







# *Hands-on Intensive Short-term Workshops*

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Filmmaking | Acting for Film | Musical Theatre | Photography  
Producing | Documentary | Screenwriting | Broadcast Journalism  
3D Animation | Virtual Reality | Game Coding | Digital Editing

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# HANDS-ON FILMMAKING WORKSHOPS

***8, 6, 4, 3, 1-Week & 12, 6-Week Evening  
Short-term Intensive Workshops***



**T**he New York Film Academy offers a wide variety of workshops in filmmaking that allow students to obtain a strong foundation in a short period of time. The workshops are comprehensive, hands-on explorations of the subject that immerse students in each of the key creative roles of making films including directing, screenwriting, cinematography, and editing.

This comprehensive approach gives students the broad array of skills and experience they need to thrive as filmmakers, whichever path they ultimately pursue. In fact, students in our Filmmaking Workshops even work in front of the camera as actors.

The curriculum outlined on the following pages is the basis for learning in our short-term Filmmaking Workshops.

Each workshop's course of study is designed for people with little to no experience in making films. The goal is to arm students with the skills and confidence needed to produce a well-told story with moving images. To fulfill this goal, classes and projects concentrate on the essential elements of visual storytelling, which enable the participant to direct a series of films.

Students have the opportunity to enroll in one of our leading filmmaking workshops at NYFA locations around the world, including New York City; Los Angeles, California; South Beach, Miami; Harvard University; Florence, Italy; Walt Disney World® Resort, Florida; Doha, Qatar; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Paris, France; Moscow, Russia; Barcelona, Spain; Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Istanbul, Turkey; Gold Coast and Sydney, Australia; Beijing, China; Shanghai, China; Kyoto, Japan; Mumbai, India; Seoul, South Korea; and Jakarta, Indonesia.

*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.*

## TOTAL IMMERSION CLASSES

*The following classes are designed to be of immediate and practical use in an integrated curriculum. Each week, students are able to immediately apply the lessons learned in their classes to the films they are producing.*

### DIRECTOR'S CRAFT

Director's Craft introduces students to the language and craft of filmmaking. Topics covered include storyboarding, composition, camera movement, continuity, montage, pacing, and rhythm. This course introduces students to the language and craft of film directing.

### SCREENWRITING

This course is designed to help students develop their scripts for their final films. Students will be instructed in story structure, dramatic arc, creating characters, text and subtext, refining stories, and scriptwriting style.

### CINEMATOGRAPHY

In this course, students undergo intensive training in the use of the HD digital motion picture cameras and their accessories. Through hands-on workshops and film tests, they will also learn fundamental lighting techniques.

### PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

The Production Workshop is designed to demystify the craft of filmmaking. It is a hands-on class in which students stage and shoot exercises under the supervision of the instructor. The technical aspects of filmmaking are seen as tools to realize the story. The guiding idea is that once students can articulate the objective of a given scene, the necessary craft and techniques will follow. Through in-class exercises, the rules and tools of mise-en-scène and continuity are defined and practiced.

### EDITING

Editing is an art unto itself. Regardless of the editing system a filmmaker uses, it is the editor's ability to work with the shots and tell a story that makes all the difference. Workshop students will learn how to use the digital editing program Avid Media Composer. Each student edits his or her own films and can supplement classes with individual consultations at the editing station. Students are taught the fundamental concepts of film editing, both practical and aesthetic.

### SOUND RECORDING (Excluding 1-Week)

This is a comprehensive class that details the process of sound recording. It provides concepts, technical information, and hands-on demonstration. Students are introduced to various types of recording devices and taught when to use them.

### CREWS

While every student in a Filmmaking Workshop writes and directs his or her own films, it is important that students realize that filmmaking is a collaborative art. Students form three- or four-person crews and gain invaluable experience in the principal production positions:

- Writer/Director/Editor/Producer
- Director of Photography
- Assistant Camera
- Gaffer/Grip

By getting behind the camera as a cinematographer, students train their eyes for composition and learn to respect the difficulties of setting up a shot. Similarly, by working as a gaffer and taking responsibility for the lights, they practice how light and shadow effect the film. By working in the various crew positions, students gain empathy and respect for their crews, which is essential for successful work as a director.

### ASSIGNMENTS

The Film Academy faculty designed a series of film exercises as building blocks for the final film project. They are intended to instill in each student a degree of confidence in visual storytelling and to provide a foundation in basic film craft.

Those new to filmmaking begin to understand how the disciplines of writing, cinematography, sound, and editing work together, while those with experience can practice and refine specific craft skills. All students should seize this opportunity to freely develop their ability to engage and entertain an audience.



