

# FILM, BFA

## Contact

Alex Mendez Giner, Program Coordinator, ajmendez@syr.edu  
102 Shaffer Art Building, 315-443-1033

## Faculty

Adria Dawn, Tamika Galanis, Kelly Gallagher, Kara Herold, David Hicock, Alexander Kubak Klich, Alex Mendez Giner, Soudabeh Moradian, Nancy Keefe Rhodes, Donato Rossi, Sandy Siquier, Miso Suchy, David Tarleton, Guinevere Turner, Matthew Warne.

## Description

The educational mission of our film program is to provide a stimulating and rewarding context for independent filmmaking. We foster creative, intellectual, and personal achievement by providing an exceptional hands-on education from development to post-production: scriptwriting, budgeting, storyboarding, cinematography, directing, sound design, editing and post-production: including 2D and 3D animation. Students can pursue various modes of filmmaking, from narrative to documentary and experimental. Students have opportunities to shoot with both digital cameras and celluloid film.

The film program places equal emphasis on academic film studies, creative production, and interpersonal and leadership skills. The program encourages independence, debate, and originality. All students are required to take film history, theory and criticism classes where they develop conceptual, critical and aesthetic skills that empower them to become the top filmmakers of tomorrow.

First and second year students follow a core curriculum, including introductory production courses and essential filmmaking skills. The third year allows students to dive into specific filmmaking aspects that they are passionate about while the fourth year brings it all together, as students develop their unique voice, style and professional practice in a final thesis film.

In addition, our program offers three culturally immersive, intensive, and professional minded study abroad options in Bologna, Los Angeles and shooting 35mm film in Prague. On campus students have the opportunity to be involved in the Syracuse International Film Festival and the Syracuse Film Society (a student-run film organization).

Fourth year students have the opportunity to apply for the Bryan Buckley Award, which offers financial support to outstanding thesis projects, both in their production and post-production stages.

The film production facilities include 4K cutting edge digital film cameras, digital RAW-enabled recorders, professional film lenses, Super 16mm analog film cameras, a large array of location lighting including state-of-the-art HMI, Fluorescent and LED lights such as Arri M18 HMI, Arri Skypanels, Joker HMI Fresnels, and Kino-Flo Banks, among many others. We also have professional mounting gear, a studio dolly, car mounts and gimbals.

Our non-linear editing facilities are 4K ready, equipped with the Adobe Creative Cloud, DaVinci Resolve, and other professional software. Our color grading facilities are equipped with a Flanders Scientific broadcast monitor and professional grading controls. We also have two top-notch sound mixing studios as well as a lighting studio and green screen stage.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Technical Skills: Demonstrate a subset of technical skills involving process or technique knowledge and proficiency in Film Production
2. Conceptual Skills: Demonstrate a broad set of skills in Film that allow a student to understanding abstract ideas and complicated processes while also think creatively
3. Critical Thinking: Analyze theoretical, critical and historical thoughts and concepts clearly and effectively through film
4. Filmmaking Proficiency: Produce quality films that demonstrate a cohesive and compelling production, appropriate to the medium while effectively managing the resources and logistics to produce a film
5. Collaboration Skills: Employ ability to function as a team member of a production

## Program Requirements

A minimum of 30 credits from the Liberal Arts & Sciences is required for completion of the BFA in Film. Courses with an \* have been approved as LA&S.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
FMA 151	Conversations in Film and Media Arts I *	3
FMA 152	Conversations in Film and Media Arts II *	3
FMA 153	Making Media: Fundamentals	3
FIL 121	Filmmaking Workshop: Physical Aspects	3
FIL 124	Filmmaking Workshop: Concepts	3
FIL 221	Cinematic Modes of Production: Documentary/Experimental	3
FIL 223	Cinematic Modes of Production: Fiction/Hybrid	3
FIL 225	Problems of Film Perception *	3
FIL 226	Survey of Film Theory *	3
FIL 228	Film Scriptwriting *	3
FIL 301	Advanced Filmmaking Workshop	3
FIL 419	Film Senior Project: Development	3
FIL 520	Film Studies Seminar	3
FIL 420	Filmmaking:Senior Project ((Fall Semester)/Post-Production (Spring Semester) 6 cr total)	6
Select four Required Studio Electives of the following:		12
FIL 321	Filmmaking:Animation	
FIL 322	Cinematic Modes Workshop	
FIL 324	Scriptwriting Workshop	
FIL 333	The Art of Editing	
FIL 334	The Art of Editing Lab	
FIL 335	Advanced Editing	
FIL 327	Directing Actors	
FIL 329	Sound Design	
FIL 500	Selected Topics	
FIL 521	Filmmaking: Selected Topics	
FIL 523	Cinema Acting&Directing	
FIL 525	Cinematography	
FIL 526	Advanced Cinematography	
FIL 528	Color Grading and Finishing	
<b>Academic Requirements</b>		
FYS 101	First Year Seminar	1

WRT 105	Studio 1: Practices of Academic Writing	3
WRT 205	Studio 2: Critical Research and Writing	3

**Studies in Culture**

Studies in Culture consists of pre-approved electives, at least one of which must be in Liberal Arts and Sciences. 15

FIL 253 Survey of Film History I and FIL 254 Survey of Film History II are required.

FIL 250 Film Topics and FIL 360 Films Topics are recommended. You can find a comprehensive list of approved electives here.

FIL 253 Survey of Film History 1 \*

FIL 254 Survey of Film History 2 \*

**Academic Electives**

Academic electives are non-studio based courses found across all ten colleges. 21

You can find a comprehensive list of courses that count here.

(<https://vpa.syr.edu/student-services/advising/>)

**Studio Electives**

Studio electives are offered through the Department of Film and Media Arts, the Department of Drama, the School of Art and the School of Design. 21

The course content includes, but is not limited to, conceptualization, process, product, and critique of creative work in studio practice.

These courses meet for a minimum of four hours per week for the duration of the semester. Usual meeting patterns are: the class meets once per week for four+ hours, or twice per week for two or more hours.

You can find a comprehensive list of courses that count here.

(<https://vpa.syr.edu/student-services/advising/>)

**Study Abroad**

The film program offers both semester-long and short-term study programs with FAMU in Prague (junior year); in Bologna, Italy (summer program); in LA through the Syracuse University Dick Clark Los Angeles Program (spring, senior year).

**Total Credits** 121

**Degree Awarded: BFA in Film****Undergraduate University Requirements**

The following requirements and experiences apply to all Syracuse University Undergraduate matriculated degree programs.

- IDEA Course Requirement (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/idea-course-requirement/>)
- First Year Seminar (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/undergraduate/courses/fys/>)