Radio, Television, & Digital Media

The program prepares students for positions in the communications sector. The program combines practical and analytical study in producing television, video, animation, audio and radio, together with electronic journalism, the global media industries, the music business, and research on traditional and emerging media.

All Radio, Television, & Digital Media majors are required to maintain an overall 2.0 grade point average in the major. If a Radio, Television, & Digital Media student does not achieve a 2.0 grade point average in the major in any one semester, that student is subject to school warning. Students who are on departmental warning and do not earn an overall 2.0 grade point average in Radio, Television, & Digital Media courses in a subsequent semester will be placed in a status of program dismissal. A student who has been placed on program dismissal may seek transfer to another University program if the student has an overall SIU grade point average of 2.0. A dismissed student may appeal to the School Undergraduate Committee for reinstatement into the program.

Enrollment in Radio, Television, & Digital Media courses may be canceled for students who do not attend the initial class session of the semester. Fees will be assessed for supplies and materials in some courses. Students should inquire about fee amounts before registering.

Each student enrolled in the Radio, Television, & Digital Media program must declare a specialization in one of the areas described below before progressing to any Radio, Television, & Digital Media course beyond RTD 200 and RTD 201.

1. Radio, Television, & Digital Media students must receive a grade of B or better in ENGL 101 (LING 101) and ENGL 102 (LING 102). If an RTD student does not receive a grade of B or better in these courses, they will need to take ENGL 290, ENGL 291, or ENGL 300 and receive a grade of C or better.
2. Students must receive a grade of C or better in both RTD 200 and RTD 201 before taking any other RTD courses. RTD 200 and RTD 201 can only be repeated one time.
3. Grades of C or better are required in all Radio, Television, & Digital Media courses in order to count towards the major or minor and to satisfy prerequisite requirements.

Transfer students must complete a minimum of 21 hours in Radio, Television, & Digital Media courses at the University to earn a degree.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Radio, Television, & Digital Media Degree Requirements

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Digital Media Arts and Animation Specialization

In the Digital Media Arts and Animation specialization, students choose courses on digital art creation, creative storytelling, and computer animation. Digital media artists write, design, and create computer animation, games, digital audio and video for delivery across an array of media platforms. Through innovative forms and methods, students in the Digital Media Arts and Animation specialization are able to creatively explore and critically comment on the arts, content, media theories, and technologies that are shaping the future of media.

Required courses (12 credit hours)

- RTD 378 Writing for Game Production
- RTD 382 2D Animation
- RTD 487 3D Animation
- RTD 488 3D Animation II

Elective Courses: choose three of the following courses (9 credit hours)

- RTD 331 Digital Graphics
- RTD 461 VFX Post
- RTD 478 Game Narrative
- RTD 490 3D Animation III
- CIN 301 Pencils to Pixels
- CIN 454 Animation Stand
- CIN 470A Advanced Topics in Animation

Electronic Sports Media Specialization

Students in the Sports Media specialization study in one of two tracks: Sports Production and Sports Journalism. In the Sports Production track students learn the fundamentals of live event video production including site surveys, planning, producing and directing a variety of sporting events. The Sports Journalism track teaches the techniques of covering sporting events and issues, interviewing participants, and live game coverage. Students in both tracks work together to produce sports oriented and game telecasts.

Required courses for Sports Production track:

- RTD 321 Sports, Media and Society
- RTD 379 Sports Venue Production
- RTD 479 Multi-Camera Field Production
- Plus nine hours of Radio, Television, & Digital Media Electives

Required courses for Electronic Sports Media - Broadcast Journalism track:

- RTD 310 News Writing for Electronic Media
- RTD 312 Electronic Sports Journalism
- RTD 321 Sports, Media and Society
- RTD 370 Television News Reporting
- RTD 470 Television News Field Production
- Plus three hours of Radio, Television, & Digital Media Electives
Radio/Audio Production Specialization

Students in the Radio/Audio Production specialization develop their creative talents inside learning environments that unify critical listening and recording fundamentals from a wide variety of professional, artistic and historical viewpoints. Courses in the Audio Arts range from the commercial audio industries, sound and moving image and special topics courses in sound art and documentary radio. With the aid of our talented faculty, students learn to create and exhibit their projects on today’s technology by using our professional studios and computer labs.

Required Courses:

- RTD 3___ (3 hours) (approved 300 level)
- RTD 3___ (3 hours) (approved 300 level)
- RTD 3___ (3 hours) (approved 300 level)
- RTD 4___ (3 hours) (approved 400 level)
- Plus 9 hours of Radio, Television, & Digital Media Electives

Television/Video Production Specialization

Students who study Television/Video Production at SIU learn how to light, shoot and edit professionally, and how to tell compelling stories that make contact with audiences. Courses in field and studio use state-of-the-art equipment to prepare students to take positions in the industry, and students have the opportunity to gain professional experience by working with WSIU Public Broadcasting. Post-production facilities include a full complement of editing and multimedia software, allowing student producers to bring their imaginations to life.

Required Courses:

- RTD 341 (3 hours) Television in the USA
- RTD 365A (3 hours) Single Camera Field Production
- RTD 4___ (3 hours) (approved 400 level)
- Plus twelve hours of Radio, Television, & Digital Media Electives

Television Studies Minor

A total of 15 credits is required for the minor. The student must complete RTD 200: Understanding Media. The student must also complete at least nine credit hours in 300 or 400-level Radio, Television, & Digital Media courses in the areas of media studies and media industries, as well as one 300 or 400-level production course to obtain a minor. All courses for a minor in Television Studies must be completed with a grade of C or higher.

Three-Year Curriculum Plan

The program offers a three-year graduation plan option for students entering the program as freshmen. Students who attempt to pursue this plan will successfully complete 40 credit hours per academic year. For more information, please contact the Radio, Television, and Digital Media academic advisor.

Last updated: 03/25/2022