

# Film Production

*Made in Windsor.*



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Film Production  
Experience Map



University  
of Windsor

## Highlights and Skills

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

#### Film Production BFA <sup>Ⓜ</sup>

Develop your visual, technical, storytelling, and professional workplace skills. Study all aspects of filmmaking in scripted and documentary film including pre-production concept development, screenwriting, project planning, budgeting; production management, directing, cinematography, set design, lighting, sound; and post-production including sound design and editing. Learn fiction, documentary, and experimental filmmaking traditions and create films working in close-knit teams with peers.

**MIN AVG\***: 70% **ONTARIO COURSE REQUIREMENTS** ENG4U required. First year entry only.

<sup>Ⓜ</sup> Honours – 4-year program \* Minimum grade point average for admission to program. A higher average may be required.

## Build your Skills and Experience

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.



#### CURRICULUM

Courses of study specific to each program



#### CO-CURRICULAR

Activities and experiences that complement coursework (Outstanding Scholars, peer mentoring, VIP)



#### EXTRACURRICULAR

Activities falling outside the scope of set curriculum (Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)

## Career Planning Cycle

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation and beyond. It is a fluid, dynamic, and lifelong process. You can move on or return to an earlier stage in the cycle at any time.



## Explore Opportunities Using This Chart

Explore a selection of opportunities recommended for students in your program. This chart shows some of your many options – you don't have to do everything on it or limit yourself to it. Engage in opportunities from each of the three categories to set yourself up for success.

### High-Impact Practice (HIP)

A HIP is an enriching educational experience that can be life-changing and often includes learning outside of the classroom while encouraging meaningful interaction and collaboration, such as:

- Co-op, internship or field experiences
- Research with faculty
- Culminating senior experience
- Capstone courses
- Service-learning
- Learning communities
- Study abroad

## Academics

Your Coursework






### First Year

- Take required courses including Film Studies I, Film Production I, Film Production II, and Film Business and Professional Practice I 
- Review degree course requirements
- Meet with an academic advisor for academic mentorship and counselling
- Receive peer mentorship from members of the **Communication Student Association, and/or course Graduate/Teaching Assistants**

### Middle Years

- Take required courses and check in with academic advisor to make sure you are on the right path
- Enrol in a variety of **Communication, Media and Film** courses to determine your core interests
- Start researching and considering graduate or professional school option
- Consider declaring a minor and/or look into a certificate program
- Explore advanced studies in screenwriting, documentary production, cinematography, or film editing
- Take a Film Studies course offered in departments of **Communication, Media and Film, History, Music, or Languages and Literatures**



### Final Year

- Take Film Business and Professional Practice II, a course about the scope and nature of the Canadian film industry, with a focus on professional, business, and interpersonal skills necessary for entry into the media industry workplace. Topics may include career pathway identification, self-marketing, professional communication, and the respectful workplace
- Meet with an academic advisor to go over degree requirements
- Complete all required courses for your degree
- Apply to graduate through **UWinsite Student Portal**
- Work with a faculty member on a research project or publication 
- Take Film Production V, a course that develops professional capacities in all phases of the production process and synthesizes theoretical and practical learning 
- Take a field work or internship course to optimize your senior experience 

## Experience

Ways To Get Involved



- Investigate research opportunities as part of the **Outstanding Scholars** program 
- Help upper-year students with technical aspects of production projects
- Research student exchange opportunities for middle years 
- Join a club such as the **Communication Student Association, UWSA, Students Offering Support** or **Visual Arts Society**
- Explore free **SOCA Presents** events such as professional artist talks, film screenings and music performances
- Attend a screening at **WIFF**
- Participate in the **Bystander Initiative** workshop to gain skills that will help you be an effective and supportive ally to prevent sexual assault on campus
- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as **VIP - Community Service**
- Attend talks and meet artists and scholars at **Humanities Research Group** events

- Join a professional association in your field such as the **DOC Institute, Canadian Cinema Editors, Canadian Society of Cinematographers**
- Participate in the **UWill Discover** undergraduate research conference 
- Explore opportunities and meet potential employers by participating in job fairs and industry networking events
- Work with local film companies to learn from industry professionals
- Assist **Student Recruitment** or other campus departments with promotional video creation
- Apply for student exchange 
- Expand your skills by taking on a summer, part-time or volunteer position
- Join a student club or society such as the **Communications Student Association (CSA)**
- Become a student representative to department committees

