

School of Media Arts
BFA in Media Arts, Film & Video Production

The BFA program offers students an intensive experience in the production of film and video, coupled with a strong foundational understanding of media industries, aesthetics and criticism. The goal of the degree is to help students develop their own personal voice in the production of fiction and documentary film work.

The BFA program prepares students for careers as professional film and video makers, grounded in creative and collaborative concepts and processes. Admission to the BFA program is based upon the portfolio review, which will take place during the fall semester of the student's sophomore year, after successful entrance into the Media Arts major.

We are committed to encouraging the expression of underrepresented voices, particularly those of minority and rural communities within the state of Arizona. We seek to train film and video makers who can leave our program with a set of skills and creative experiences that will allow them to secure positions in the entertainment industry and independent production communities.

Fall 2009 BFA Portfolio Timeline

Friday 3/27	BFA Information Workshop 4:30-5:30pm, Marshall 221
Friday 4/17	BFA Information Workshop 9:00-10:00am, Marshall 211
Friday 8/28	BFA Information Workshop TBA
Friday 9/4	BFA Information Workshop TBA
Friday, 9/18	Portfolio due - Marshall 220 5pm
Friday, 10/2	Interviews
Saturday, 10/3	Interviews
Friday, 10/16	Results e-mailed to applicants
Friday, 10/23	Meeting for new BFA Students

School of Media Arts
BA and BFA Checklist Comparison, 2009-2010

(Gen Ed requirements for each degree are very similar; the main difference is BFA students need only demonstrate a second semester proficiency in a foreign language, or take eight units total)

Bachelor of Arts (BA) (49 units minimum of which 18 units must be upper-division at UA)	Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) (79 units minimum of which 18 units must be upper-division at UA)
<p>Foundations (15 units) M AR 100A Film History (Beg-Mid 20th Century) M AR 100B Film & TV History (Mid 20th Century-Pres.) M AR 200 Media Aesthetics M AR 210 Intro to Production Practices M AR 270 Intro to Media Industries</p> <hr/> <p>Film & Television Studies Option (34 units)</p> <p>Required Courses (13 units): M AR 303 Professional Practices (1) M AR 326 Television Aesthetics (3) M AR 354 Film as Modern Art (3) M AR 356 World Cinemas (3) M AR 498C or 498H Senior Capstone (3)</p> <p>Film & Television Studies Electives (18 units)</p> <p>Producing and/or Production Elective (3 units)</p> <hr/> <p>Producing Option (34 units)</p> <p>Required Courses (16 units) M AR 303 Professional Practices (1) M AR 370 U.S. Media Now (3) M AR 373 Producing I: Pitch to Financing (3) M AR 374 Producing II: Pre-Prod. to Distribution (3) M AR 479 International Film & TV Business (3) M AR 496P Senior Seminar (3)</p> <p>Internship and/or Senior Capstone (to total 6 units) M AR 493 and/or 498P and/or 498H</p> <p>Film & Television Studies Electives (6 units)</p> <p>Production Elective (3 units)</p> <p>M AR Elective (3 units)</p> <hr/> <p>Minor (18 - 21 units) Must be approved by minor department.</p> <p>General Electives (to meet the required total for the degree of 120 units: 42 must be upper-division)</p>	<p>Foundations (15 units) M AR 100A Film History (Beg-Mid 20th Century) M AR 100B Film & TV History (Mid 20th Century-Pres.) M AR 200 Media Aesthetics M AR 210 Intro to Production Practices M AR 270 Intro to Media Industries</p> <p>Sophomore Year (Spring) M AR 310 Idea Development (3) M AR 311A Lighting and Composition (3) M AR 313 Experimental Production Practices (3)</p> <p>Junior Year M AR 309 History of the Documentary (3) M AR 364 Writing the Narrative (3) M AR 367 Directing for the Screen (3) M AR 369 Scene Analysis for Writers/Directors (3) M AR 373 Producing I: Pitch to Financing (3)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>M AR 303 Professional Practices (1) M AR 314A Documentary Production (3) M AR 315A Fiction Production (3) M AR 374 Producing II: Pre-Prod to Distribution (3)</p> <p>Summer M AR 493 Internship (3-6 units)</p> <p>Senior Year M AR 498D Senior Capstone Workshop (6)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>M AR 498E Senior Capstone Workshop (6)</p> <p>Major Electives (12-15 units, to reach 79 units total in major.) Must include 6-9 units of M AR Film & Television Studies courses, 3 units of M AR Producing courses (besides 373, 374, and 493, which are required), with remaining units from M AR 317A, 497G, 497I, T AR 100, 111, 113, 116, 118, or advisor approved transfer courses. NOTE: Additional courses beyond the unit ranges listed will count as general electives only -- not as major electives.</p> <p>General Electives (to meet the required total for the degree of 125 units: 42 must be upper-division)</p>

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL FORM. ALL INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**School of Media Arts
Fall 2009 BFA Portfolio Review
Information Sheet**

(Please read this information carefully before submitting your portfolio!)

