skills through portfolio, interview and resume work with attention to shaping their prospective careers. Prerequisites: EMF major and senior standing (90 units or more).

**EMF 475 FILM AND MEDIA ANALYSIS (3)**
Intensive study of an aspect of film, television, or the Internet (such as genre, director, studio, producer, writer, designer) in terms of thematic and formal properties and their influence on art and culture. Prerequisites: EMF 221; major standing.

**EMF 476 SPECIAL TOPICS IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA PRODUCTION (3)**
In-depth exploration of a selected area of media production dependent upon faculty and student interest. May be repeated for a maximum of 15 units provided a different topic is taken. Prerequisites: EMF 265 and (EMF 367 or EMF 373) or consent of instructor, and junior/senior standing.

**EMF 477 SPECIAL TOPICS IN FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES (3)**
In-depth exploration of a selected area of film and media studies (non-production) dependent upon faculty and student interest. May be repeated for a maximum of 15 units provided a different topic is taken. Prerequisites: EMF 311 or EMF 313 (EMF 363), or consent of instructor, and junior/senior standing.

**EMF 481 TELEVISION NEWS (3)**
Advanced broadcast news, focusing on television news reporting, editing, and production. Prerequisite: (EMF 275 and EMF 373) or (MCOM 381 and consent of instructor). Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

**EMF 485 SEMINAR IN DIGITAL STUDIES (3)**
History, theory and practice of digital media and culture, current technological trends and their origins. Prerequisite: EMF 311 or consent of instructor.

**EMF 486 DANCE FOR THE CAMERA (3)**
An interdisciplinary class between EMF and DANCE combining advanced media production skills and choreography to collaboratively produce a movement piece for the camera. Prerequisites: EMF 275; EMF 373 or EMF 367; major standing; or consent of instructor. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

**EMF 487 VISUAL EFFECTS II (3)**
Creation and analysis of visual effects and digital media kinetics with exercises in virtual lighting and camera movement, compositing, animated titles, and synthesis of graphics and video. Prerequisite: EMF 380. Lab/Class fee will be assessed.

**EMF 495 DIRECTED STUDY IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA PRODUCTION (1-6)**
Directed production project of joint faculty/student interest. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 units, but only 3 units can count toward the Film/Video/Digital Media concentration (the other 9 units may be used as general electives); and only 6 units can count towards the Radio/Audio concentration (the other 6 units may be used as general electives). Prerequisites: junior or senior standing, and approval of planned project by the instructor.

**EMF 496 DIRECTED STUDY IN FILM & MEDIA STUDIES (1-6)**
Directed research or analysis project of joint faculty/student interest. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisites: Junior or Senior standing, and approval of planned project by the instructor. Special permit required.

**EMF 498 HONORS DIRECTED STUDY (3)**
Directed study in electronic media and film on a topic or project selected by the student in consultation with the instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units.

### Interdisciplinary Studies Courses

**IDFA 201 AMERICAN VISION: BALTIMORE ARTS (3)**
American culture through experiencing the visual, performing, media, and communication arts of Baltimore. Includes field trips. Core: Metropolitan Perspectives.

**IDFA 203 CREATIVITY IN ARTS, MEDIA, AND COMMUNICATION (3)**
An application of the creative process through the arts, media, and communication. Core: Creativity/Creative Development or GenEd I.E.

**IDFA 207 APPLIED ETHICS AND AESTHETICS IN FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS (3)**
Ethical issues and dilemmas encountered by consumers and practitioners of the arts and communication, specifically music, dance, theater, art, electronic media, film, mass communication and communication studies. Not open to students who successfully completed IDFA 205. GenEd II.B.

**IDFA 401 MOTION DESIGN (3)**
Directed lab experience on the computer in concept and application of design for broadcast design, motion graphics and multimedia. Prerequisites: ART 217 or EMF 275.

**IDFA 470 SPECIAL TOPICS IN ARTS, MEDIA, AND COMMUNICATION (3)**
An in-depth study in a selected area dependent upon faculty and student interest. May be repeated for a total of 9 units provided a different topic is taken. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

**IDFA 471 SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIAL ACTION (3)**
A multidisciplinary and collaborative service-learning seminar that explores complex problems of the Baltimore metropolitan region. Includes creative projects and fieldwork with civic, community, and/or non-profit organizations. Topics vary and could include homelessness, domestic violence, drug abuse, disabilities, housing, education, health issues, and welfare. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units when a different topic is covered. Prerequisite: junior/senior standing or consent of instructor.

**IDFA 493 INTERDISCIPLINARY FINE ARTS INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-6)**
Directed study through readings, projects, papers, and/or seminars. May be repeated for a total of no more than 12 units. Graded S/U.