

CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

Film Overview & FAQ

Program Overview:

The Film program at Cornish College of the Arts cultivates the creative and technical skills necessary for storytelling through film. Students engage in all aspects of filmmaking, from scriptwriting and directing to cinematography and production design. The program emphasizes holistic, hands-on learning through multidisciplinary exploration and collaboration, preparing students for successful careers in and around the film industry.

Fast Facts:

- **Degree Offered:** Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Film
- **Program Length:** 4 years
- **Credit Requirement:** 120 credits
- **Class Size:** Average of 12 students per class
- **Faculty:** Experienced professionals with successful careers in film and media.
- **Facilities:** Multimedia Checkout Center, editing labs, sound-recording rooms, screening facilities, state of the art projection spaces, a mixing room, a coloring room, and a motion capture studio.
- **Software Literacy:** Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe After Effects, DaVinci Resolve, Avid ProTools, Final Draft, and Adobe Audition.
- **Career Paths:** Director, Screenwriter, Cinematographer, Editor, Producer, Sound Designer, Production, and Film Critic.
- **Internships:** Opportunities with film studios, production companies, and media organizations in Seattle and beyond.
- **Exhibitions and Festivals:** Annual student showcases, opportunities to participate in local and national film festivals.

Core Software Proficiency:

1. Video Editing and Compositing Software:

- **Adobe Premiere Pro:** For video editing, color correction, and post-production.
- **Adobe After Effects:** For compositing, motion graphics, and visual effects.

- **DaVinci Resolve:** For video editing, color correction, and post-production.

2. Sound Design Software:

- **Adobe Audition:** For recording and editing audio.
- **Pro Tools:** For audio recording and editing.
- **Audacity:** For recording and editing audio.

Complementary Software Skills:

1. Graphic Design and Image Editing:

- **Adobe Photoshop:** For creating textures, concept art, and image editing.

2. Screenwriting:

- **Final Draft:** For scriptwriting and screenplays.
- **Writer Solo:** For pre-production planning and scriptwriting.

Continuous Learning and Adaptability:

1. Staying Updated with Industry Trends:

- Keeping up-to-date with the latest software updates, equipment, industry trends, and emerging technologies.

2. Portfolio Development:

- Using software tools to create and maintain a professional portfolio, showcasing a range of projects and skills.

Practical Application:

1. Hands-on Projects:

- Applying software skills in real-world projects, from creating short films to working on feature-length projects.
- Participating in collaborative projects, simulating professional studio environments and team dynamics.

Professional Development:

1. Networking and Resources:

- Accessing industry forums, online tutorials, and communities for additional support and learning.
- Attending workshops, webinars, and industry events to broaden knowledge and professional connections.

FAQ:

1. What will I learn in the Film program?

- You will learn all aspects of filmmaking, including scriptwriting, directing, producing, cinematography, editing, production design, and sound design. The program emphasizes both technical skills and creative development.
- You will understand how to utilize Film as a medium to tell stories, and convey a message.

2. What facilities are available for Film students?

- Film students have access to the Multimedia Checkout Center, an equipment library that contains professional camera equipment, lighting equipment, sound equipment, and other creative technology for students to check out for use. Students also have access to film editing labs,, screening facilities, a coloring room, a sound mixing room, and a motion capture studio.

3. What software will I use?

- You will become proficient in industry-standard software such as Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe After Effects, DaVinci Resolve, and Avid Media Composer.

4. What career opportunities are available after graduation?

- Graduates can pursue careers as directors, screenwriters, cinematographers, editors, producers, sound designers, marketers, advertisers, and film critics.

5. Are there internship opportunities?

- Yes, the program offers internships and networking opportunities with film studios, production companies, and media organizations in Seattle and beyond.
- Your Department Chair will regularly send out Seattle based internship and Job Opportunities, which you will be able to apply or compete for. Past partners have included SIFF, Seattle City Light, the Northwest Film Forum, and many smaller local businesses.

6. How do alumni succeed after graduation?

- Our graduates have worked at film studios and production companies, often securing roles based on their strong portfolios and professional networks developed during their time at Cornish.

7. What are the class sizes like?

- The average class size is 12 students, allowing for personalized instruction and mentorship from faculty.

8. What kind of projects will I work on?

- Students create individual and collaborative film projects, participate in workshops, and work on a capstone project in their final year, which involves producing a professional-quality short film or documentary.

9. How does the program prepare students for the industry?

- Students will learn how to navigate Film Festival Circuits, acquire grant writing skills, and learn how to promote themselves as independent Filmmakers.

- Students will have hands-on experience collaborating with other filmmakers, learning best crew practices, and how to most effectively lead a team.
- The program includes guest lectures, workshops, critiques from industry professionals, and emphasizes portfolio development to ensure students are job-ready upon graduation.