

# 1-YEAR FILMMAKING PROGRAM (ADVANCED)

Study plan



PRAGUE FILM  
INSTITUTE

Last revised: December 2025

Content subject to change based on course updates, staff availability, and production resource

## PROGRAM ROUTES & AWARDING

Year 2 of our Filmmaking program is delivered in two routes. Learning activities and production outputs may be shared across routes; however, award eligibility and credit allocation differ by route.

### 1) BTEC HND Route – Higher National Diploma (HND) in Film and Television

Students progressing from Year 1 are enrolled on the BTEC HND route. Year 2 curriculum and assessment on this route are mapped to the Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Film and Television requirements. Upon successful completion of the required assessed work and in accordance with Pearson/BTEC regulations and quality assurance processes, students are eligible to be awarded 120 BTEC credits for Year 2, contributing to completion of the HND qualification.

### 2) Advanced Route – Direct Entry (Non-BTEC Award)

Students who enter directly into Year 2 follow the same professional training focus and complete the programme's assessed work as defined by the institute. Unless formally enrolled and registered on the BTEC HND route (and meeting relevant entry and registration requirements), this route does not lead to a Pearson BTEC HND award or the allocation of BTEC credits. Upon successful completion of the Year 2 requirements, students on the Advanced Route receive a Prague Film Institute certificate of completion.

## ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

Students do not earn credits for individual subjects or workshops – instead, the curriculum supports learning towards two major assessed assignments (one per semester). These assignments are based on the development, production, and completion of original filmmaking work, including key stages such as concept development, pitching, pre-production planning, production, post-production, and a final critical reflection on the creative process and outcome. The BTEC credit values below apply only to students registered on the BTEC HND route.

**Assignment 1: “Career Vision” - Personal Professional Development (45 BTEC credits)**

**Assignment 2: “Festival-worthy Short Film (15 minutes)” - Professional Project (75 BTEC credits)**

## FALL SEMESTER

<b>SUBJECTS</b>	<b>WHO IS THIS SUBJECT FOR?</b> <i>Mandatory for listed specialisation, optional for others.</i>	<b>WEEKLY HOURS</b> <i>(average)</i>	<b>SEMESTER HOURS</b>
Practical Workshops	All Specialisations	8,8	88
Final film Consultations & Independent Shooting		-	42 (and more)
Cinematography & Lighting	Cinematography	3	30
Directing	Directing	3	30
Editing	Post-production	3	30
Screenwriting	Screenwriting	3	30
Production	Production	3	30
Sound		2	20
Professional Development	All	2	20
Documentary	Documentary	2	20
Art of Directing		2	20
Shooting Exercises B	Cinematography, Directing, Production, Post-production	3	30
Documentary B	Documentary	2	20
Post-production	Post-production	3	30
Screenwriting B	Screenwriting	2	20
Production Design B		2	20
VFX (Beginner)		2	20
Czech Language (Beginner)*		1,5	15
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>473</b>

*\*Subject with extra fee*

*Optional subjects are available to students from other specialisations if class capacity allows and if they have the necessary skills or experience to join. If no specialisation is indicated, the subject is considered elective for all and will open if there is sufficient interest (usually a minimum of three students).*

### Practical Workshops

A selection of workshops is planned throughout the semester. Topics may vary. Examples include:

- Steadicam Workshop
- Cooperating with Actors Workshop
- Lighting Workshop
- Production Design Shooting Workshop
- VFX Greenscreen Workshop 2
- Panavision Workshop
- Unsupervised Shooting Exercise
- Commercial Shooting Workshop
- Showreel Editing Workshop
- Intensive Alexa Shooting Camp

## Art Of Directing

- Foundations Of Cinema And Visual Language
- Cinema As Expression And Political Tool

## Cinematography

- Visual Identity & Role Of Dop
- Visual Language Development
- Tone & Atmosphere
- Lighting For Emotion
- Visual Collaboration & Movement
- Abstract Visual Storytelling
- Visual Metaphor & Subtext
- Continuity & Post-Production Prep
- Personal Vision & Expression
- Final Film Planning & Pitching

## Directing

- Artistic Identity & Vision Development
- Story Worlds & Character Evolution
- Directing B Shooting Exercise #1 (With Cinematography Class) (10 Hours Practical)
- Working With Non-Actors & Improvisation
- Psychological & Abstract Directing
- Directing B Shooting Exercise #2 (With Cinematography Class) - Blocking (10 Hours Practical)
- Sound & Space As Directorial Tools
- Directing With Minimalism & Restraint
- Directing B Shooting Exercise #3 (With Cinematography Class) - Art Of Long Take (10 Hours Practical)
- Final Project Development

## Documentary

- Visual Identity & Role Of Dop
- Personal Vision I.
- Icons Of Influence
- Personal Vision Ii.

