

XE: Experimental Humanities & Social Engagement

The M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies with The Advanced Certificate in Culture and Media

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION and TRACKING FORMS

XE is delighted to offer its students the opportunity to apply for and earn both an M.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies (XE's degree) and an Advanced Certificate in Culture and Media by completing an additional 10 graduate credits and the required sequence of courses.

XE students who are interested in this program must take “Culture and Media” in the first semester of their time at XE. Halfway through the course, they will be eligible to apply to continue in the Certificate Program. If admitted, they must earn a grade of B+ or better in all Certificate coursework in order to earn the Certificate.

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1. The Certificate Program in Culture and Media

The Departments of Anthropology and Cinema Studies offer a specialized joint course of study leading to a New York State Certificate in Culture and Media for NYU graduate students who are also pursuing their PhD degrees in Anthropology, Cinema Studies, or Comparative Literature.

The program's philosophy takes a broad approach to the relationships between culture and media in a number of domains including: ethnographic film's significance for the fields of anthropology and cinema/media studies; problems in representation of cultures through media; the development of media in indigenous, Diaspora, and non-Western communities; the emerging social and cultural formations shaped by new media practices; the political economy shaping the production, distribution and consumption of media worldwide; and the impact of new media technologies on these processes.

This graduate program provides a focused course of studies integrating production with theory and research. Training in this program will enable students to pursue the following:

-Production work in state-of-the-art digital video based on their own research, resulting in a twenty to thirty-minute documentary. Student works have shown in festivals worldwide, won multiple awards, and are in distribution. For a list of recent student documentaries [click here](#).

-Ethnographic research into the social practice of media in a range of communities and cultures. Students from the program have done PhD research on the development of media in diverse settings, from the emergence of film and TV in Papua New Guinea, to circulation of religious media in Northern Nigeria.

-Teaching the history, theory, and production of ethnographic documentary and related issues.

-A career in media requiring an understanding of anthropology, such as specialized programming and distribution of ethnographic film and video, community-based documentary production, management of ethnographic film/video libraries and archives, or work in new media.

Information on faculty can be found [here](#).

CURRICULUM FOR THE M.A. IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Interdisciplinarity, CEH-GA 3015	3 points
Master's Project, CEH-GA 3003	1 point
Electives	28 points
Total	32 points

At least 16 points of the total 32 points required must be in the XE Program (courses with the prefix CEH-GA in the course number)

CURRICULUM FOR THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN CULTURE AND MEDIA

- Culture and Media I: Critical History of Visual Anthropology 4 points
- Culture and Media II: Ethnography of Media 4 points
- Cultural Theory and the Documentary, CINE-GT 2001 4 points
- Sight and Sound Documentary, CINE-GT 1999 6 points
- Video Production Seminar I, ANTH-GA 1218 4 points
- Video Production Seminar II, ANTH-GA 1219 4 points
- A course approved by the program director 4 points

Total 30 points

COMBINED CURRICULUM FOR DUAL DEGREE

If these two programs were done separately, they would require 62 points of coursework.

The dual degree allows students to complete both curricula in a total of 42 points.

Interdisciplinary Studies Courses

- Interdisciplinarity, CEH-GA 3015 3 points
- Master's Project, CEH-GA 3003 1 point
[For the Dual Degree, the Master's Project will be the video developed in the 2-semester Video Production Seminar, plus a scholarly introduction.]
- 3 Interdisciplinary Studies Electives (XE courses) 12 points

Culture and Media Courses

- Culture and Media I: Critical History of Visual Anthropology, ANTH-GA 1215 4 points
- Culture and Media II: Ethnography of Media, ANTH-GA 1216 4 points
- Cultural Theory and the Documentary, CINE-GT 2001 4 points
- Sight and Sound Documentary, CINE-GT 1998 6 points
(OFFERED SUMMER ONLY)
- Video Production Seminar I, ANTH-GA 1218 4 points
- Video Production Seminar II, ANTH-GA 1219 4 points

Total 42 points

Note: The Draper Scholarship will apply to all but 10 of these 42 points

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. The Graduate Certificate Program was created initially for doctoral students in Anthropology and Cinema Studies. While we accept talented MA students whose interests are appropriate to our curriculum, they are expected to maintain the same level of excellence as our doctoral students, as well as a grade of B+ or better. The curriculum is demanding in a way that, over the three decades since the program began, has helped students successfully launch further work in documentary theory and practice.
2. XE students who wish to complete this dual degree will need to start it in their first year—preferably their first semester—in XE.
3. Students need to maintain a grade of B+ or better in every class in order to continue in the program.
4. Students need to take two of the required academic courses—Culture and Media 1, Culture and Media II, and/or Cultural Theory and the Documentary—before taking production courses.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION OF THE DUAL DEGREE:

Fall 1:

~XE Introductory Seminar: "Interdisciplinarity"

~"Culture and Media I; History and Theory of Ethnographic Documentary"

~One XE course

Spring 1:

~Culture and Media II; ETHNOGRAPHY OF MEDIA

~Cultural Theory and The Documentary/Cinema Studies

~One XE course

Summer:

~SIGHT AND SOUND DOCUMENTARY

Fall 2:

~VIDEO PRODUCTION SEMINAR 1

~One XE course

Spring 2:

~VIDEO PRODUCTION SEMINAR 2

~XE Master's Project. This will normally be the work developed in VP Seminar.

**APPLICATION FOR THE DUAL DEGREE
COMBINING
THE M.A. IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
AND
THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN CULTURE AND MEDIA**

To be submitted half-way through the semester in which the student takes the "Culture and Media I" sequence (i.e. half-way through the first semester at XE).

Please include a 250 word Statement of Intent detailing your academic experience and describing why you are interested in the Certificate.

Student's Name:

University ID Number:

Student's XE Faculty Advisor:

Approval of Director, Certificate Program in Culture and Media:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Approval of Director or Associate Director, XE:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**TRACKING AND COMPLETION FORM FOR THE DUAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE M.A. IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
AND
THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN CULTURE AND MEDIA
(TO BE UPDATED EVERY SEMESTER AND KEPT IN STUDENT'S XE FILE)**

Student's Name:

University ID Number:

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST		
SEMESTER	COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE	POINTS COMPLETED
	ANTH GA 1215/CINE-GT 1402 Culture and Media I (4pts)	
	ANTH GA 1403/CINE-GT 1403 Culture and Media II (4pts)	
	CINE GT 2001 Cultural Theory and The Documentary (4pts)	
	CINE GT 1998 Sight and Sound Documentary (6pts)	
	ANTH GA 1218 Video Production Seminar 1 (4pts)	
	ANTH GA 1219 Video Production Seminar 2 (4pts)	
	CEH-GA 3015 Interdisciplinarity (3pts)	
	CEH-GA 3005 XE Master's Project (1pt)	
	XE Elective 1 (4pts) Please fill in approved course name and number: _____	
	XE Elective 2 (4pts) Please fill in approved course name and number: _____	
	XE Elective 3 (4pts) Please fill in approved course name and number: _____	
	TOTAL CREDITS	

Approval of Director, Certificate Program in Culture and Media:

Name:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Approval of Director or Associate Director, XE:

Name:

Signature: _____

Date: _____