

School of Theatre, Film & Television
Film & Television Program, BFA Degree Application Information

Coursework in the BFA degree in Film & Television trains film and video makers to graduate with the skills and creative experiences to help them secure work in the entertainment industry and independent production communities.

The BFA degree in Film & Television:

- Provides an intensive experience in the production of fiction and non-fiction film.
- Fosters the development of original work that reflects a personal artistic voice.
- Provides experience in directing, screenwriting, cinematography, editing, and sound.
- Prepares students for careers as professional film and video makers by fostering an environment that cultivates collaboration and the ability to integrate critical feedback.
- Provides a strong foundational understanding of film and television industries, aesthetics and criticism.

BFA degree admission is based upon an application review that takes place during the Fall semester. Students must already be admitted to the BA degree in Film & Television prior to applying, and must be on track to complete the following four courses by the *end* of the Fall semester following the BFA application cycle: FTV 100A, 100B, 200 and 210.

Successful applicants must have a cumulative UA GPA of 2.5 or higher to enter the BFA degree in the Spring semester following the application cycle.

Applicants *must* attend ONE of the following four BFA Information Workshops before applying:

- Friday, April 17, 2020 – 1 to 1:50 pm, via Zoom
- Friday, May 1, 2020 – 11 to 11:50 am, via Zoom
- Friday, August 21, 2020 – 9 to 9:50 am, via Zoom
- Friday, August 28, 2020 – 9 to 9:50 am, via Zoom

BFA Application Timeline, Fall 2020:

- Friday, Sept 4, 2020 – 12 noon: Application due
- Fri. Sept 11 and Fri. Sept 18, 2020: Personal interviews (TBD) – **save both dates**
- Fri. Sept 25, 2020: Callback interviews (TBD)
- Thursday, October 1, 2020: Results e-mailed to applicants
- Friday, October 2, 2020 – 9 am: New BFA student meeting
- Friday, October 30, 2020: Deadline to meet with BFA Faculty Coordinator to discuss unsuccessful application (*not* mandatory)

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1. Applicants are required to attend a BFA Information Workshop prior to applying; an application submitted by a student who did not attend one of the four information workshops will not be reviewed.
- 2. Applicants must be available for a 15-minute personal interview with the BFA Selection Committee on all three of the dates given. No exceptions are made.**
3. The BFA degree is a 5-semester program, which cannot be completed early.
4. To enter the BFA degree, students must have a cumulative UA GPA of 2.5 or higher by the beginning of the Spring semester following the BFA application cycle.
5. Students who do not maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher *may* lose their BFA status.
6. Decisions made by the BFA Selection Committee are final; there are no appeals.
7. Students not admitted to the BFA degree *may* apply again the following year; however, students may only re-apply *once*.
8. Do not include additional materials, such as DVDs or letters of recommendation, with this application. They will not be viewed, nor returned.
- 9. All BFA application material must be submitted by 12 noon on Friday, September 4, 2020.**

Authorship: Applicants must develop and write original ideas for the written submissions. However, applicants may collaborate with others on their Photo Portrait. For instance, an applicant may direct a collaborator to take photographs for the Photo Portrait. In general, however, the jury encourages applicants to perform all tasks in the creation of the Photo Portrait, otherwise their ability to judge the applicant on his/her skill becomes limited.

Accommodation for Disability: If you have a question about access, or to request any disability-related accommodations, please contact Prof. Michael Mulcahy (mmulcahy@arizona.edu).

Students Studying Abroad Only: If you will be abroad during Fall 2020 but still want to apply to the BFA degree, submit your application and email Prof. Michael Mulcahy (mmulcahy@arizona.edu) by the deadline, 12 noon on Friday, September 4, 2020, notifying us of your travels. Please include your contact information, as well as information regarding time/date change in relation to Tucson MST.

If you are applying from abroad, you must be available on the interview and call back dates given, for a 15-minute phone interview. Please be sure we have the correct phone number to reach you, and that you know the time difference between Tucson and wherever you are. It is your responsibility to make sure we have all necessary contact information.

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The BFA application consists of written material, a photo portrait and an interview as described below.

A. Written Material:

- Section 1, Applicant Info
- Section 2, Statement of Purpose (500-750 words total). The statement has two parts:
 - Tell us who you are; how has your social, cultural and/or economic background, family structure or other pertinent factors shaped the person you are today?
 - How do you think who you are will affect the types of films you want to make? Please give us an example.
- Section 3, Photo Portrait Inspiration (350-500 words total):
 - Describe your subject in one sentence.
 - Briefly explain your stylistic/aesthetic choices to portray the subject.
 - Briefly explain the rationale for the sequencing of the ten images.
- Section 4, Short Film Idea (describe in three to five sentences):
 - Describe a short film/video (running time less than five minutes) you might want to make while at the UA. The film could be non-fiction, fiction or experimental in nature.
 - This idea should be feasible to produce, given your resources, experience and equipment.
 - The description should tell a reader what the film is about, whether the film is fiction or documentary, and the style the film might employ.
- Section 5, Plan “B” (250-400 words total):

Not all applicants to the BFA degree will gain admission; what do you plan to do if your application is unsuccessful? Please reflect as carefully and honestly as possible.
- Section 6, Checklist of Application Submission Tasks:
 - ___ Completed Application Form uploaded to UA Box.
 - ___ Completed Photo Portrait folder uploaded to UA Box.
 - ___ Email Prof. Mulcahy (mmulcahy@arizona.edu) with subject line **BFA Applicant 2020**.

Written Material Instructions:

1. Complete the application form at: <https://forms.gle/9wVJL29JmDeWLyOQ7>
 2. You **MUST** use your UA email to log into Google to complete the application form.
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B. Photo Portrait Material:

- 10 sequenced images that create a portrait of a person.
- The person can be you or anyone else, fictional or real.
- There should be a clear relationship between form (your visual strategy and image order) and content (your subject).
- Concentrate on creating a visual portrait of someone, rather than constructing a plot and story to place that person within. What do you want us to learn about the subject?
- Consider that an image is ‘about’ more than just its content:
 - An image creates meaning by the combination of its style and its content.
 - Style follows from the decisions the photographer makes about framing, angle, focus, color, tone, and contrast between highlights and shadow.
- You may choose to acquire your images with any type of still camera; submit the final 10 images in the .jpg digital format.
- You may shoot as many images as you wish but you may only present 10.
- Carefully select and sequence your images so that the portrait of your subject develops over the course of the 10 images.

Photo Portrait Material Instructions:

1. Number your images with “MYLASTNAME_01” (from 01-10) in the order they should be viewed.
2. Create a new folder on your computer desktop.
3. Put your 10 numbered images into the folder.
4. Name the folder **BFA Photo_MYLASTNAME** (follow this naming format exactly).
5. Upload the folder to:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Kq3E-RacioRYrmhUY8ej53nkemowrAUx?usp=sharing>
6. You MUST use your UA email to log into Google to upload your Photo Portrait.

C. Personal Interview:

- Applicants will participate in a 15-minute interview with production faculty members.
 - Please hold Friday September 11th and Saturday September 18th for interviews.
 - If we need more information after your interview, we will contact you for a callback.
 - Please hold Friday September 25th for *potential* callback interviews.
 - Please note that callback interview requests are not indicative of your application decision.
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BFA Degree Application Instructions Review

1. Submit your Written Material as described above.
2. Submit your Photo Portrait Material as described above.
3. Email Prof. Michael Mulcahy (mmulcahy@arizona.edu) with **BFA Applicant 2020** in the subject heading once you have submitted your application.
4. You will receive your specific time slot for the interview after uploading your application materials.