This is the required capstone for the Film Studies major. It also satisfies the capstone requirement for the English major track in Media, Cinema, and Digital Studies.

This course teaches students about the approach to studying film and media known as cultural studies. We will engage with theories of media and culture, as well as the application of those theories to analysis of film, television, and other media texts. Students will learn about industry analysis, textual analysis, and audience studies, and will explore theories of political economy and ideology. In the process, students will develop their understanding of contemporary film and media.

Students will practice applying scholarly tools and concepts in their own original work. Students will learn how to conduct humanities-oriented research, how to develop arguments and support them with sources, and how to present ideas clearly and persuasively. This will culminate in a research project based on work done over the course of the semester.

**Learning objectives**

By the end of this course, you will:

1) Understand some of the key theories that inform film and media scholarship
2) Understand relationships between media industries, media texts, media audiences, and the social contexts within which they are created and received
3) Improve your research, analysis, and writing skills
4) Improve your ability to read and understand scholarship in film and media studies
5) Further develop an analytical perspective on your own relationship to media

**Readings (subject to change)**

Diana W. Anselmo, “Gender and Queer Fan Labor on Tumblr: The Case of BBC’s Sherlock,” Feminist Media Histories 4:1 (2018), 84-114


Jennifer Hyland Wang, “‘A Struggle of Contending Stories’: Race, Gender, and Political Memory in *Forrest Gump*,” *Cinema Journal* 39, no. 3 (Spring 2000): 92-115