





Three or Four-Year Degree Program BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS *in* ACTING FOR FILM

Students have the option of completing in three or four years, depending on the number of terms they take each year.

LOCATION

**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA;
SOUTH BEACH, FLORIDA**

Locations are subject to change.

For start dates and tuition, please visit nyfa.edu

OVERVIEW

While many aspiring actors get their start acting in theater and on stage in plays and musical theatre, as they seek to progress in their careers towards acting in films and television and web series, **even the most experienced stage actor finds that making the transition from stage to screen requires a whole different set of skills.**

After all, as a camera can get as up close and personal as imaginable, **actors must gain a mastery over their body and facial expressions to deliver the most affecting and powerful performance possible.**



I love acting. It is so much more real than life.

- Oscar Wilde



In New York Film Academy's BFA in Acting for Film program, **students find themselves in front of the camera from the first day of class** in instructor-supervised workshops. The program combines in-class lectures with supervised workshops and student-led projects in which they collaborate with the Academy's Filmmaking students to create original films.

An eight-semester conservatory-based, full-time undergraduate program, the BFA Acting program is designed to immerse gifted and energetic prospective acting students in all aspects of the discipline. The BFA program provides a creative setting with which to challenge, inspire, and perfect the talents of its student body.

In addition, the program is overseen by our faculty of professional, award-winning actors who have and continue to appear in feature films, television shows, Off-Broadway and Broadway productions, and much more. **Since they remain active as actors, our instructors are able to impart students with the professional advice to best navigate the industry to achieve their goals.** In addition, students also receive extensive training in audition techniques and practice to help them feel confident and prepared during the audition process.

This program is offered at our Los Angeles and Miami Campuses. **QUALIFIED STUDENTS HAVE THE OPTION OF COMPLETING COURSE WORK AT THE NEW YORK FILM ACADEMY IN NEW YORK CITY IN A ONE-YEAR NON-DEGREE PROGRAM AND THEN APPLYING THEIR COURSE WORK TO BE ACCEPTED FOR ADVANCED STANDING IN THE BFA ACTING FOR FILM DEGREE PROGRAM.**

As the program is a BFA degree program, students spend two-thirds of their education mastering the craft of acting for film and the remaining third studying general Liberal Arts and Sciences. **This enables students to truly explore and** master the many facets of acting for film.

Upon graduating from NYFA's BFA in Acting for Film program, **students leave with a digital reel containing all of their on-camera performances completed during the program, artfully edited together.** This reel serves as a useful tool for finding work following graduation, acting like a calling card for the aspiring actor.

After completing the BFA in Acting for Film program, students have a strong foundation in both critical thinking skills and the craft of acting, preparing them to realize their professional ambitions.

Please Note: curriculum and projects are subject to change and may vary depending on location.

Students should consult the most recently published campus catalog for the most up to date course information.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- Text and Script Analysis.
- Broad Range of Acting Techniques.
- Voice and Movement Techniques.
- Acting Skills for the Camera.
- Auditioning Techniques.
- Writing Skills.
- Producing Principles.
- Technical Film and Production Techniques.
- Digital Editing.
- Business Practices and Marketing Tools for the Entertainment Industry.

WHAT YOU WILL ACHIEVE

SEMESTER ONE

- Scene & Monologue Presentations.
- Filmcraft Shoot.

SEMESTER TWO

- On Camera Shoots.
- Filmed Voice and Movement Presentations.
- Scene Presentation on Stage.

SEMESTER THREE

- Short Film Shot on Location.
- Short Film directed by student filmmakers.
- Scene Presentation on Stage.

SEMESTER FOUR

- Multi-Camera and Single Camera Television Shoots.
- Filmed Shakespeare Presentation.
- Filmed Improvisation Presentation.

SEMESTER FIVE

- Original One-Act Stage Play.
- Voice-over Demo Reel.

SEMESTER SIX

- Filmed Period Style Presentation.
- Short Film Shot on location.

SEMESTER SEVEN

- Fully produced Play Presentation.

SEMESTER EIGHT

- Professional Industry Package.
- Thesis Film.

At NYFA, students get the opportunity to act in a wide variety of locations.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SEMESTER ONE

VOICE & SPEECH I

In this course, students will begin to develop a free and healthy voice and an awareness of vocal tendencies and adverse conditioning. Various techniques will be taught, including and not limited to, Fitzmaurice Voicework, Knight-Thompson Speechwork, Linklater, Lessac, and Skinner.

