

## **Film and Visual Studies Qualifying Paper**

The qualifying paper is required of all students, including students who have completed a master's thesis elsewhere. It is ordinarily developed from an existing seminar paper, research paper, or portion of a master's thesis. It is about 5,000 to 10,000 words, including notes. The paper should demonstrate the student's independence of thinking and research, ability to use primary source materials, and proficiency in writing and presentation. Following close consultation with their field advisors, students at the beginning of their third term of residence will submit to the DGS the proposed topic of the paper and a timetable for its completion. The paper should be submitted two weeks before the general examination. A student may request that a master's thesis written for another institution be substituted in lieu of a qualifying paper; this request must be approved by the DGS and two members of the Film Studies Committee.