In a networked global culture, sophisticated multimedia is quickly becoming the worldwide currency. A longtime staple in the industries of advertising and entertainment, multimedia has now carved a new niche for itself: academia.

Unlike the wealth of text-based examples, however, multimedia scholarship remains limited and uncodified. One of the major challenges is the lack of models or exemplars - to whom do we turn for guidance in such a new and burgeoning field? The Digital Studies Symposium is designed to rectify this gap, introducing us to the often hard-to-find scholarly media-based research and production, much of which is centered in Southern California.

The guest speakers in this course are a mix of artists, programmers, scholars and designers, and their projects include cutting edge gestural interfaces, mobile media experiments, innovative websites and augmented reality pieces. These multimedia pioneers will discuss the creation and culmination of their work, as well as the rewards and challenges of producing scholarly multimedia.

IML 466 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.