# FILM PROJECTS



## MISE-EN-SCÈNE

(4 & 8 Week Only)

In their first film, students are introduced to mise-en-scène, or directing a shot to visually tell a story. Once they create a dramatic moment, they concentrate on the dynamics of the shot that will best express it. **This project teaches students how the relationship of the subject and the camera creates drama.** Each student designs and shoots a scene which has a beginning, middle, and end. Students learn to pay close attention to the choice of lenses, distances, and angles. Since the story must be told in no more than three shots, each shot must be staged to express as much as possible about the characters and their actions. Students should rehearse the shot for blocking of actors and camera until the scene works without needing to stop.

## CONTINUITY

Continuity is one of the fundamental principles of modern filmmaking. By making a “continuity film,” students learn the way cuts can advance the story while sustaining the reality of the scene. They learn the difference between “film time” and “real time.”

Students are challenged to make a film that maintains continuity in story, time, and space. The action in these films unfolds utilizing a variety of shots (10-15) in a continuous sequence (no perceptible jumps in time or action). **Students must produce a clear, visual scene while maintaining the truthfulness of the moment.** It is essential that the audience believes in the reality of the scene. Students write, direct, shoot, edit, and screen a film of up to several minutes in length.

Students must thoroughly organize and pre-produce their projects by completing the following elements: Script, Location Scouting, Breakdown, Floor Plan, Storyboard, and Schedule of Shots.



## MUSIC & IMAGE

(Final Project for 3 and 4-week Workshops)

The third project introduces students to the relationship between sound and film, as well as to narrative tools like montage and jump cuts. In this project, students are encouraged to explore a more personal form of visual storytelling.

Students choose a short continuous selection of music. In the editing room they cut their images to work in concert with, or in counterpoint to, the music. Students should experiment with rhythm and pacing. Each student writes, directs and shoots his or her project with digital HD cameras, edits digitally, and screens a completed Music Film.

In addition to storyboards, students may use a still camera to plan their films. This assists them in their choice of locations, distances, angles, and lighting.



## TEXT & SUBTEXT

(8-Week only)

This project challenges students to explore the relationship between dialogue and dramatic action. It serves as the students' first foray into directing a film with dialogue recorded on set. Students are provided with short dialogue-only scripts with no description of physical detail or action. The student director determines the "who, what, where, when, and why" of the story. Above all, each student director identifies the character objectives and dramatic beats of the scene.

Students will find that these elements determine the meaning of the dialogue and should deepen their understanding of text versus subtext.

When the finished projects are screened in class for critique, students will discover how different directorial interpretations of the same scene reveal the characters and the impact and meaning of the story.

## FINAL FILM

(8-Week only)

This final film is more ambitious in scope than the previous exercises. It builds upon the foundation of skills and knowledge gained in the first half of the workshop. There is a five-day pre-production period during which students meet with faculty for consultation.

The shooting period is two days for each film.

There are two weeks of post-production in which each student may edit from 50-100 hours. Students may use sound effects, music, voiceover, and ambient sound to help tell their stories. They apply the lessons learned through editing the first four projects as they utilize the many transition tools, special effects, and sound design options that digital editing allows.

Films may be of any genre, and can be narrative, documentary, or experimental. In past years, many of these films have been selected and won awards at film festivals, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Each film project is screened in class for discussion and critique. These screenings are an important part of the learning process and help students improve on their next projects. There is a group screening celebrating all final films open to cast, crew, friends, and family.

The final film is part of the six-week, eight-week, evening, and one-year programs.

***We strongly recommend that students come to the workshop with written ideas for their films. These ideas will be developed and honed in writing class.***

# 8-Week FILMMAKING WORKSHOP

**D**esigned for people who wish to study the craft of filmmaking in an intense schedule, the Eight-Week Filmmaking Workshop challenges students to produce five films over a period of two months.

Students each direct five short films of increasing complexity which are screened and critiqued in class.

This program is divided into two four-week sections. The first four weeks of the program are divided between in-class hands-on instruction and the production of three short films by each student. Students will take classes in Directing, Hands-on Camera, Writing, and Editing. Students will learn to use Canon 5D cameras, professional lighting packages, and digital editing with Avid Media Composer.

In the first four weeks, students learn the basic tools of filmmaking and begin shooting a series of film projects. Following production and post-production, students screen their work with their classmates and instructors and engage in critiques and discussion.

During the second four weeks of the program, the use of dialogue is explored in the “Text & Subtext” Film, which ultimately prepares students to take on the “Final Film” project—a film of up to ten minutes with one or two tracks of sound. Students edit their projects using Avid Media Composer on Apple computers and spend an additional twenty to forty hours a week on production of their film projects.

At the end of the course, the final films are celebrated in a screening open to cast, crew, friends, and family. All students who successfully complete the workshop receive a New York Film Academy Certificate and leave the workshop with a digital reel of all their projects.

