INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The Film & Media major is an interdisciplinary program that offers rigorous engagement with the entire culture of moving images. The program teaches students to think historically, theoretically, and analytically about a wide range of cinematic forms, and encourages students to look at moving images from the vantage point of other disciplines. Students may complement their study of the history and theory of moving images with the hands-on experience provided by production and screenwriting classes. Students can also take advantage of internship opportunities at the affiliated Pacific Film Archive and with local film production companies.

The Film & Media department also offers a three-course Summer Certificate in Film & Media Industries and Professions (FMIP).

As Film & Media major, I studied films that were made against all odds—I learned about film movements, and auteurs that defied convention. In the process, I finally developed the confidence to tell my own stories, make my own films in forms that authentically articulate how I see the world.

– Sara Boutorabi, Class of 2019

THE MAJOR CURRICULUM

Core courses for the major include lower division courses on Film History and Film Theory, as well as a third course on either Film Aesthetics, Digital Media Studies or Television Studies. Upper division offerings cover Documentary, Avante-Garde/Experimental Film, Global Media and Media Technologies. Electives include courses on Genre, Auteurs, and semesterly Special Topics. The Film & Media department has also expanded its production course offerings. Existing courses such as Screenwriting and Advanced Digital Production are now accompanied by Documentary Production, TV Writing, Advanced Film Writing, The Essay Film, Experimental Production, and more production courses to come in future semesters.
Explore your major

Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
Review major and college requirements.
Start on the two core courses required for the major: FILM 10 and FILM 20.
Declare the major after you have completed FILM 10 or 20 and at least 30 units.
Complete your lower division course requirement (FILM 3A, 3B, or 4A) and optional elective (FILM 25).
Explore film and media courses in other departments such as English, Ethnic Studies, or French.
Review major guidelines for study abroad.

Connect and build community

Get involved mentoring Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program.
Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center.
Enroll in UGIS 98: College Success in L&S.
Explore the Library’s Media Resources Center.
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Discover your passions

Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar, HUM 10, L&S 9, or a student-run DeCal course.
Explore Berkeley Arts + Design with HUM 20.
Attend the Undergraduate Research and Scholarships Fair in October.
Explore doing a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.
Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar. Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.
Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URAP and SURF-SMART.
Learn how to do research through HUM 9100: Research Bootcamp.
Consider a summer certificate in Film & Media Industries and Professions.

Engage locally and globally

Attend the Calapatooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.
Attend film screenings at BAMFFA and check out local film festivals.
Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program.
Work with a community organization in an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.
Get involved with the BAMPFA Student Committee.

Reflect and plan your future

Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library.
Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail.
Explore career fields in the Career Connections Networking Series or a winter externship.
Explore career resources on the Arts and Humanities website.
Meet with a Career Center counselor to discuss your career options and goals.
Think about doing an internship and attend an internship fair.
Learn about graduate and professional school. See Step-by-Step for planning help.
Reflect on your education so far and continue to set goals for yourself.

First-year

Second-year

Third-year

Fourth-year

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

The Film & Media major prepares students for film-related careers as well as business, law, and the arts and humanities. Many students pursue graduate study in film, the humanities, law, and business, with others finding exciting work in media.

Jobs and Employers

Asst. Creative Producer, MasterClass
Asst. Producer, Full Frame Productions
Editor, Millennium Film Journal
Educational Specialist, UC Berkeley
Junior Video Editor, Yelp
Manager, Berkeley Art Museum
Publicity Coordinator, Allied Integrated Marketing
Researcher, Launchpad
Entertainment 360
Sales Administrator, Kanopy
Software Engineer, OpenTable
Videographer, Honeydue

Graduate Programs

Art History, PhD
Film, Masters
Film Archival, Masters
Film & Media Production, Masters
Film & Media Studies, PhD
Fine Arts, Masters
Information Management & Systems, Masters
Journalism, Masters
Public Policy, Masters

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.