The tools of visual storytelling are changing faster than ever before, but the basics remain unchanged. SBCC Film & Television Production provides students a strong foundation in theory, art and technology with industry-standard equipment and software taught by award-winning professionals working in the industry.

The program emphasizes hands-on, experiential learning. Students will be handling equipment or learning software in their first few weeks of class instead of waiting for their third year at a university, and the curriculum offers a broad array of electives to suit individual interests in production, post-production, or both.

Graduates will be ready for direct entry into the workplace, or for transfer to a university to earn a bachelor’s degree.

Graduates are successfully working in Film & Television jobs throughout North and South America, Europe, and Asia. For students who plan to transfer to a university, SBCC Film and Television Production students have been accepted to USC, UCLA, NYU, Chapman, Columbia, and many others.

Programs of Study

Associate Degree for Transfer


Associate Degree

- Film Production, Associate in Arts (AA) (https://catalog.sbcc.edu/academic-departments/film-television-production/film-production-aa/)

Skills Competency Awards

- Digital Audio Production, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (https://catalog.sbcc.edu/academic-departments/film-television-production/digital-audio-production-skills-competency-award/)
- Digital Non-Linear Editing, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (https://catalog.sbcc.edu/academic-departments/film-television-production/digital-non-linear-editing-skills-competency-award/)
- Directing for Film and Video, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (https://catalog.sbcc.edu/academic-departments/film-television-production/directing-for-film-and-video-skills-competency-award/)
- Documentary Filmmaking, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (https://catalog.sbcc.edu/academic-departments/film-television-production/documentary-filmmaking-skills-competency-award/)
- Independent Film Producing, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (https://catalog.sbcc.edu/academic-departments/film-television-production/independent-film-producing-skills-competency-award/)
- Motion Graphics and Broadcast Design, Skills Competency Award (SCA) (https://catalog.sbcc.edu/academic-departments/film-television-production/motion-graphics-broadcast-design-skills-competency-award/)

Credit Courses

Film and Television Production (FP)

FP 102 Writing for Television (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Introduction to fundamentals of writing for television and the short form, including elements of story, character and dialog, pitching and formatting. Examples of successful television scripts will be analyzed, and students will produce a short teleplay.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 111 Independent Producing for Motion Pictures (3 Units)
Course Advisories: FP 175.
Hours: 54 (54 lecture)
Introductory course identifying the tools and skills necessary for producing independent motion pictures. Analysis of professional development, production methods, current financing options, and distribution strategies will be considered in developing a producing practice.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 114 Non-Linear Editing I (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Overview of desktop non-linear video editing, including acquiring digital video and combining and editing source material to create complete digital movies. Topics include basic editing techniques, adding and altering audio, titling, and outputting a finished digital file.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 160 Television Studio Production (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Introduction to fundamentals of television studio production, including producing, directing, scriptwriting, performing, production crewing, studio lighting, production design and post-production. Through basic studio exercises and productions, students become familiar with the tools of the medium and the processes involved in the creation of television programming.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 165 Television Field Production (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Work in television field production, including producing, directing, scriptwriting, performing, production crewing, field lighting, production design and post-production. Through basic field exercises and productions, students become familiar with the tools of the medium and the protocols and processes involved in the creation of television programming on location.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable
C-ID: FTVE 130.

FP 170 Cinematography I (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Introduction to video camera operation and lighting, covering technical and aesthetic issues of studio and location shooting. Technical issues include digital and analog video cameras, lenses and tape formats, lighting and grip equipment. Aesthetic topics focus on using composition, color, light and shadow to create an appropriate look and feel for a scene.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable
FP 175 Film and Video Production I (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Introduction to the film and video production process, including scripting, storyboarding, pre-production planning, budgeting, casting, shooting, lighting, sound and editing in both studio and location settings. Students write, produce, direct and edit a personal project and participate in group assignments and projects.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

FP 178 Documentary Filmmaking (3 Units)
Course Advisories: FP 175.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Develop storytelling and video production skills through nonfiction filmmaking. Focusing on structure, technique, technical skills and the creative process, students explore documentary history, learn the tools, and push beyond the limits of time and resources. Refine your ability to reach an audience and meet your objectives. Students produce a number of short films.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 181 Production Sound for Film and Television (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Focuses on the techniques, processes, and equipment of production sound including location and studio recording. Covers dialogue, atmosphere, room tone, Foley, ADR, voice over, sound effects, and the synchronization, recording and editing of digital audio to picture.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 182 Podcasting I - Intro to Podcasting (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Introduction to the fundamental processes of podcasting and radio production, including the producing, scripting, performing, recording, editing and marketing of podcasts. Through exercises and podcast productions, students will learn the aesthetic and technical skills to produce both audio and video content formatted for and distributed via internet platforms.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 185 Directing For The Camera (3 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 175.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Introduction to directing for the camera, including principles of drama, conceptualization of visuals, storyboarding, shot breakdowns, auditioning the actor, staging actors, improvisation, staging the camera, art direction, lighting and sound strategies. Also covers blocking, shot execution, development of a signature directorial style, and on-set procedures and protocols.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

UC Transfer Limit: FILMST 185 and TA 185 combined: maximum credit, one course.

