



## **Hollins To Launch M.F.A. In Screenwriting**

Roanoke, Va. – Hollins University will begin offering a master of fine arts (M.F.A.) degree in screenwriting in the summer of 2005.

The program will complement the master of arts (M.A.) degree in screenwriting and film studies that Hollins has offered since 1999. As with the M.A. program, the M.F.A. program will draw its instructors from the ranks of Hollins' permanent faculty as well as visiting screenwriters, filmmakers and distinguished scholars from other institutions.

The M.F.A. program will require the completion of ten courses (40 credits) over the course of five summers on campus, or over four summers in combination with off-site independent study. Courses will include film analysis and research, creative writing, narrative theory and practice, video production and advanced screenwriting tutorials. A thesis, consisting of a feature-length (90 – 120 pages) screenplay, is also required.

“The M.F.A. program will share courses with the M.A. program, with the exception of the advanced screenwriting tutorials, which will be available only to M.F.A. students,” said Klaus Phillips, Hollins' director of screenwriting and film studies. “While the M.A. is designed for those whose interest lies more in the academic study of film, the M.F.A. is for students who wish to focus strongly on the screenwriting component.”

Phillips added that students in the M.A. program who wished to change to the M.F.A. may apply to do so in conjunction with their screenwriting professors' recommendations.

Hollins is an independent liberal arts university offering undergraduate education for women and graduate programs for men and women. In addition to screenwriting, Hollins will offer M.F.A. programs in dance and children's literature for the first time beginning in the summer of 2005.

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