

FILM & TELEVISION CONSERVATORY

All 9th graders entering FTV begin courses in Year 1. Entering 10-12th graders are placed according to their experience, ideally with their peer group grade. All students are mentored so they can begin Year 4 when they become seniors.

Students are required to take all courses listed below and must pass each production course they take to matriculate. Seniors may ask to take an elective in another conservatory in lieu of a senior FTV elective course.

YEAR	FALL	SPRING
Year 1	Film Production I (2) Editing (2)	TV Production I (2) Cinematography I (1) Audio Design (1)
Year 2	Film Production II (2) Directing I (1) Screenwriting (1)	Advanced Directing (2) Industrial Video Production (1) Film History (1)
Year 3	Documentary Filmmaking (2) TV Production II (2)	Film Production III (2) TV Production III (2)
Senior Year	Senior Project (2) Advanced Cinematography (1)* Industry Prep (1)	Senior Project (2) In Focus (2)*

(1-2) = days per week; **bold** = production course; * = elective course

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<p>Advanced Cinematography</p> <p>An advanced production class that explores the art and science of professional cinematography. Students will learn about and employ advanced lighting and compositional technique to make a commercial or experimental narrative project. Students will work with professional cinema cameras (Canon, RED) and lenses (Canon EF line) and learn how to use specialized equipment (crane, jib, dolly). Students will learn about the complex and demanding life of a professional cinematographer. Students will expand their understanding of the collaborative nature of filmmaking through their small group projects.</p>
<p>Advanced Directing</p> <p>This is an intermediate level production course focusing on creative collaboration between FTV students and the Creative Writing and Acting conservatories. Each FTV student will collaborate with Creative Writing students in the developing and shaping of at least three drafts of a 4-page narrative script. Upon completion of a final draft, FTV students will hold a casting session with students from the Acting Conservatory's Acting for Film class to select actors for the roles in the films. As the projects go into production, FTV students will review and learn more about the language and theories of acting technique and application (extending their knowledge from Directing I). Each FTV student (or pair in some cases) will schedule, shoot and edit at least three cuts of a 4-minute film which will be screened at Cineplex.</p>
<p>Audio Design</p> <p>This is a beginning course focusing on production and post-production sound recording and design for film. Students will learn how production microphones work and the individual uses of each kind. Students will learn proper recording techniques, sound creation (Foley), dialogue recording, and sound effects selection and editing. Projects include collecting sounds, remixing a piece of film with new sounds, and creating a "sound canvas" without picture.</p>
<p>Cinematography I</p> <p>This is a beginning production course focusing on basic elements of cinematography. Students will learn how to enhance the effectiveness of their visual storytelling through use of camera angles and movement and the manipulation of light, shadow and color. Students will learn about the cinematographic process as it relates to DSLR cameras. Students will learn about the basic role and tools of cinematographers and gaffers. Students will expand their understanding of the collaborative nature of filmmaking through group projects. Students will learn about the work and styles of influential cinematographers. Students will complete a short commercial or music video incorporating a variety of cinematographic techniques.</p>
<p>Directing I</p> <p>This is an introductory acting/directing workshop. It focuses on understanding the actor's process, learning effective actor/director communication, and breaking down and shooting scenes based on dramatic and emotional intent. Students will direct each other in original scenes, internalizing effective directing strategies while developing their own unique style. As this is a workshop class, projects will not be screened at Cineplex.</p>
<p>Documentary Filmmaking</p> <p>In this advanced production class, students will survey and assess non-fiction feature and short films. New lexicons, filmmaking tropes and techniques are discovered and discussed. The focus will be on participatory and observational documentaries which delve into the lives of a particular person or group. Students will select subjects whose lives they want to reveal and developing exploratory questions for those subjects. Students will learn about collecting information through visual observation (b-roll) and interviewing. Students will learn how to edit visually, using these interviews to guide their visual choices. Students will ultimately learn how to create an honest narrative about their subjects through editing and sound design, culminating in a 3-5 minute documentary which will be screened at Cineplex.</p>
<p>Editing I</p>

organization and workflow by carrying several projects through from raw footage to final media output. Students will edit scenes, cut together a movie trailer and assemble their Film Production I project.

Film History

Introductory class which explores filmmaking historically and critically as an art from late 1890's to the present. Students will view, discuss, and write on subjects ranging from artists, style, and other facets of American and international filmmaking. The object of the class is to help students understand the major creative influences in film history and how these impacted film as art and commerce for both studios, artists and audiences.

