



## Program Assessment Report (PAR)

Motion Pictures, BA (MOTP) Baccalaureate Degree

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ACADEMIC YEAR COVERED BY THIS REPORT: [AcademicYear]

### I. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Gain proficiency in writing and scholarly research in the field of film history, theory and criticism along with critical thinking and writing skills relevant to film studies. Gain knowledge of motion pictures history, theory, and criticism, including the concepts of authorship and genre.

### II. PROCEDURES USED FOR ASSESSMENT

#### A. Direct Assessment

A. Direct Assessment Measure One Senior Capstone BA students are expected to cap off their studies with an independent study in film history, theory, and criticism. This work is expected to show their mastery of critical and writing skills. Further, students have the opportunity to present their work orally to faculty and students, defending their work. B. Direct Assessment Measure Two Presentation of Critical Scholarship In upper-level theory classes, junior and senior students are especially encouraged to make presentations which show their ability to process, assimilate, research, and present their critical work. They also are encouraged to present at local, regional and national film conferences.

#### B. Scoring of Student Work

[Scoring]

#### C. Indirect Assessment

Students demonstrated their understanding of cinema history, theory, and film criticism and detailed understanding of national and international cinemas

through the quality of their films and written work, which is increasingly helping them get accepted into prestigious graduate schools. Wright State Motion Pictures graduates work in every aspect of the film industry, in numerous locations, including Los Angeles, New York, New Orleans and Cincinnati. Our graduates are directors (Marco Fargnoli), writers (Nicole Riegel, Sherman Payne, Erik Bork, Kevin Kramer), Producers (Karri O'Reilly), Production Designers (Hannah Beachler, Vanessa O'Kelly), Cinematographers (Marco Fargnoli, Evan Nesbitt, Amy Faust, Adam White), Dolly Grips (Joe Cassano), Grips (Matthew Harris, Chance Madison), Electrics (Scott Lipez), Key Production Assistants (Scott Bowers, Chris Tung). Wright State's Motion Pictures program is distinct in its core belief that students benefit as much from film history, theory and criticism courses as they do from film production courses. Numerous other film production programs only require a minimal offering of film history, theory and criticism courses. We are the only film program in Ohio that combines practical hands-on filmmaking training with an emphasis on the theory, history and criticism of film. Wright State Motion Picture alumni regularly cite the significance of a rigorous education in film history and theory. Here are quotes by 2 alumni that highlight this "Knowing how to operate a camera or place a microphone is only a technical exercise without an understanding of the language of cinema. Wright State equips you with that language and the skills to execute it. Being able to critically deconstruct films helps you construct new ones with confidence. I've met many graduates from better-known film schools who don't have anywhere near the knowledge of historical or international cinema that Wright State grads do." - Chase Whiteside, '11, whose work has appeared on the BBC, PBS and numerous other websites. "I am incredibly grateful for the tremendous emphasis that the motion pictures faculty puts on becoming educated about the world around us. They make us aware of social and political issues around the globe and challenge us to find our voices in a meaningful way. We are given the tools to become critical thinkers, a skill that transcends film and has made me better prepared to compete in the professional job market and, more importantly, create substance in my work as a writer." - Nichol Simmons, '99, Sundance Film Festival award winner and screenwriter

### **III. ASSESSMENT RESULTS/INFORMATION:**

[AssessmentResult]

[Summary]

[Analysis]

### **IV. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING**

The Motion Pictures area regularly meet to assess the progress of students and to refine and improve the curriculum. Major changes we have made recently include adding the requirement that students create an online presence for their work in addition to a portfolio, educating them on proper cleaning procedure and protection of equipment during COVID, movement to a hybrid teaching model with theory courses primarily online while production courses safely met in person to continue hands on instruction, creating an Instagram account for Motion Pictures

to increase our visibility and presence, inviting numerous alumni and special guests to share a present their work with our students, establishing a Transcinema class to respond to changes in new media. We also are in the process of creating a newsletter that highlights important happenings in our program to share with alums and other stakeholders. Further, by bringing in special guests we shared the important work our students are doing and highlighted the success of the program.

## **V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

Additional documentation, when provided, is stored in the internal Academic Program Assessment of Student Learning SharePoint site.