- Conduct research with faculty member 
- Become a tutor for **Students Offering Support (SOS)** 
- Help produce media marketing for local organizations through volunteering or coursework
- Become a teaching assistant for a production course or to facilitate a tutorial 
- Look for a leadership role in a club or society for example, the **CSA**

## Career

Plan Ahead For What's Next



- Start by making a list of things that you enjoy and areas in which you excel
- Meet with a career advisor in **Career Development and Experiential Learning (CDEL)** for help developing a plan for your future years
- Consider a career assessment workshop to help you identify possible career paths
- Get involved with a part-time job, volunteer opportunity, campus group, or research assistantship
- Attend **CDEL workshops** to learn how to find a summer or part-time job and write a university-level resumé
- Chat with an advisor during **CDEL's Drop In** hours to get answers to your career and job search questions

- Research career fields and occupations with the help of a **CDEL** career advisor
- Explore opportunities and meet potential employers by participating in job fairs, industry networking events, or **CDEL's Job Shadow Experience**
- Explore further educational opportunities by attending the **Graduate and Professional Schools Fair** and researching admission requirements for programs you are interested in
- Create a **LinkedIn** profile and have it critiqued by **CDEL**
- Take part in informational interviews and join online communities like **LinkedIn** and **Ten Thousand Coffees** to connect with people in your targeted profession or industry
- Search job postings to learn what skills, knowledge, and credentials you will need for potential careers

- If you are considering applying to graduate or professional school, be aware of early application deadlines
- Meet with **CDEL** to prepare application documents like a resumé, cover letter, CV, or personal statement for jobs and education programs you are applying to
- Take part in recruitment events and job fairs, including those organized by **CDEL**
- Work on polishing a professional demo reel of all your production work
- Consider applying to a professional film union, such as the **Directors Guild of Canada (DGC)** or the **International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, Its Territories [and Canada (IATSE)]**
- Attend **CDEL's workshops** on interview skills and job search strategies

# Life After Graduation

## Career Tracks\*

Director  
Producer  
Editor

Assistant Director  
Cinematographer  
Gaffer

Sound Recordist  
Production Assistant  
Production Co-ordinator

Camera Assistant  
Assistant Editor  
DIT (Digital Imaging Technician)

\* Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.



## Common Industries For Graduates

Learning the craft of expression via moving images is key for a career in the expansive Canadian film business, and filmmaking skills are crucial to communication across all sectors of industry, government, and the arts.

- **Academia and research**
- **Advertising, marketing, strategic communications**
- **Business:** Research and analysis, human resources, project management
- **Education:** Advising, counselling, corporate training
- **Government:** Research and policy development
- **Film and media production**
- **Public relations**
- **Social service and community agencies**

## Career-Readiness Competencies



Critical Thinking &  
Problem Solving



Professionalism &  
Work Ethic



Teamwork &  
Collaboration



Communication





# Campus Resources

- Research scholarships and bursaries through the **Student Awards and Financial Aid Office**
- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** for help with academic assignments
- Check out the **Bounce Back** program designed to improve academic performance as well as decrease feelings of stress and anxiety through both effective learning strategies and life skills acquisition
- Build leadership skills and find leadership opportunities at the **Leadership Hub**
- Get advice and support about your academic status by making an appointment with **Academic Advising**
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Look into the **Ignite: Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career Development and Experiential Learning**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Find support for Indigenous learners and broaden your understanding of Indigenous culture by visiting **Turtle Island**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services**, the **Wellness Outreach Office** and **Lancer Recreation**
- Receive confidential mental health counselling delivered by trained professionals at the **Student Counselling Centre**
- **Prevent.Resist.Support.** Seek personal support or learn more about sexual violence prevention and resistance education through the **Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Office**
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**



[experience.uwindsor.ca](https://experience.uwindsor.ca)

#### Student Recruitment

**Phone:** 519-973-7014  
**Toll-Free:** 1-800-864-2860  
**Email:** info@uwindsor.ca

#### Department of Communication, Media and Film

**Phone:** 519-253-3000 Ext. 2896 or 2897  
**Email:** cmff@uwindsor.ca

#### School of Creative Arts

**Phone:** 519-253-3000, Ext. 2829  
**Email:** soca@uwindsor.ca

#### Career Development and Experiential Learning

**Phone:** 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895  
**Email:** careerservices@uwindsor.ca