

Friday, May 1, 2009

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Oakland University's College of Arts and Sciences is launching a Cinema Studies program beginning in fall of 2009. Students will have the opportunity to explore how motion pictures are created, experienced and valued in our culture and around the world.

Cinema Studies will provide interdisciplinary research and education among the Art and Art History; Communication and Journalism; English; Modern Languages and Literatures; Music, Theatre and Dance; Political Science; and Sociology and Anthropology departments. Course work for this program will be based on film theory, film history, film aesthetics, history and criticism, and screen writing. The program will eventually provide courses in film production and is currently exploring partnerships with local production companies.

In April 2008, Governor Granholm signed legislation establishing a tax incentive package to persuade companies of the film industry to utilize Michigan, its workers, and its communities. The legislation provides tax incentives to production companies who film in Michigan and a larger tax incentive to those who build studios and production houses in Michigan. The College of Arts and Sciences and the Cinema Studies program are excited about the new opportunities opened by this legislation and are looking forward to partnering with new local studios and production houses to provide hands on experience for OU students.

Cinema Studies has worked hard to begin to establish itself among the programs at OU. "Though the Cinema Studies program was approved just a few weeks ago, we have already witnessed an enthusiastic response from current and prospective OU students, the surrounding community, and local film production companies. We also hope that the special events designed around Cinema Studies provide one more way through which OU alumni can maintain contact with the university," said Kyle Edwards, Cinema Studies program director.

For further information, visit the **Cinema Studies Website**. Or contact Cinema Studies program director, Kyle Edwards, at (248) 370-4118 or edwards2@oakland.edu.

SUMMARY

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