Radio/Television/Film

The major in radio/television/film (RTVF) is the study of media, educating students in its history, theory and production. The interdisciplinary program offers a range of perspectives on media forms from cinema to broadcast television, alternative media to emerging technologies. The major is dedicated to integrating theory and practice and to creating intersections with other disciplines, primarily through courses in critical studies, which are supplemented by coursework in production and writing. RTVF students become fluent in media analysis through the study of the history and social, economic and political dimensions of cinema, broadcast media, and new media. Courses are taught by cultural theorists and practicing media creators who lead majors in developing and honing their technical and critical abilities and social sensibility.

In developing critical thinking and persuasive writing skills and fluency in media and culture, RTVF majors are prepared for careers in media content creation and production, communications, business and management, education, arts and entertainment, and for further study in culture, media and the performing arts.

Degrees Offered
- Radio/Television/Film, BPhil Com (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/sps/undergraduate/radio-television-film/radio-television-film-bphil-com/)

Radio/Television/Film Courses

RTVF 190-CN Media Construction (1 Unit)
Introduces the core components of media—idea, image, sound, and sequence with the technical fundamentals involved in shooting and editing video.

RTVF 220-CN Analyzing Media Texts (1 Unit)
Introduction to the study of the moving image. Basic elements of style across media including film, television, and interactive media. Focus on close analysis of texts to find significance. Carries humanities credit.

RTVF 230-CN Understanding Media Contexts (1 Unit)
Media industries as social and cultural forces; economic and political dimensions of the global media. Carries humanities credit.

RTVF 260-CN Foundations of Screenwriting (1 Unit)
Introduction to writing for the screen (film, television, and/or computer). Structure, character, dialogue, format, voice, scope, pace, context. Lecture/workshop.

RTVF 298-CN Studies in Media Topics (1 Unit)
Theoretical or practical topics, or both; emphasis on evolving trends. May be repeated for credit with different topic.

RTVF 310-CN Television History (1 Unit)
Political, cultural, social, and industrial history of television, from the classic network era to the post-network contemporary period of media convergence. Exploration of programs as well as major events and shifts in television history. Carries humanities credit.

RTVF 312-CN History of Film (1 Unit)
International survey of motion pictures as a distinctive medium of expression from its prehistory to the present. Carries humanities credit.

RTVF 321-CN Radio/Television/Film Authorship (1 Unit)
Idea of authorship in the media and an examination of different uses of author theory related to the work of particular artists. Carries humanities credit.