

DEPARTMENT OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILM

arts.vcu.edu/photofilm (<http://arts.vcu.edu/photofilm/>)

The Department of Photography and Film aims to facilitate a comprehensive artistic, technical and intellectual understanding and use of the mediums of photography and film; to provide a rigorous education in the arts, specifically in photographic and moving image media, and a broad education in other academic subjects; to foster a climate that inspires creativity, intellectual curiosity, freedom of expression and critical-thinking. The department fosters a pluralistic approach that allows both faculty and students to expand the traditional boundaries of the respective media and engage in multidisciplinary practice.

The department offers undergraduate concentrations in photography and filmmaking resulting in a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography and Film, as well as a graduate program that leads to a Master of Fine Arts in Fine Arts with a concentration in photography and film.

To promote student development and research of contemporary art practice and theory, the Department of Photography and Film presents a diverse and active visiting artist program. Through lectures, critiques and research courses, students are exposed to the valuable insights of respected international artists, scholars and critics. In addition, the visiting artists teach topics courses exploring the current artistic and conceptual foundations found in their own work. Graduate students are encouraged to establish an individual critical dialogue with the visiting artists and faculty and attain a strong critical and historical basis for their work.

The facilities include several critique and screening rooms; a large black-and-white darkroom; a large state-of-the-art digital photography and film editing lab; a shooting studio; a student checkout center with a wide range of still photography and film cameras, professional lights and sound recording equipment; a professionally staffed graphics lab located in the same building that provides student with digital services on several high-tech imaging devices; and individual graduate M.F.A. studios.

- Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a concentration in photography and film (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/school-arts/photography-film/fine-arts-mfa-concentration-photography-film/>)

PHTO 500. Photographic Studio and Seminar. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 1 lecture and 6 studio hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. A seminar that examines the technical and aesthetic components of photography and filmmaking processes and the language and theories of photography and film criticism.

PHTO 601. Photographic Studio. 3,6 Hours.

Semester course; 6 or 12 studio hours. 3 or 6 credits. May be repeated. Prerequisite: Nonmajors may enroll with permission of instructor. Student will work on specific problems relating to the areas of their major interests. Options will be available in black and white photography, color photography, and motion picture photography.

PHTO 621. Research in Photography and Film. 3,6 Hours.

Semester course; 6 or 12 studio hours. 3 or 6 credits. May be repeated. Prerequisite: Nonmajors may enroll with permission of instructor. Students will engage in appropriate theoretical, experimental, or historical research in a specific area.

PHTO 690. Seminar in Photography and Film. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated. An examination of contemporary issues and developments in photography and film. Students will have a chance to discuss their work and the work of others.

PHTO 692. Independent Study in Photography and Film. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable lecture hours. 1 to 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum of six credits. Individual instruction and supervision of a special project. Learning experiences should be designed with the supervising faculty member in the form of a contract between student and instructor.

PHTO 693. Fieldwork, Internship. 3,6 Hours.

Semester course; 6 or 12 studio hours. 3 or 6 credits. May be repeated. Professional field experience in the theoretical and practical applications of photography and/or film through cooperative organizations. Formal arrangements will be made with state agencies, industries, community organizations, and professionals in the field.

PHTO 699. Graduate Exhibition. 1,3 Hour.

Semester course; 1 or 3 lecture hours. 1 or 3 credits. May be repeated. To be taken after M.F.A. candidacy with the approval of the graduate director and department chair and review of the student's record. Students prepare and execute a public exhibit of their creative work and provide complete documentation of the sources and ideas presented.