List of required submission materials and tasks

1. Application form (attached)
2. Statement of Purpose (500-750 words)
3. Ideas for Three Short Projects (300-650 words)
4. Your Photo Portrait (10 digital stills, numbered 1-10) loaded onto the HPL server. See submission instructions for uploading.
5. Photo Portrait Inspiration (250 words)
6. Email Professor Mulcahy mmulcahy@u.arizona.edu with “BFA Applicant 2009” in the subject heading once you have completed your application. He will contact you to set up an interview date and time.

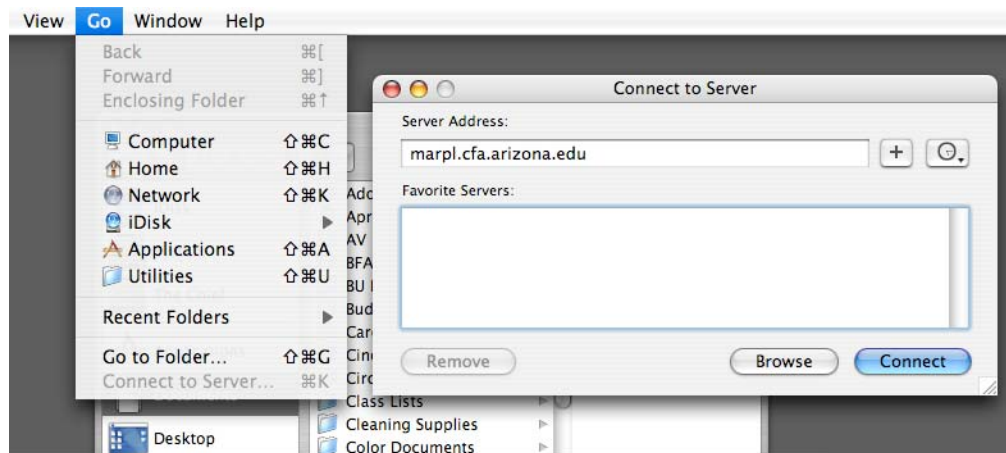
Written Materials Submission Instructions:

Please submit **three copies** of the above written materials (items #1 – 3, #5) in individual envelopes, to the School of Media Arts office, Marshall 220. Include your name on the outside of each envelope and on each page of the written materials.

Photo Portrait Submission Instructions:

You will upload your photo portrait as digital images to the MARPL server; please follow these steps:

- Create a folder named “BFA photo portrait app-mylastname”
- Place your ten images (numbered 01 to 10) in the folder
- Using any computer in campus connect to the “marpl server” as follows; make sure you connect as “guest.”



- Once connected to the server, navigate here: marpl>Faculty>mmulcahy>Public>Drop Box
- When you upload your folder into the “Drop Box” you will get a message that says “You can put items into the “Drop Box,” but you won’t be able to see them. Do you want to continue?”
- Yes, you want to continue; check the “OK” button.

Guidelines for Application to the BFA:

- Do not include additional material, such as DVD's or letters of recommendation, with this application. They will not be viewed, nor returned.
- All written material submitted needs to be typed, 12-point, and doubled-spaced.
- All materials need to be in Marshall 220 (Media Arts main office) by **5 pm, Friday, September 18th**. **No portfolios will be accepted after this deadline.**

If you will be abroad in the fall but still want to apply to the BFA, please be sure we have your application by the deadline, **September 18th**. The application may be mailed to us, or turned in to the department before you leave Tucson. Before you leave, you must send us an email notifying us of your travels. Please include your contact information.

If you are applying from abroad, you must be available sometime during **Friday 10/2 AND Saturday 10/3** for a 15-minute phone interview with one of the production faculty. 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 YOUR INFORMATION.**

Points to Understand:

- Applicants are required to attend a BFA Recruitment Workshop prior to applying.
- Applicants must be available for a 15-minute interview with the Portfolio Committee on the dates given. No exceptions are made.
- The BFA program is a 5-semester program, which cannot be completed early.
- To enter the BFA, students must have a 2.5 G.P.A. or higher by the beginning of the Spring 2009 semester following Portfolio Review.
- Students who don't maintain a 2.5 G.P.A. or higher *may* lose their BFA status.
- Results will be sent by email approximately three weeks after the submission deadline.
- Decisions made by the Portfolio Committee are final. There are no appeals.
- Students not admitted to the BFA program may apply, however, re-applying is not encouraged.

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.