FP 201 Narrative in Film (3 Units)
Hours: 54 (64 lecture)
Exploration of the theory, art, and craft of both fiction and non-fiction storytelling in film, video and time-based media. Theoretical and practical issues of creating effective narratives will be examined. Students begin to identify and develop their personal voice.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

FP 207 Color Correction for Film (3 Units)
Corequisites: Prior or concurrent enrollment in FP 114.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Fundamentals of digital color correction for moving and still imagery to enhance mood, continuity and story. Appropriate for editors, motion graphic artists and cinematographers. Covers color theory and primary/secondary correction in a variety of software. Current industry trends and styles discussed.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 214 Non-Linear Editing II (3 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 114.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Advanced studies in concepts and techniques of desktop non-linear editing, including both technical and aesthetic issues. Large-project management, creating EDLs and client-based editing are covered. Collaborational aspect of editing and how it fits into the production workflow is emphasized. Current trends and styles in editing are discussed.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 270 Cinematography II (3 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 170.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Advanced concepts and techniques in digital video shooting, lighting and visual story-telling for both in-studio and location productions. Special emphasis is given to appropriate lighting for various genres.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 274 Production II: Webseries Production (3 Units)
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
An introduction to the online world of web series development, from developing ideas to budgeting, scheduling, prepping, producing and delivering a pilot. Students work collaboratively to produce one episode, along with a budget and plan for the full series, whether it be comedy or drama.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

FP 275 Production II: Narrative Filmmaking (3 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 175.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Advanced concepts and production skills specific to narrative filmmaking, including scripting, storyboarding, pre-production planning, budgeting, casting, shooting, lighting, sound and editing. Students write, produce, direct and edit a personal narrative project and participate in a group narrative project. Current trends and styles in production are discussed.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

FP 276 Production II: Commercial Applications (3 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 175.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Advanced concepts and production skills specific to creating music videos, commercials and corporate/industrial video, from conceptualization through post-production. Protocols, history, conventions and trends in each area are discussed. Students work collaboratively to conceive, develop and produce three representative projects.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable
FP 278 Production II: Documentary Filmmaking (3 Units)
Corequisites: FP 175.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Prerequisites or Advanced concepts and production skills specific to documentary filmmaking. Includes selected national and international documentary screenings and discussions along with practical exercises, from conceptualization through post-production, that culminate in the production of a short documentary.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 279 Motion Graphics and Compositing (3 Units)
Corequisites: FP 114 or MAT 131.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Prerequisite or Motion graphics, compositing and 2D animation theory and practice for film and video applications, including both technical and aesthetic issues. Current industry trends and styles are examined.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 281 Post-Production Sound for Film and Television (3 Units)
Course Advisories: FP 181.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Focuses on the creative development of sound elements for post-production in film and television, such as ADR, Foley, sound effect recording/design, music editing, dialogue editing, and the final mixing and mastering process. Includes techniques in field recording, studio recording, and sound design for film and television.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable, UC Transferable

FP 284 Transmedia Production (3 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 114 and FP 175.
Course Advisories: FP 214, FP 275, GDP 212, GDP 215, MAT 145 and MAT 153.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
In this multi-disciplinary capstone course, student teams are tasked with producing a real-world transmedia project. Collaborating with, and learning from, the various disciplines represented, each team works toward producing a short film, while concurrently developing complementary transmedia elements including a website, a blog, a mobile app, and campaigns in traditional and social media.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 285 Directing For The Camera II (3 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 185/TA 185.
Hours: 90 (36 lecture, 54 lab)
Advanced directing for the camera, covering technical and aesthetic facets of the director's art. Focuses on issues and techniques in the operation of digital motion picture cameras, lighting and sound equipment, conceptualization of visuals, auditioning and staging actors, and development of a signature directorial style.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable

FP 294 Film Production Capstone (6 Units)
Prerequisites: FP 275 and FP 201 or FP 207 or FP 214 or FP 270 or FP 279 or FP 281 or FP 285.
Hours: 180 (72 lecture, 108 lab)
A capstone course for Film Production students nearing the completion of their program. A festival-ready short film is produced by the students with crew roles assigned based on individual skills and goals. Emphasis is placed on creating a highly polished short film, requiring full commitment from all participants in a professional environment.
Transfer Information: CSU Transferable