



CHAPMAN
UNIVERSITY

**Dodge College of
Film and Media Arts**

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Undergraduate

Animation and Visual Effects (B.F.A.)

The B.F.A. in Animation and Visual Effects offers students the opportunity to develop the artistic and technical skills to create or enhance a story using the tools of the digital world, particularly as the media continues to evolve with an increased use of computer-animated characters, digital effects and compositing techniques combining motion capture, live action and animation.

Broadcast Journalism and Documentary (B.F.A.)

The B.F.A. in Broadcast Journalism and Documentary prepares students to build careers researching and reporting broadcast news and features and/or developing and producing documentary films. Following introductory coursework in production techniques as well as studying the historical, aesthetic, business, legal and ethical questions facing those who report on the lives of others, students will engage in writing and producing news and features, live newscasts and other TV productions or documentary works.

Creative Producing (B.F.A.)

The B.F.A. in Creative Producing prepares students to find and develop stories for production, particularly in global markets. Students will study the creative disciplines as well as the business disciplines that support production, including financing, marketing and distribution on an international level.

Film and Television Production (B.F.A.)

The B.F.A. in Film and Television Production provides professional education in a liberal arts environment, a combination that prepares students to be creative film and television artists who understand the social, cultural and historic context of film and television language while developing their skills in one or more areas of production. Upon acceptance to the major, students must choose cinematography, directing, editing, production design, sound design, or writing and production to pursue for their advanced area of study requirements. However, they are still free to take classes in other disciplines.

Film and Media Studies (B.A.)

The B.A. in Film and Media Studies offers students the opportunity to explore film history, aesthetics, theory and criticism in depth, along with a hands-on introduction to production. This combination of theoretical study with production experience gives students a unique understanding of how film creates meaning.

Public Relations, Advertising, and Entertainment Marketing (B.A.)

The B.A. in Public Relations, Advertising and Entertainment Marketing prepares students to perform creative and strategic work in any type of business, whether in the entertainment industry or non-profit arenas, or for public relations, advertising, marketing or social media agencies. In a media environment dominated by storytelling and engagement, students learn to use the visual tools of film and television as well as print, social media and the internet to create conversations and pursue organizational objectives. Following coursework introducing students to the fields, students may choose their elective courses to pursue a focus in either public relations, advertising or entertainment marketing.

Writing for Film and Television (B.F.A.)

The B.F.A. in Writing for Film and Television is an intensive program aimed at helping writers develop their individual creative voices as they explore the intricacies of story structure, writing craft, character development, film language and genre as well as the writer's role in traditional and emerging media. Students will learn to write in a variety of forms, including the short film, feature film and episodic television.

Screen Acting (B.F.A.)

In this degree, students will study traditional acting techniques with a strong emphasis on techniques appropriate and specific to working in front of a camera. The curriculum is structured in a traditional sequence from introductory classes in film and acting basics to more advanced out-of-class film production work. Students also study editing, screenwriting, directing for film and film history. Students are provided with professional career training in the senior year, including development of their actor reel. All screen acting students will be required to act in film production students' films or other projects approved by the faculty, create various filmed projects and are encouraged to audition for Department of Theatre stage productions.

Graduate

Film Production (M.F.A.)

The three-year M.F.A. in Film Production is a mentoring-focused, hands-on program that explores all aspects of film production using visual storytelling techniques, industry standard tools and best professional practices. Students must choose an area of specialization at the point of application in either directing, cinematography, editing or sound design.

Film and Television Producing (M.F.A.)

The two-year M.F.A. in Film and Television Producing is a mentoring-focused, hands-on program that explores all aspects of film producing including both the business and creative dimensions.

In their first year, students get a foundation in producing and learn the best practices in the industry. They immediately apply these skills on various student film productions. Throughout this process, they are closely mentored by our industry-active faculty comprised of producers and executives.

During their second year, students hone their skills and delve deeper into the creative aspect of production as they develop a creative portfolio and fully produce a thesis film project in collaboration with the production students. They leave the program with knowledge of, and experience in, physical production and the creative development process.

Film and Media Studies (M.A.)

In the two-year M.A. Film and Media Studies program, students take courses that establish the key academic methods in the fields of film and media studies, with the opportunity to personalize their degree with a choice of electives. In the second year, students work with faculty to write their master's thesis. At the end of the M.A. program, students present an oral defense of their thesis.

This program is unique because it is a research-based master's degree where students develop an original thesis with strong support from faculty. Faculty have mentored student theses on such topics as film and television theory, politics and film, women in film, American cinema, Asian cinema, media historiography, film archiving and preservation, archival and primary research, psychoanalysis and cinema, transnational cinema, and new media studies. Graduates of the program have continued to pursue the following: teaching positions in community colleges and high schools, enrollment in Ph.D. programs, film criticism and journalism, film festival programming, film archiving and preservation.

