This globally-focused and interdisciplinary program teaches critical, theoretical and historical approaches to cinema and emerging media. Students learn to think analytically and express themselves clearly, while developing specialized knowledge about history, aesthetics and film as a social and cultural practice. Faculty expertise includes world cinema (e.g. the cinemas of Asia, Africa, Europe, Canada and the United States), film theory and philosophy, film history, documentary film and media, video games and new media, sexuality and gender, and sound studies.

Our MA has three streams. All students are admitted to the coursework-only stream and may, during their first semester, apply to do a major research paper or a thesis.

Specializations in African Studies and Digital Humanities are also available, as is a Graduate Diploma in Curatorial Studies.

Our distinguished and internationally recognized faculty are engaged in innovative research with numerous books, articles, grants and awards to their credit. Our program offers a very collegial, supportive and student-friendly atmosphere conducive to success, and is committed to student mentorship.

Fall Application Deadline
February 1. Later applications will be considered contingent on space and funding availability.

Admission Requirements
An honours bachelor’s degree, or equivalent, in film studies or a related discipline such as communication, art history, music, literature, Canadian studies, women’s and gender studies or history. Typically, an average of B+ or higher is required for admission.

“Doing a Master’s degree in Film Studies at Carleton was an excellent and invaluable opportunity for me to grow both academically and professionally. Being able to learn from a supportive faculty with such a diverse range of research interests and experience allowed me to not only explore the areas of study I was interested in, but to discover ideas and concepts that were new and exciting. The program’s field trip to the Toronto Film Festival was a particular highlight and a great way to start off the program.”

— Alana Skwarok (MA/18)