MOVEMENT 1

In this course, students will explore their ability to engage the body in a full and courageously unedited manner as a tool for performance. A focus of this course is to cultivate tools with which the students can externalize their internal life in an authentic manner on impulse and through movement. Various training methods will be taught, including but not limited to Viewpoints, the Suzuki Method, Dance, Yoga, Laban Analysis, Contact Improvisation, Grotowski, and Chekhov Technique.

YEAR ONE OVERVIEW

In Year One, bachelor students undergo a thorough regimen of class work that lays the foundation for the introduction of the craft of acting in the film arts.

The following courses comprise the acting for film portion of a student's curriculum; the required Liberal Arts and Sciences classes are listed at the end of the BFA and BA section of the brochure.

FILMCRAFT

Film Craft provides the Acting for Film students with a full-immersion experience into the world of film production. Students gain basic working knowledge of directing, cinematography, writing, producing and editing, and inhabiting rotating crew positions, allowing for real-time experience in a short in-class shoot, supervised by the instructor.

TECHNIQUE & SCENE STUDY 1

This course provides students with the preparatory building blocks, which lay a solid foundation from which to go deeper into the craft. They will learn of the rich Acting Technique traditions that have shaped the craft today. Students will work on exercises, monologues, and short scenes from plays applying the techniques they have studied.

A BFA Acting student performs a scene on camera.



SEMESTER TWO

VOICE & SPEECH II

Students explore the application of learned vocal techniques to text in order to expand vocal variety and organic connection to the character and story. There will be a focused refinement of vocal production and a deeper connection to images and text.

MOVEMENT II

Students continue their exploration to refine their ability to express character and emotion through the body. Continuing the use of multiple approaches to movement and its analysis, which includes and is not limited to Viewpoints, Composition Work, Contact Improvisation, Dance, Yoga, Laban Movement Analysis, Grotowski, and Chekhov Technique. Movement II will refine and expand students' proficiency of their physical instrument. This course will focus on applying physicalization to character through improvised and scripted performance.

ACTING FOR FILM I

This course introduces the beginning Acting for Film students to the skills necessary for creating a fully realized performance. The primary emphasis of the class is the practice of the subtlety and nuance of film acting including learning to adjust the performance for specific shot size, finding the arc of the character, and learning how to maintain the integrity of the script while shooting out of sequence.

TECHNIQUE & SCENE STUDY II

Acting Technique and Scene Study II continues the exploration of relaxation, sensory awareness, and creative choice-making and individual performance elements in exercises designed to enhance the students' ability to synthesize their own practical techniques for performance on screen or stage. This course will increase the actor's awareness of their instrument.

SEMESTER THREE

ACTING FOR FILM II

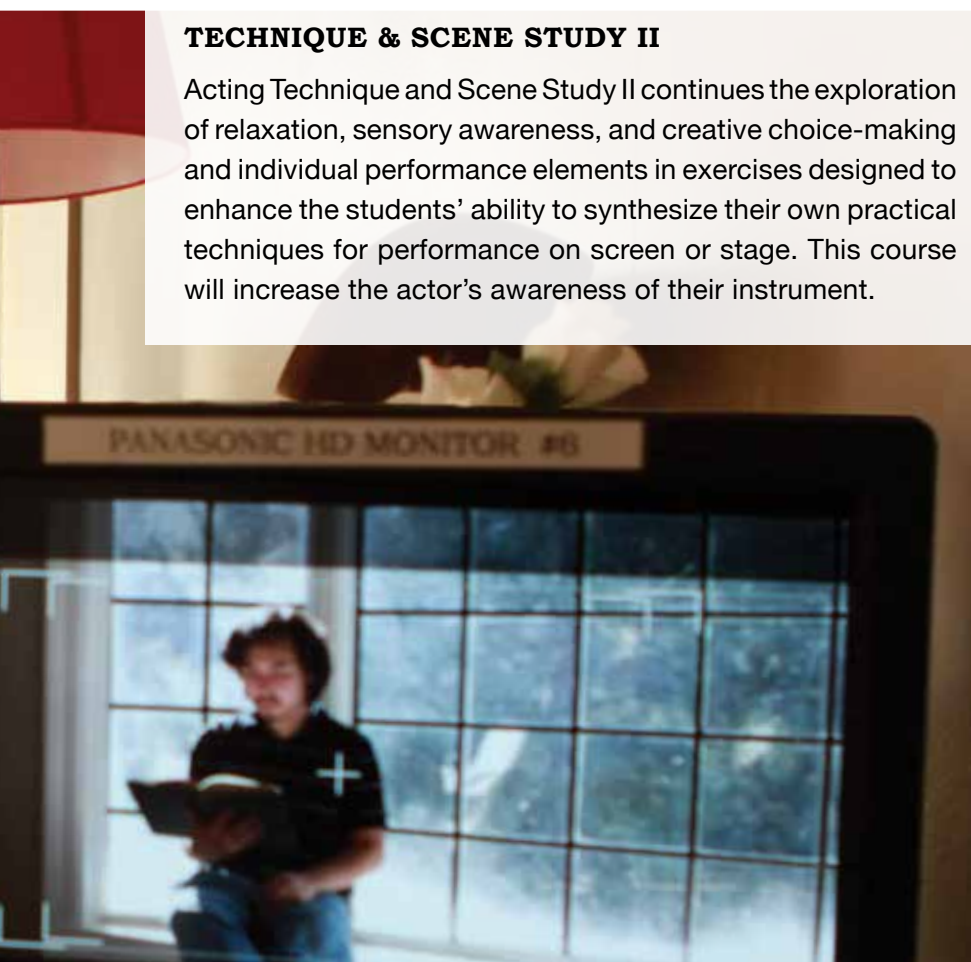
This course teaches intermediate Acting for Film skills necessary for creating a fully realized performance. On a weekly basis, students will prepare a script and digitally tape the scene. Students edit their own exercises and scenes to better understand how the mechanics of a performance effect the final edit. Edited exercises and scenes will be screened for critique in class. Students will also do pre-production prep in class as well as rehearse final scenes for an on-location shoot.

