

Frequently Asked Questions MA in Film Studies 2018-19

Language Requirement

All MA students are expected to have a reading knowledge of English and French at the time they begin classes. A test will be administered by the department to ensure a functioning reading competency in French for those students whose first language is English or another language. All students must pass this test before receiving their degree, except those who demonstrate to the Graduate Program Director that they are fluently bilingual, or can confirm expertise in another language essential to their thesis (thesis track) or research topic (non-thesis track). Students may take the French test as many times as needed. Notifications about the exam will be e-mailed in advance of French tests and students will register with the department Graduate Program Assistant (Ian Tonnie).

Requirements for the Degree

Students should familiarize themselves with the Graduate Calendar. Requirements of the degree are outlined with details on allowable credits for the MA with Thesis and the MA without Thesis options. The **minimum** required credits for either thesis or without thesis is **45 credits**. The **maximum** allowable credits is **48 credits** (student who take more than this will be charged on a per credit basis).

<https://www.concordia.ca/academics/graduate/calendar/current/fofa/fmst-ma.html>

Thesis and Non-Thesis Tracks

-Film Studies with Thesis MA

Candidates are required to take 6 credits in Methods and 3 credits in either Canadian Cinema or Cinéma Québécois, plus 9 additional course credits. They will also take 27 credits of Research and Thesis. The maximum value of practicum (internship) credits allowable in this option is 6.

-Film Studies without Thesis MA

Candidates are required to take 6 credits in Methods and 3 credits in either Canadian or Québécois Cinema, plus 36 additional course credits. In each course, students are required to submit a research paper and make an oral presentation. In this option, students would become familiar with a broad range of methodologies and film practices. Within this framework, they may also be able to pursue specific areas of interest by enrolling in independent studies, internships, or taking courses in other departments in the university. The maximum number of practicum (internship) credits allowable in this option is 12.

Courses and Course Load

The program offers two different options to fulfill degree requirements. All students may take 9 of their required additional course credits in graduate courses offered by other departments in the university. Such courses must be approved by the Department's Graduate Program Director, with permission of the other department concerned.

A normal MA course load is **9 credits** per semester. Students who wish to do the thesis track are encouraged to take **18 credits** in their first year, thereby completing their course requirements.

Students who wish to do the non-thesis track should take **9 credits in Fall 2018**, and consider taking **12 credits in Winter 2019**. Methods in Winter 2019 will be experimenting with a lower reading load and meeting schedule, enabling non-thesis track students to take an additional course. Taking 12 credits in Winter 2019 will accelerate the completion of the degree for non-thesis students.

Practicum Credits

A student may receive credit for work at film institutions (e.g. festivals, archives), periodicals, educational or production establishments and for academic professional internships. Each internship must be approved in advance by the Program Director and the student must consult with an academic supervisor. The duties will be supervised by an individual within the sponsoring organization, in consultation with an academic adviser, to ensure that the student's responsibilities are in keeping with aims of the MA program. The report should demonstrate the student's understanding of the organization's social and cultural role as well as an analysis of the activities and functioning of the organization. The **3-credit practicum** should involve at least 135 hours at the host institution. The **6-credit internship** has the same requirements and provisions as the 3-credit internships, except that the student is expected to do twice

the work (270 hours). This may occur in a concentrated period of time (one semester), or may be taken over two consecutive semesters.

Independent Studies

Students may also create a course of their own, in consultation with an academic supervisor. Proposals for independent studies should be well thought out and include a reading list, screening list and work load comparable to a 13-week course. Independent studies are first developed in consultation with the independent study supervisor (a faculty member the student believes to have the expertise in the topic area of the independent study; and who has agreed to supervise the independent study). Subsequent to the faculty supervisor's approval of the proposed independent study, the student submits the independent study request form and proposed syllabus for approval by the Program Director.

Thesis Proposals

Students who wish to write a thesis must submit electronic (Word or PDF) versions of their thesis proposals to gpa.cinema@concordia.ca by the deadline of **April 30, 2019**. A committee will meet to review proposals and students will subsequently be informed of whether or not their proposals have been approved along with comments for improvement. Thesis proposal are discussed in the required Methods (FMST 600) seminar and support for developing them is provided.

Timeline for MA Thesis Submission

Students may submit theses at any time of the year. However students wishing to graduate at a specific convocation should be aware that there are thesis submission deadlines that must be met to allow sufficient time for evaluation. Internal thesis submission deadlines are **10 weeks prior to the School of Graduate Studies posted deadlines**.

Normal Deadlines for Fall convocation:

Submit examination copy of thesis to supervisor and evaluators: June 20th
Submit final draft with modifications to thesis through Spectrum: September 1

Deadlines for Spring convocation:

Submit examination copy of thesis to supervisor and evaluators: February 5th
Submit final draft with modifications to thesis through Spectrum: April 1

**Dates above are for this academic year and may vary slightly annually.*

Students who are in the process of writing their theses are encouraged to consult the Thesis Preparation Guide. Students will be required to submit the final version of their thesis electronically to the School of Graduate Studies and, a bound copy to the Cinema Department for the Film Studies library located in the graduate lounge.
<http://www.concordia.ca/students/graduate/thesis.html>

For information on thesis procedures please contact Mary Appezzato at (514) 848-2424 #3813, Mary.Appezzato@concordia.ca or Sharon Carey at (514) 848-2424 #3802, Sharon.Carey@concordia.ca.

IMPORTANT DATES

The dates are available online on the School of Graduate Studies website. Please consult frequently for dates pertaining to registrations, dropping courses, financial deadlines etc:

<http://www.concordia.ca/students/graduate/graduate-academic-dates.html>

Immediate upcoming dates: Monday, September 17, 2018 - DNE deadline for withdrawal from Fall 2018 (/2 courses) and Fall 2018/Winter 2019 (/3 courses); Last day to add a course for Fall term (/2 courses) or for Fall-Winter term (/3 courses).