Theater, Film, and Media Studies (TFMS) houses a variety of opportunities for students to study and practice the arts of stage and screen. Majors, minors, and non-majors alike enroll in a wide array of courses, including acting, directing, dance, movement, filmmaking, world cinema, film history, horror film, set, costume, and lighting design, stagecraft, screenwriting, Japanese film and performance traditions, and the study of subjects in theater, film, and media. Students also participate energetically in our continuous series of theatrical productions, dance concerts, film productions, workshops, and guest performances and residencies.

TFMS prides itself on having one of the most complete and current all-around programs available in a liberal arts college.

Students may focus their studies in theater or in film and media, as a major or as a minor; a minor in dance/movement is also available for students who wish to pursue a concentrated course of study in this area. Both the theater studies and film and media studies majors are fundamentally collaborative and multi-disciplinary – they thrive in a liberal arts context that promotes breadth and integration of learning. Additionally, we provide opportunities for students to produce their own works and to collaborate on projects with faculty members and other students.

Of particular interest to the department is a continuing effort to promote cultural diversity in its courses, productions, and its community. In keeping with this mission, its faculty practices affirmative action in all of its policies and operations, and invites suggestions for promoting cultural, racial, and gender inclusiveness in its various curricula and activities.
THE MAIN STAGE
As part of our annual theater season, TFMS produces three major shows in the 200-seat Bruce Davis Theater. Directed by the faculty or guest artists, these productions encompass the widest possible range of theatrical forms, genres, periods, and experiment, and might include a Shakespeare, a Japanese kyōgen or Noh performance, an American classic, an outdoor agit-prop extravaganza performed with the world-famous Bread and Puppet Theater, or a musical, like *Happy End*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Hair*, *Cabaret*, or *Spring Awakening*.

For more examples of our range, visit the Gallery section of our web site (www.smcm.edu/tfms).

GUEST ARTIST RESIDENCIES
TFMS complements its production season with occasional guest artist residencies and/or shows designed specifically for touring to community schools. Guest artists may direct or design main stage shows, or may be members of regional, national, or international theater companies, such as Happenstance’ Theater, The San Francisco Mime Troupe, or Bread and Puppet Theater, that hold workshops and performances for the College and St. Mary’s communities. A sample of visiting guest artists includes Nobel Prize-winning playwright Wole Soyinka; performance artists Peggy Shaw, Robbie McCauley, and John O’Neal; filmmakers Yung Chang, Lewis Klahr, Connie Field, Lynne Sachs, Charles Burnett, and Zeinabu irene Davis; and Teatro Luna, the Chicago-based all-Latina performance ensemble co-founded by SMCM theater alum Coya Paz, ’97.

THE WHITE ROOM
In addition to our main stage season, the student-run performance space, The White Room, regularly produces shows written and/or directed by students. White Room activities supplement the department’s main stage offerings and afford students further opportunities to direct, design, perform, stage-manage, or crew. Read more about The White Room on the TFMS web site (www.smcm.edu/tfms).

INTERNSHIPS . . . and BEYOND
Internships are one of the best ways to gain experience, explore prospective careers, and even prepare for graduate work, and you can earn academic credit for your experience, too. TFMS students have interned with a variety of organizations, related and unrelated to theater, film, and media, including The San Francisco Mime Troupe, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Baltimore’s Center Stage, and Ken Burns’ Florentine Films. Emily Sillcox (’12, B.A. film and media studies, double minor in biology and environmental studies) found a way to combine her interest in the sciences with her passion for filmmaking when she interned at the National Wildlife Federation in Reston, VA before entering the MFA graduate program in science and natural history filmmaking in the school of film and photography at Montana State University. TFMS faculty and staff at the Career Development Center will be happy to assist in locating internships of interest and value.
TFMS FILM SERIES

In addition to our theater season, we produce the annual TFMS Film Series. The film series brings to campus internationally acclaimed, award-winning filmmakers who screen and discuss their work, visit media production and film studies classes, and meet informally with TFMS students during their two-three day residencies at the College. The inaugural film series (2008), for example, featured films and filmmakers from the exciting vanguard of experimental documentary, while subsequent series have examined such diverse topics as environmental film, alternative forms of animation and collage, ethnographic and feminist film, hybrid documentary, and minoritarian film, including work from the seminal Black film movement, the L.A. Rebellion. For more information about the film series, visit the Film Series Archive section of our web site (www.smcm.edu/tfms).

MEDIA PRODUCTION

TFMS resources in media production provide students with access to a variety of video production and post-production technology. Production classes and St. Mary’s Projects have access to Canon Vixia HF-S30 and Canon XA-10 HD cameras, Smith-Victor lighting kits, and Audio-Technica microphones, along with supporting production equipment. Intermediate and advanced students have access to a Blackmagic Pocket cinema camera and a Zoom H-6 portable audio recorder. Post-production equipment is located in the Montgomery Hall Pro-Lab as well as in the Media Center, located in the College Library. For a full listing of equipment, visit Creative Opportunities/Film section of our web site (www.smcm.edu/tfms).

A TFMS EDUCATION

Our approach to the study and practice of theater, film, and media is grounded in a liberal arts environment that values interdisciplinary and culturally plural perspectives. The lively exchange of ideas and practices across disciplines sparks our activities in classrooms, on stage and screen, and in the studios.

The goals of our program are as follows:

- To develop knowledge and skills in theater, film, and media scholarship and practice;
- To create works of theater, performance, and media that educate our students, enrich and draw from the diverse cultural life of our community, and sustain a regional and national reputation for excellence and innovation;
- To nurture socially engaged scholars, artists, and audiences;
- To build bridges among disciplines, both within and outside our department;
- To foster a community of faculty and students that celebrates their individual talents and realize their unique visions;
- To provide opportunities for students and faculty to cultivate their individual talents and realize their unique visions;
- To prepare students for graduate study or careers in their chosen field and for lifelong achievement as global citizens and creative, critical thinkers.

In recent years, students majoring or minoring in TFMS have attended such graduate schools as: California Institute of the Arts, Actors Studio, NYU (Tisch School of the Arts), UCLA, Northwestern University, University of Washington, and Brown University.