In the networked world, developments in emergent technologies shift the ways we participate in intellectual and civic life. This intermediate-level course forms a solid foundation for image, video and audio authoring, while investigating the close interrelationships among technology, semiotics and culture.

IML 340 centers on a core “text” from which students identify a key issue particular to their personal interests. This year, the core “text” will be the archive footage provided by the USC Shoah Foundation Institute. The video testimonies of nearly 52,000 Holocaust survivors and witnesses will provide a framework from which a range of topics can be investigated, from global politics, economics and gender studies to mass media and global health. Students will select a focus early in the semester, working and researching from multiple perspectives to develop clearly articulated visual arguments and expository film pieces. These projects will be developed using the Shoah Foundation Institute footage and documentation, allowing students to explore the potential of filmed testimony as source material, and how the archive can create new opportunities for documentation, education, and research.

IML 340 counts toward both the Honors in Multimedia Scholarship Program and the Digital Studies Minor for those students who choose to continue their work in multimedia literacy and authorship. Contact Sonia Seetharaman at 213.743.2198 for more information.