*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.*

## COURSES

- Director’s Craft
- Writing
- Editing
- Hands-On Camera/Lighting
- Production Workshop
- Budgeting and Scheduling
- Sound Design
- Crews
- Assignments

## FILM PROJECTS

- Mise-en-scène
- Continuity
- Music & Image
- Text & Subtext
- Final Film

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## LOCATION

**NEW YORK CITY;  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA;  
SOUTH BEACH, FLORIDA;  
FLORENCE, ITALY**

*Locations are subject to change.*

*For start dates and tuition, please visit [nyfa.edu](http://nyfa.edu)*

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# 6-Week FILMMAKING WORKSHOP

**T**he Summer Six-Week Filmmaking Workshops provide students with a strong foundation in filmmaking in which they each make three films. The longer course period (in relation to the Four-Week workshop) allows students to concentrate on a longer final film.

This workshop is divided into two periods. The first period of the workshop is divided between in-class hands-on instruction and the production of two short films by each student. **Students will take classes in Directing, Hands on Camera, Writing, and Editing.** Students will learn to use Canon 5D cameras, professional lighting packages, and digital editing software, Avid Media Composer.

**During the second period of the workshop the student devotes his or her time solely to the Final Film project—a film of up to ten minutes with one or two tracks of sound. Students edit their project using Avid Media Composer on Apple computers.**

The educational objectives in the Six-Week Filmmaking Certificate Workshop are to teach students the art and craft of filmmaking and to instruct students through a strict regimen consisting of lectures, seminars, and total immersion workshops to excel in the creative art of filmmaking.

*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.*

## COURSES

- Director's Craft
- Writing
- Editing
- Hands-On Camera/Lighting
- Production Workshop
- Budgeting and Scheduling
- Sound Design
- Crews
- Assignments

## FILM PROJECTS

- Continuity
- Music & Image
- Final Film

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## LOCATION

**NEW YORK CITY;  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA;  
SOUTH BEACH, FLORIDA;  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY;  
FLORENCE, ITALY;  
PARIS, FRANCE**

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# 4 & 3-Week FILMMAKING WORKSHOPS



**T**his Four-Week Filmmaking Workshop provides students with a thorough introduction to the foundations of film craft. Many students find the one-month length fits conveniently into their yearly schedules. The workshop is a full-time program and students must be prepared to make a serious commitment to its completion.

In select locations, a special three-week session is also available.

During the first week, students will learn the basic tools of filmmaking and begin shooting a series of film projects. Following production and post-production, students screen their work for their classmates and instructors and engage in critiques and discussion.

Classes and hands-on workshops are held throughout the week and some weekends are reserved for additional classes or shooting. Evenings are spent on writing, location scouting, casting, and editing. The final week is devoted to shooting and editing the final film, culminating in the final screening.

Classes in Directing, Writing, Cinematography, and Production cover the creative and technical demands of telling a story. Each week all the students' films are screened and critiqued in class with the instructor. By the end of the workshop, students will possess the ability to work independently and collaboratively in a high-pressure creative environment.

*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.*

## COURSES

- Director's Craft
- Writing
- Editing
- Hands-On Camera/Lighting
- Production Workshop
- Crews
- Assignments

## FILM PROJECTS

- Mise-en-scène (4-Week Only)
- Continuity
- Music & Image

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## LOCATION

### 4-WEEK WORKSHOPS

NEW YORK CITY;  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA;  
SOUTH BEACH, FLORIDA;  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY;  
FLORENCE, ITALY;  
PARIS, FRANCE;  
BARCELONA, SPAIN

### 3-WEEK WORKSHOPS

WALT DISNEY WORLD® RESORT, FL;  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY;  
KYOTO, JAPAN;  
PARIS, FRANCE

*Locations are subject to change.*

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# 4-WEEK MUSIC VIDEO WORKSHOP



**M**usic Video are stylistic, expressive, evocative — and a great proving ground for aspiring film and television directors. Filmmakers like David Fincher (“Se7en”), Spike Jonze (“Being John Malkovich”), Antoine Fuqua (“Training Day”), Michael Bay (“Transformers”), McG (“Charlie’s Angels”), and Brett Ratner (“Rush Hour”) began their careers by making music videos. Established directors like Martin Scorsese, Michael Afted, and John Landis choose to direct music videos as a means of exploration. Why not follow in their footsteps?

The New York Film Academy has created one of the most intensive workshop programs to train the next generation of music video artists. Our 4-Week Music Video Workshop guides students through the process of creating their own original music videos in an immersive, hands-on program. Taught by active professional music video makers and experts, students learn how to conceptualize their project, work with a record label, collaborate with a musical artist or band, produce, shoot, direct, and edit their own music videos. NYFA encourages students enrolled in the music video workshop to take creative risks and find their own voices as visual artists.

