

What can I do with a degree in...

FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION?

What is

FILM & TELEVISION PRODUCTION?

At the School of Stage and Screen, we start with the story. Storytelling is the basic skill that ties all the others together. That is what the most successful filmmakers have in common. From screenplay through post-production, fiction or non-fiction, we use technology in service of story as students get hands-on experience on our sets and film stages and in our Avid-equipped editing rooms.

The Film and Television Production degree is for students interested in a comprehensive film and television training including writing, directing, cinematography, and film production.

Students learn to use technology in service of story. Under the guidance of faculty members who have worked extensively in the film and television industries, students learn not only the art and technique of film-making, but also the skills and attitudes necessary to succeed. They develop these skills in industry-quality facilities with state-of-the-art equipment.



What are the **DEGREE OPTIONS?**

Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Film and Television Production

What is the **ADMISSION PROCESS?**

Students must apply to the School of Stage and Screen as well as to the program. Students must submit a resume, two letters of recommendation, an essay, and samples of their work. Please see [guidelines for admissions](#) for the Film and Television program specifically. For assistance on application materials, students may make an appointment with the Center for

Career and Professional Development via their student portal.

What **JOBS ARE AVAILABLE?**

Depending on the degree, concentration, experiences and other qualifications, our graduates are prepared to become a variety of professionals including arts directors, film scorers, props managers, assistant directors, film recorders, performers, cinematographers, film editors, producers and directors, camera operators, photographers, talent scouts, casting assistants, colorizing technicians, booking managers, entertainment and screenwriters. *NOTE: Advanced degrees may be required for some of*

the listed professions. Please see a career counselor or advisor for more information.

Who employs **FILM & TELEVISION PRODUCTION** graduates?

Our graduates gain employment with a variety of employers including music industry firms, orchestras, movie and television production companies, opera and theater companies, military ensembles, recording agencies, and educational institutions.

MAJOR MAP

How to use this map: Review the four categories and suggestions of activities and when you should consider engaging in them. Remember, these are just suggestions! There is a fillable space for you to add in any other ideas you have to set yourself up for success in life after college.

Looking for a minor? Consider these options:

Business Administration & Law
Communication
Creative Writing

Dance
International Studies
Management

Marketing
Music
Studio Art (Photography)

1st YEAR

2nd YEAR

3rd YEAR

4th YEAR

EXCEL IN ACADEMICS

Many first-year students will focus on introductory Film and Television Production (FTP) courses, plus liberal studies requirements. [Check out the 8-semester plan](#) and make an appointment with your advisor.

Students in their second year will likely continue with liberal studies electives, intermediate FTP courses topics, as well as introductory courses with their minor. [Check out the 8-semester plan](#) and make an appointment with your advisor.

Third level courses focus on upper-level FTP courses, special topics relating to your career path, or your chosen minor. [Check out the 8-semester plan](#) and make an appointment with your advisor.

Courses in your final year will complete the major coursework requirement, as well as your chosen minor electives. Be sure to [check out the 8-semester plan](#), make an appointment with your advisor, complete your degree audit, and [apply for graduation!](#)

GET HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

Check out [WCU's DegreePlus program](#) and choose which events in any of the four categories you want to attend. Categories include: Professionalism, Teamwork, Leadership, or Cultural Responsiveness.

See what on-campus employment opportunities are available by logging in to JobCat via your MyWCU.

Get involved with the University Players of Theatre and Film or the Arts and Cultural Events (ACE) at WCU.

If you are thinking about attending a graduate school, start engaging in hands-on experiences required in graduate school admissions.

Engage deeper with [DegreePlus](#); choose an additional competency to complete

Consider an internship that will give you practical and hands-on experience to put on a resume.

Start building your online portfolio to showcase your work in film and production.

Consider networking with professionals in your field during [regional film festivals](#).

Investigate requirements for full-time jobs. Assess what skills or experiences you're lacking and invest time in seeking additional opportunities such as certification programs, classes, or professional development workshops during your last year to fill that gap. Connect with your faculty advisor or career counselor.

BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY

Connect with the [Center for Service Learning](#) and ask about the [Spark Award](#), a program aimed to encourage students to be connected with their community.

Volunteer with area non-profits or organizations which interest you.

Consider the [study abroad programs related to FTP](#). Talk with a study abroad advisor about targeted experience for your areas of interest.

Develop deeper relationships with the organizations for which you volunteer. Ask for special projects or responsibilities that you can highlight on a resume.

Connect with alumni in your field through [LinkedIn](#)

Join professional organizations such as the Motion Picture Association or the [Film Music Society](#).

Network with employers and non-profits at the annual Career Fair Plus event, held each October and February.

PREPARE FOR LIFE AFTER COLLEGE

Further explore your career options or career interests using the [Center for Career and Professional Development's](#) online resources, [Focus 2](#), and [Onet Online](#).

Connect with a career counselor early on to explore opportunities and experiences you can do while in college to further develop your professional resume.

Check out [CCPD's list of career-building activities](#) and participate in an activity this year, such as attending Career Fair Plus.

Start a spreadsheet of graduate schools, if applicable, you wish to apply to in a few years with their admission requirements so that you are aware of the expectations.

Visit the CCPD to hone your professional resume and cover letter. Apply for internships. Utilize the [Writing and Learning Commons](#) for GRE, and other professional exam preparation sessions. Use [Big Interview](#) to learn more about professional interviews.

Schedule a visit to tour graduate schools of your choice, if applicable.

Apply to graduate schools, if applicable.

Look for and apply for jobs between 4 and 6 months before graduation.

Polish your resume, cover letter, and interview skills by visiting the [CCPD](#).

Internships are still the number-one educational experience employers look for in a recent college graduate resume. (Chronicle of Higher Education's study on 50,000 employers)

DID YOU KNOW?

MORE INFORMATION

INTERNSHIP Information

At Western Carolina University there are numerous internship opportunities for students. In some cases internships are established through a faculty member in the student's major. Oftentimes students find part-time jobs in an area related to their field of study. When this happens, students should discuss with their academic advisor the possibility of receiving college credit. Generally, three hours of general elective credit can be earned for a minimum of 200 hours of experience.

SKILLS LEARNED in the classroom

The core competencies will center on developing skills, knowledge, and attitudes such as:

- Independent Worker
- Think and Understand in Patterns
- Curiosity and Creativity
- Time Management
- Oral & Written Communication
- Responsibility
- Innovative Talents
- Problem-Solving
- Planning Ahead
- Teamwork

KNOWLEDGE Base

This program will prepare students to:

- Perform works of various style periods in a musically compelling way.
- Synthesize knowledge, skills, and values acquired throughout the curriculum.
- Share knowledge and expertise in a civic context for the benefit of others.
- Develop an initial educational plan into a career plan in the senior year.
- Advocate effectively for the arts through written and oral communication.

Professional RESOURCES

- Motion Picture Association of America: www.mpa.org
- The Film Music Society: www.filmmusicsociety.org
- Independent Feature Project: www.ifp.org
- Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers: www.amptp.org
- Alliance for Women in Media: <http://www.allwomeninmedia.org>

QUESTIONS?

For questions, please call the Film and Television program at 828-227-7491, email sas@email.wcu.edu or visit filmandtv.wcu.edu.

To schedule an appointment with a career counselor, contact the Center for Career and Professional Development, 828-227-7133 or careerservices@wcu.edu.