Film Production I

In this beginning production course, students will learn and apply concepts of visual storytelling to two short non-dialogue narratives. Students will conceptualize, write, storyboard, direct and edit their own story ideas. All projects will be shot without dialogue, emphasizing the visual aspects of the medium to tell stories. Students will learn the basic visual "grammar" of filmmaking and how shots combine to create meaning. Students will complete two individual 2-3 minute productions, one of which will be selected by the instructor to screen at Cineplex.

Film Production II

This course focuses on the production of short synchronized sound films. Students will learn how to cover dialogue action, considering camera placement for narrative clarity, visual continuity and emotional impact. Students will also experience the roles and responsibilities of key crew positions; proper set etiquette; and the importance of time management, communication and organization.

Film Production III

In this advanced production course, students will collaborate as a class to produce two 6-8 minute short narrative films. Students will learn in greater depth the proper functioning of a film crew with its distinct positions, hierarchy and protocols. Each student will fulfil either an "above the line" role (producer, director, writer, etc.) or "below the line" role (gaffer, grip, production assistant, etc.) on one of the films. The class will also emphasize the role and workings of the production design department on a film and experience how this department (through art direction, costumes, props) contributes to the stylistic look and thematic expression of a film.

In Focus

In Focus is an advanced critical studies course that explores in-depth the work of a particular filmmaker, genre, or tradition in cinema and television. Focus topics may vary from year to year, but will focus on at least two of the above areas. Students will complete regular written analysis of films viewed in class, engage in classroom discussion, and write two thesis papers. Past topics include Alfred Hitchcock, Billy Wilder, coming of age films, 1990s cinema, Peter Weir, Australian cinema, and others. Students will explore concepts of changing trends in filmmaking, auteur theory, and how various aspects of film (cinematography, sound design, dialogue, character development, etc.) tell story and convey theme.

Industry Prep

An in-depth workshop that prepares student's for film industry expectations and aids students with acclimating into film school, university or the business. Students will learn how to create a marketable résumé, obtain a meaningful internship, promote their films within the festival circuit, create project reels, and promote their work online. Students will also be prepped for internships by doing script coverage and learning interview and personal promotional skills.

Industrial Video Production

An intermediate class focusing on non-profit and commercial promotional video product. Students will work in teams to create two public service announcements (PSAs): one for a non-profit client and another geared toward a contest or related to a personal issue or cause. Students will learn about target audiences and how to create brief, effective messaging with visuals, audio and graphics. Students will also learn about collaborating and working for a client, finding ways to use their own creativity while meeting the needs, goals and mission of the client.

Screenwriting

Students will learn how each scene functions as a “mini-story” within the larger context of the screenplay it inhabits. Students will practice writing various kinds of scenes (reversal of expectation, unexpected visitor, seduction, etc.) while improving their skills with voice-over narration, character introduction, scene description and formatting.

Senior Project

Senior Project is a yearlong senior production course wherein students create a thematically and technically advanced 8-10 minute narrative or documentary film. Senior Project covers all aspects of professional production, including pre-production planning, production and post-production, with an emphasis on film producing and problem solving. Students will learn about the following processes in greater depth: script development, production scheduling, and location permitting and will be introduced to budgeting, professional casting, talent contracts and deal memos. Students will pick a Directing or Producing emphasis and complete their project according to that track’s assignments (covered topics listed below). While all projects are mentored, a high degree of independence is expected.

TV Production I

This course focuses on 3-camera live studio production. Students will learn the safety protocols of a TV studio; how to operate television cameras, lighting and audio equipment; and how to function in the various roles of a TV crew. Students will also learn about on-location news production. Students will work in groups to produce three short episodes of a TV news program. Students will create taped content (“packages”) for playback during the TV, scripted taping of each episode.

TV Production II

This course focuses on scripted web series production. As a class, students will conceptualize and outline a short web comedy or drama show. Students will work in groups to write and produce at least four 3 - 5 minute episodes. Students will rotate responsibilities from one production to the next, performing and experiencing multiple aspects of episodic production. Students will deliver completed episodes on schedule to instructor for upload to YouTube.

TV Production III

This course focuses on live event TV production. As a class, students will film both an on-location music video as well as a full-length live arts event from one of OCSA’s performing conservatories. Students will also interview performers and film event footage for accompanying featurettes. The live show and featurettes will be edited into an arts program (ala PBS’ “Great Performances”) for broadcast to local cable channels and the internet.