RESEARCH AREAS

Screen Cultures and Curatorial Studies offers three strongly interconnected areas of focus—studies, production, and curation/programming. The curriculum is designed to stimulate inventive dialogue in ways that ensure their respective influence, and open access to multiple disciplinary formations. This collaborative tripartite structure is not offered in any other film, media, cinema, art or communication Master's or PhD program in Ontario.

FEMINIST, CRITICAL RACE INDIGENOUS AND LGBTQ2+ SCREEN CULTURES

Film, Media and Screen Cultures are examined from Feminist, Critical Race, Indigenous and LGBTQ2+ perspectives, often using intersectional approaches. We study the politics of representation in media and cultural texts, acknowledging the historical formations, responses and critiques of mainstream culture, as well as independent production and self-representation.

NATIONAL CINEMAS, CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND CURATORIAL STUDIES

A critical focus on national cinemas and institutional funding and distribution structures, from national funding agencies, film festivals, art galleries and national competitions. We have experts in the cinemas and media cultures of Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Germany, Israel, Italy, Korea, Palestine, Quebec, as well as expertise in regional cinemas and media more broadly.

MOVING IMAGE PRODUCTION

We approach production of media from within a Research-Creation framework, placing creative work in dialogue with existing intellectual/critical/creative conversations. Our focus is on producing artwork that expands the range of generic conventions, pushes open new perspectives, and offer multi-and cross-media experiences when appropriate.

CURATORIAL STUDIES

Curatorial studies is embryonic as a discipline, given curating's brief history as a vocation and set of methods and practices. We approach "the curatorial" as a mediator of art's public dimension and explore it as a tool of cultural agency. Research involves both project-based experimentation and analyzing diverse perspectives toward the critical examination of curating in the material and virtual spaces it activates.

FILM, MEDIA AND PERFORMANCE

We approach performance, media, and film from myriad perspectives. Scholarship, creation, and/or curation may include: live performance with technology, performance as approach to film and/or media, performativity of self through media, the performance of media and/or technology, theatre and media/film/technology, media installation as performance, performances as representation in media, and documenting performance.

ARCHIVES, CURATION & REMEDIATION

We study the practices, material histories and politics of the preservation and digitization of film, video, audio and new media. We develop methods and processes to ensure media are preserved and made available according to culturally specific and ethically driven forms of access, thus engaging in new conversations about cultural heritage. Curatorial and programming practices build access to media archives. We study "born digital media" alongside a variety of "obsolete" and "marginal" media, all of which share their own kinds of material histories and ecologies. We have expertise in community archives and artist-run-centres, Indigenous, women's, Canadian and LGBTQ+ collections.

HISTORICAL & CONTEMPORARY FILM & MEDIA

The study of different modes of expression across the history of cinema and other technical media, attentive to their underlying social, economic, political, and material conditions. Encompass pre-modern forms and practices, stretching far back into the "deep time" of media, as well as the new ones emerging within computational and networked communication systems.

EXPERIMENTAL MEDIA

All genres of film and media production have benefited from experimental and innovative approaches, both technologically and conceptually. We support a space where students can take risks and explore new ideas, forms and procedures without the pressure of adhering to commercial norms, and we encourage students to seek alternatives to dominant views.

GRADUATE SUPERVISORS

Supervisor	Feminist, Critical Race, Indigenous and LGBTQ2+ Screen Cultures	National Cinemas, Cultural Institutions and Curatorial Events	Moving Image Production	Curatorial Studies	Film, Media and Performance	Archives, Curation & Remediation	Historical and Contemporary Film & Media	Experimental Media
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