TECHNIQUE & SCENE STUDY III

Students learn how to assess the needs of the scene through application of text analysis, inhabiting given circumstances, development and pursuit of strong objectives, incorporation of voice and movement training and technique, breaking text into beats and making strong choices, moment-to-moment communication with scene partner, and the give-and-take between scene partners throughout the scene. Performances will be taped in a live presentation at the end of the semester.

COLLABORATION WORKSHOP

A course designed to further expand upon the etiquette of the film set, students explore the importance of the actor/director relationship required for a successful and professional film shoot. Filmmaking and Acting students come together for a series of audition technique, rehearsal, and screening classes, in addition to a series of full-fledged production exercises. Students film these production exercise scenes on 16mm film and HD with the guidance and critique of their instructors. These practice scenes are fully pre-produced (storyboarded, cast, scouted, rehearsed, and pre-lighted) and planned during elaborate crew meetings prior to the start of each production. Filling all of the necessary crew roles, students spend a full day shooting scenes with a more advanced grip and electric equipment package.



YEAR TWO OVERVIEW

In Year Two, students continue a thorough regimen of class work and film acting and progress into ensemble work and professional prep work such as creating material for a voiceover reel.

SEMESTER FOUR

ACTING FOR FILM III: SCRIPTED TV

This course introduces the concepts and skills students need for today's sitcom shoot. The instructor will work with the class to determine casting needs and a full or partial comedy script will be chosen to accommodate the class. The aim of this course is to have the actor experience the acting and production techniques used in today's television sitcom, both the multi-camera and single-camera format. They will shoot a full or partial sitcom episode teaching them the techniques of a traditional multi-camera and single camera set.

IMPROVISATION

Improvisation encourages students to skillfully nurture their instincts and freely release their creative impulses through a variety of individual and group exercises.

PERFORMING SHAKESPEARE

This is an actor's course for performing Shakespeare. The student will learn to evaluate what the language is doing and the action that is implied. Students will develop the fundamental concepts of scansion, meter, text analysis, and scene study as it pertains to the demands of performing heightened language. Performing Shakespeare will guide them to further development of the vocal and physical dexterity demanded by the text. The course will culminate in either a taped and/or live performance of Shakespeare's works.

SEMESTER FIVE

STAGE TO SCREEN (PLAY)

Students learn how to assess the needs of the scene through application of text analysis, inhabiting given circumstances, development and pursuit of strong objectives, incorporation of voice and movement training and technique, breaking text into beats and making strong choices, moment to moment communication with scene partner, and the give-and-take between scene partners throughout the scene.

ADVANCED TECHNIQUES IN ACTING

This course will allow students to continue to explore their acting and technical skill through studying an advanced and in-depth level of one acting technique for an entire semester. It is a regimented course that could explore but is not limited to the acting techniques of Stanislavsky, Chekhov, Strasberg, Hagen, or Meisner.

WRITING FOR ACTORS

Students learn sound writing principles and apply them to creating a variety of scripted projects. Multiple writing exercises are designed to spark the creative process. Actors refine their work through multiple rewrites, focusing on character driven pieces.