Contact Information for Production Faculty

Michael Mulcahy – mmulcahy@u.arizona.edu, 621-1155

Beverly Seckinger – bsecking@u.arizona.edu, 621-1239

Yuri Makino – ymakino@u.arizona.edu, 621-8974

Lisanne Skyler – skyler@email.arizona.edu, 621-8977

School of Media Arts
2009 BFA Portfolio Submission Materials

1. Application Form (the last page of this packet).

2. Statement of Purpose (500-750 words, double-spaced). The following is a two-part question.

Tell us who you are. Please describe how your cultural background, family structure, economic status, community or any other factors may have 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.

3. Ideas for Three Short Projects: (300-650 words total, double-spaced.) Write one synopsis each for three possible short projects to make during your matriculation as a BFA student - 300-650 words, double-spaced.

Think about three short films/videos (5-7 minutes) you want to make during the next three years. The projects might be non-fiction, fiction or experimental in nature.

Write a **three-to-five sentence synopsis** for each project. Each synopsis should tell a reader what the project is about, and the style each project might employ.

Here are several **sample** synopses; use these as models (in terms of form and structure) for synopses you write:

- The Sonoran Desert is home to many strange and wonderful life forms, but perhaps nothing is more intriguing than the Night-Blooming Cereus. Lying dormant (and ugly) for most of the year, the plant nevertheless causes extreme excitement and anticipation for countless Tucsonans who wait for the one night when the plant gloriously blooms, only to die the next morning. This short documentary will capture the magic of the Cereus, and reveal the unique individuals who love the flower.
- When I was ten years old, I stood at 2:00 a.m. in the middle of what was normally a busy road, and marveled at the silence that surrounded me. How could one place be so different during the day and at night? This short experimental film will use expressionistic sound and image to explore the concepts of place, time, and space.
- Jesse is in tenth grade and starting a new school for the fifth time in 10 years. One the first day of school, as she walks through the lunch line wondering what to eat, and with whom she will sit, she ponders what's worse – eating chicken nuggets or sitting with members of the newly formed punk/ska band Llamasyllum?

4. Photo Portrait (10 digital still images, numbered 01-10)

Present 10 still images that create a portrait of a person; the portrait can be of you or anyone else, fictional or real. Each image should give information that the other pictures do not. The images can communicate factual information, such as what the person likes to do, where they

work etc. The information can also be connotative and work to express the subject's character, emotion and mood.

Consider that an image is 'about' more than just its content, the subject it presents to the viewer. An image creates meaning by the combination of its style and its content. *How* the photographer presents the subject is as much responsible for what a photograph *means*, as the subject presented in the image. Think about *subtext*. What is the *meaning* of your series of images? What are you trying to express with your images that goes beyond the factual information?

Use composition, camera angle, color or b/w, contrast, depth-of-field, focus, and lighting to create a consistent visual strategy that creates the world of your character. There should be a clear relationship between form (your visual strategy and image order) and content (your subject).

You may choose to acquire your images with any type of still camera, as long as they end up in the digital format.

Number your images from 01-10 in the order they should be viewed. Upload your images to the HPL server following the specific instructions above.

5. Photo Portrait Inspiration (250 words maximum)

Describe your inspiration for making this portrait.

6. Personal Interview (15 minutes with production faculty members)

Each applicant will have a 15-minute interview with production faculty members. The faculty will have the opportunity to ask the applicant questions about his/her Portfolio submission and interest in the program. Please be available to attend either of the two days of interviews, Friday, October 2 or Saturday, October 3.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION INFORMATION!!!

Email Professor Mulcahy mmulcahy@u.arizona.edu with "BFA Applicant 2009" in the subject heading once you have *submitted* your application. You will be contacted within one week of the 9/18/09 application deadline with personal interview date and time information.

**School of Media Arts
Fall 2009 BFA Portfolio Review
Application Form**

Name: _____ Home phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell phone: _____

_____ E-mail: _____

UA ID: _____

Number of units completed by beginning of Fall 2009: _____

Overall G.P.A. _____

(Students must complete MAR 100A, 100B, 200 and 210 by the end of the Fall semester 2009)

Foundation courses completed: 100A ___ 100B ___ 200 ___ 210 ___

Foundation courses enrolled in: 100A ___ 100B ___ 200 ___ 210 ___

Did you work with a collaborator on your Photo Portrait? If so, describe what your collaborator did. Also, briefly discuss why you made this choice.

Check list of required submission materials and tasks:

- ___ Application form (this form)
- ___ Statement of Purpose (500-750 words)
- ___ Ideas for Three Short Projects (300-650 words)
- ___ Photo Portrait loaded on the marpl server (10 digital stills, numbered 01-10)
- ___ Photo Portrait Inspiration (250 words)
- ___ Email Professor Mulcahy mmulcahy@u.arizona.edu with "BFA Applicant 2009" in the subject heading once you have completed your application. You will be contacted within one week of the 9/18 application deadline with personal interview date and time information.

My signature confirms I have read and understood the BFA requirements and information listed in this form, and that the information I have supplied is to my knowledge true.

Signature

Date