Production Design (M.F.A.)

The M.F.A. in Production Design is an intensive hands-on, two-year program designed to equip production designers with the latest conceptual and practical skills needed to succeed and thrive as professional designers in the film and television industry.

The program encourages designers to discover their own conceptual approach to design for film while collaborating with fellow production and visual effects specialists in the realization of short movies with high production values.

In the first year, students design two films in collaboration with fellow M.F.A. producers, directors, and cinematographers, creating designs into reality on soundstages and out on location, and learning to work within budgets. In addition, they take a full curriculum of classes in production design: Traditional Cinema Set Design, Digital Design, Set Decoration, Illustration/Storyboarding and Graphic Design for Film.

Screenwriting (M.F.A.)

The two-year M.F.A. in Screenwriting program is an intensive program designed to encourage the development of students' unique storytelling voices through the exploration of the intricacies of story structure and character development. Working under the mentorship of industry-active screenwriters, they learn to write content for the screen in a variety of mediums, including short and long form projects, episodic television, and emerging media. Additionally, students in the M.F.A. in Screenwriting program study the "business of the business" — the practical side of developing and selling ideas. Students enrolled in the program also have the opportunity to

collaborate with their film production colleagues to have one of their scripts produced for the screen. Upon graduation, students have an understanding of how the industry works as well as several developed scripts.

The Showrunner Program, A.K.A. Television Writing and Producing (M.F.A.)

Our two-year M.F.A. in Television Writing and Producing helps students acquire the broad spectrum of skills needed to pursue a career as a television writer/producer. Students' writing skills are strengthened and polished, and they also learn about how the business works — how content is developed, pitched and sold. Just as important, students are taught the fundamentals of production, developing an understanding of what it takes to produce a show, from working with actors to knowing the logistics, costs and timing of all the phases of production.

In the first year, students dig deep into the fundamentals of story form, learn about what's happening in the business in real time from a steady stream of industry guests who screen their work and share their experiences, and study what it takes to be an effective leader, crucial skills for future showrunners.

In the second year, students are challenged to master the planning and logistics of series creation: from writing a pilot to casting and production. They work in a "writer's room," developing and writing subsequent episodes of a pilot as if they are on a professional writing staff. Learning how to develop a story arc and develop characters over time is vital to moving from an idea to an actual multi-episode show.

When students graduate, they leave with a portfolio that showcases their talents as writers, with spec scripts for current series and an original pilot script, as well as their understanding of the work of a producer, based on their direct involvement in production, working on set and learning what the producer needs to know to bring a show to the screen.

Juris Doctor/M.F.A. in Film and Television Producing

Offered in conjunction with Chapman University's School of Law and Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, the four-year J.D./M.F.A. in Film and Television Producing is designed for those who seek careers as entertainment attorneys; legal counselors at production companies, agencies, guilds or studios; or as producers or other executives in the entertainment industry.

The four-year J.D./M.F.A. program provides a strong emphasis on the legal aspects of film and television producing, such as drafting and negotiating contracts, the attorney's role in the filmmaking process, intellectual property protection and copyright law. Students collaborate with fellow student writers, actors, directors, producers, editors, cinematographers, sound and production designers, while studying the fundamentals of film production to gain first-hand knowledge of how these functions come together to produce a film.

During summer internships, students have the opportunity to put their classroom learning and hands-on experience into context, gaining valuable experience in the field while forming

important mentoring relationships. They use these skills to develop their M.F.A. thesis project — an original short film or media project they have personally produced.

Upon graduation, students have two highly marketable professional degrees and a fully developed portfolio.

Master of Business Administration/M.F.A. in Film and Television Producing

Designed for those who seek management or executive level positions at production companies, talent agencies, studios or television networks.

Offered in conjunction with Chapman University's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts and the Argyros School of Business and Economics, the three-year M.B.A./M.F.A. in Film and Television Producing is designed for people who seek management or executive level positions at production companies, talent agencies, studios or television networks.

This three-year program provides a broad education of business in general and how it all works. As part of the M.B.A. component, business concepts such as economics, accounting, marketing and financial management are studied. These concepts are applied to student productions in the second year of the M.F.A. program.

As part of the M.F.A. degree, the fundamentals of producing are studied. Students come away with a deep understanding of film and television financing, marketing, distribution and exhibition, as well an awareness of the global business environment. These skills are put to good use as students develop their M.F.A. thesis projects — original short film or media productions they have personally produced.

Upon graduation, students have a project portfolio, along with a thesis book for a proposed film or media production that includes detailed plans for rights acquisition, story development, pitching, budgeting, packaging, marketing, distribution and exhibition.