Introduction to Cinema
(CTCS 190 • 4 units)
Explores the formal properties of movies: literary design, performance, visual design, composition, editing, sound design, genre, style, and the production process. Screenings from this current semester include: Brideshead Revisited, Two for the Road, North By Northwest, All About Eve, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, Witness for the Prosecution, A Place in the Sun, Victor/Victoria, Rosemary’s Baby, and Chinatown.

Introduction to Theories of Cinema and Media
(CTCS 300 – 4 units)
An introduction to theoretical works in cinema and media studies, emphasizing concepts to interrogate media objects. This course is restricted to first-year Cinema and Media Studies students-only, orienting students to their cohort and field.

Foreign Language
(4 units)
Unless students have previously satisfied or placed out of the Foreign Language requirement, most students will take this during their first semester at USC. Many students decide to start a new foreign language when they arrive at USC and explore the many options open to them.

General Education Seminar
(GESM 120/130/140/150/160 • 4 units)
These courses are limited to 25 incoming undergraduates and earn credit in one of the six Core Literacies of the General Education Program. Within each of the core literacies there are 10-50 different topics for you to choose from. These are smaller, discussion driven, GE courses.

Elective Course
(2 units)
Many students choose to add a 2-unit elective to their enrollment. Students can take a Freshman Seminar – small, graduate like courses, or film elective coursework such as Originating and Developing Ideas for Film, Workshop in Multimedia Authoring or Practicum in Television Production (Trojan Vision). They are also free to choose electives from any other department on campus.

Must be taken in Fall 2025:
Reality Starts Here
CNTV 101 • 2 units:
An introduction to the School of Cinematic Arts and USC. This course will provide introductions to many of the resources available to students, while cultivating tools for success around topics such as emotional health, collaboration and professional relationships, peer criticism and critique, time management and internships and work opportunities. Guest speakers will be featured throughout the semester including current students and alumni guests.