VOICEOVER

Students will learn the highly specialized skill of voiceover acting. They will discover what kind of voiceover work they are most suited for and learn how to use their voice in different ways. They will also get information about job opportunities available in this field and have an opportunity to create their own voiceover material during a final recording session in one of NYFA's professional studios.

SEMESTER SIX

TECHNIQUE & SCENE STUDY IV (STYLES)

This course will explore acting techniques for heightened language and period styles with an emphasis on effective vocal/rhetorical techniques and on the use of poetic rhythm and imagery in creating a role psychologically as well as physically. Topics covered include the definition of style/language analysis, Greek period style, the comic impulse, Commedia Dell'arte, and Renaissance/Elizabethan period style including but not limited to Shakespeare's canon, 17th-century French farce and Restoration/Georgian "Comedy of Manners."

ACTING FOR FILM IV

This course teaches advanced Acting for Film skills necessary for creating a fully realized performance over the course of a short film. Students will shoot the script prepared in Stage to Screen. Rehearsals may be digitally taped for students to receive critique and adjustments from their instructor. Students will also do pre-production prep in class as well as rehearse an entire short film for shoot. Students will be intensively involved in production as well as acting throughout the shoot days. This final filmed project will be screened at graduation.

BUILDING THE REEL

An overview of the basics of digital editing. Students will learn by experience exactly what is needed to match shots, which will help them understand how to tailor their performances accordingly. Students will also work on building their own acting reel for industry submission, as well as, creating an Academic Reel required for their Thesis at the end of the program.



YEAR THREE OVERVIEW

Through exposure to the many facets of the professional world of film acting, the third year prepares students for their Thesis Projects. Year Three BFA students must complete a series of highly specialized courses, participate in a play production workshop, and ultimately deliver a thesis project of their own creation.

SEMESTER SEVEN

PRODUCING THE SHORT FILM

This course introduces students to the producer's role and presents an overview of the tools that can help students take control of their careers. Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will have the necessary tools to produce a short film from start to finish.

PLAY PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Initially, students work on basic performance skills through individual and ensemble exercises in acting, voice and speech, and movement. Students expand on basic performance skills with an emphasis on the actor's approach to text, intentionality, and motivation. This course's focus is on the practical dynamics of the director-actor relationship and the students serving as a member of an acting ensemble.

ADVANCED VOICE AND MOVEMENT: CHARACTERIZATION FOR THE STAGE

In this advanced voice and movement course, students will focus on creating well-developed and fully-realized characters to be performed in the Play Production Workshop course. The students will begin this course by learning how to create characters based on archetypes and circumstance. They will then progress to connecting the learned techniques and tools to the script and characters of the Play Production Workshop course.

SEMESTER EIGHT

THESIS FILM PRODUCTION

Students will produce their own short films to be included as the performance element in their Thesis Projects. Their Thesis Film will be graded on performance, script, and story, as well as production elements.

BUSINESS OF ACTING/AUDITION TECHNIQUE

This course teaches advanced Business of Acting skills to students on the verge of graduating with a BFA in Acting for Film. Students will create a business plan which includes research on headshot photographers, writing résumés, researching and targeting appropriate agencies and managers, understanding basic contracts and industry standards as well as honing auditioning skills for today's industry. Work will be viewed and critiqued weekly with the aim of preparing students to enter today's highly competitive industry.



A New York Film Academy BFA Acting For Film student performs for the camera on a set in Los Angeles.

ELECTIVES

Electives are subject to change and are offered based on demand and teacher availability.

SKETCH COMEDY

This workshop is designed for actors with comedy improvisation experience who are interested in writing and performing sketch comedy. Each class will involve instruction on the variety of ways sketch comedy is created, using improvisational comedy to bolster the writing process, and brainstorming to help each student discover their unique comic voice.

CONTEMPORARY DANCE

This course will provide an opportunity for students to experience a variety of dance styles and choreography inside and outside the parameters of western contemporary dance.

STUNT WORKSHOP

This course is designed to develop the specialty skills and techniques of stunt work with specific emphasis on film combat.

SINGING FOR ACTORS

This course offers actors the opportunity to experience the techniques and joy of singing in order to feel comfortable and competent in an audition or on set. The skills practiced are intended to create expressive freedom in a musical environment.

ADVANCED STAGE PROJECTS

This course is an individualized project-based curriculum culminating in a taped live performance for an audience.

ENTERTAINMENT LAW

This course is an overview of basic entertainment law and how it effects actors, the business of acting, and basic content creation. Acting students will study legal issues that affect actors and content creators in television, film, recordings, live performances, and other aspects of the entertainment industry.