## COURSES

- Music Video Craft
- Directing
- Cinematography
- Playback
- Editing
- Production Workshop

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## LOCATION

**NEW YORK CITY;  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

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# 1-Week FILMMAKING WORKSHOP



**T**he One-Week Filmmaking Workshop is the most intensive, instructional one-week program in filmmaking that can be found at any film school. In one short week, students are instructed in the basics of writing, directing, camera, and digital editing, and each student writes, directs, shoots, and edits a short film project. The pace of this one-week course is feverish and students must be prepared to live and breathe filmmaking for the length of their stay.

## OVERVIEW

This program begins with an intensive study in filmmaking, which encompasses directing, screenwriting, and cinematography. Each student will write, direct, and edit his/her own project. They will also assist their classmates as key crew members on their projects. These individual film projects are edited on Avid Media Composer under the supervision of an instructor.

Following production and post-production, students screen their work with their classmates, instructors, and invited guests and engage in critiques and discussion.

At the end of the program, students will demonstrate the following experience and knowledge:

- Experience working independently and collaboratively in a high-pressure creative environment.
- Knowledge of digital cameras and motion picture production.
- Experience working as both director and cinematographer on student production.
- Experience with Avid digital editing software.
- Knowledge of aesthetic film theory and experience with practical application of the same.

## COURSES

- Director's Craft
- Writing
- Story Advisement
- Editing
- Hands-On Camera/Lighting

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## LOCATION

**NEW YORK CITY;  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA;  
SOUTH BEACH, FLORIDA;  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY;  
WALT DISNEY WORLD® RESORT, FL;  
FLORENCE, ITALY;  
PARIS, FRANCE;  
KYOTO, JAPAN;  
MOSCOW, RUSSIA;  
AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS**

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# 12-week Evening FILMMAKING WORKSHOP

**T**he Evening Workshop is the ideal program for individuals who must balance filmmaking with other responsibilities. Students meet several evenings a week and work on their film shoots over the weekends.

The workshop covers roughly the same amount of ground as the Six-Week Filmmaking Workshop.



## OVERVIEW

The Evening Workshop gives students the instruction they need while allowing them to fulfill other obligations during the day throughout the work week. All classes are geared towards providing students with the building blocks needed to create a film.

This program comprises evening classes and weekend production sessions that take place over a twelve-week period. Students will take classes in Directing, Hands-On Camera, Writing, and Editing. Students will learn to use digital video cameras, professional lighting packages, and digital editing with Avid Media Composer.

The first six weeks are devoted to the study of the four primary elements of filmmaking: Writing, Directing, Cinematography, and Editing. To apply the concepts they learn in class, students write, produce, direct, and edit two short film exercises.

In the second six weeks, each student writes, directs, shoots, and edits a short film of up to ten minutes.

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## LOCATION

### 12-WEEK EVENING WORKSHOPS

NEW YORK CITY;  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA;  
SOUTH BEACH, FLORIDA;  
AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

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After each screening, classmates and instructors engage in critiques and discussion. Throughout the Evening Program, students meet with instructors for one-on-one consultations. Following production and post-production of the final project, students screen their work with their classmates, instructors, and invited guests.

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# Special Holiday FILMMAKING WORKSHOP

**T**he Holiday Filmmaking Workshop provides students with a strong foundation in filmmaking in which they each make three films. *The longer course period of six weeks allows students to concentrate on a longer final film with more elaborate sound design.*



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## LOCATION

**NEW YORK CITY;  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

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For start dates and tuition,  
please visit [nyfa.edu](http://nyfa.edu)*

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## OVERVIEW

This program is divided into two sections. The first three weeks, before the holiday break, are divided between in-class hands-on instruction and the production of two short films by each student. *Students will take classes in Directing, Hands on Camera, Writing, and Editing. Students will learn to use an HD digital video camera, professional lighting packages, and Avid Media Composer editing software.*

During the first week, students will learn the basic tools of filmmaking and begin shooting a series of film projects. *Following production and post-production, students screen their work with their classmates and instructors and engage in critiques and discussion.* All films in the first three weeks are non-dialogue, but students may add music.

After the holiday break, the students will take advanced classes in Directing, Editing, and Writing. Students devote their time solely to the Final Film project—a film of up to five minutes with multiple soundtracks. Students edit their project using Avid Media Composer on Apple computers.

## COURSES

- Director's Craft
- Writing
- Editing
- Hands-On Camera and Lighting
- Production Workshop
- Budgeting and Scheduling
- Sound Design

*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.*