- Lies And Censorship
- Short Documentary Profile I.
- Documentary And Environment
- Investigative Journalism
- Documentary In The Digital Age
- Short Documentary Profile li.

## Editing

- Introduction To Editing & Semiotics
- Rhythm And Drama
- Emotional Structure
- Storyboarding I.
- Storyboarding II.
- Metaphor & Time
- Character Through Montage
- Complex Scene Construction
- Sound And Vertical Montage
- Rhythm And Montage

## Sound

- Continuing With Production Sound
- Advanced Dialogue
- Sound And Time
- Diegetic And Non-Diegetic
- Advanced Voiceover
- Use Of Sound Devices In Film
- Advanced Sound Production
- Semester Projects
- Sound Design Part 1
- Post-Production Preview

## Post-production

- Professional Workflow & Color Management (Aces, Hdr, Pipelines)
- Advanced Node Structures & Parallel Processing
- Deep Dive Into Shot Matching & Scene Balancing
- Advanced Secondary Corrections & Keying
- Cinematic Look Development & Film Emulation
- Hdr & Dolby Vision Grading
- Advanced Color Fx & Resolve Fx Plugins
- Avid X Davinci Resolve Workflow
- Editing Exercise (Resolve Or Avid)
- Editing Exercise (Resolve Or Avid)

## Production Design

- Design With Theme
- Stylized Vs. Realistic Worlds
- World Building
- Advanced Storyboarding & Sketching
- Material & Texture Boards
- Sustainable & Practical Set Design
- Finding Your Visual Voice
- Portfolio Structure
- Concept Art & Presentation Techniques
- Mid-Year Portfolio Project

## Production

- Career Launch Strategies
- Pitching Essentials I.
- Pitching Essentials II.
- Coordinating Complex Productions
- Film Financing I
- Film Financing II
- Post-Production Supervision
- Legal Frameworks In Production
- Audience & Marketing I
- Audience & Marketing II.

## Professional Development

- Introduction To The Industry And Career Vision
- Personal Swot & Mind Mapping
- Career Pathways And Industry Research
- Building Your Professional Identity
- Portfolio Development - Visual Identity & Online Presence
- Communication And Networking
- Presentation Skills & Pitching Yourself
- Legal & Business Fundamentals In Filmmaking
- Finalizing Deliverables
- Final Presentations

## Screenwriting A

- Expanding Ideas And Setting
- Building Strong Structures
- Characters With Depth
- Crafting Dynamic Openings
- Dialogue That Drives The Story
- Scene Structure And Momentum
- Heightening Conflict
- Feedback And Revision

- Polishing Dialogue And Visuals
- Presentation And Reflection

### Screenwriting B

- From Theme To Visual Action
- Tone & Atmosphere Scene Prep
- Visual Tone Reflection
- Improvisation & Authenticity
- Abstract/Improvised Scene Prep
- Abstract Scene Revision
- Rewriting For Restraint
- Personal Style Scene Prep
- Roundtable: Voice In Action
- Transition To Final Film Writing

## SPRING SEMESTER

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Final Film Consultations & Independent Shooting		-	42 (and more)
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### Practical Workshops

- Cooperation with costume designer
- Special Effects Workshop (practical effects: rain, smoke, fire...)
- Cooperating with animals
- Unsupervised Shooting Exercise
- Film Analysis in Cinema
- Camera Cranes Workshop
- Final Film Consultations
- Intensive Alexa Shooting Camp

### Art Of Directing

- Auteur Cinema And Global Storytelling
- Mastery, Myth, And The Modern World
- Cinematography
- Visual Planning & Director Collaboration
- Camera Tests & Technical Prep
- Scene Test & Technical Rehearsal
- Lighting Challenges & Setups
- Equipment Prep & Vfx Setup
- Re-Shoots & Creative Adjustments
- Matching Film Looks
- Simulated Shoot & Feedback Loop
- Final Scene Execution
- Production Wrap & Delivery Prep

### Directing

- Advanced Production Planning
- Rehearsal & Blocking Labs
- Directing B - Shooting Exercise #1 (Genre: Horror) Dream Sequence (10 Hours Practical)
- On-Set Leadership & Crisis Management
- Directing For Edit
- Shooting Exercise #2 Scene Re-Shoot Or Alternative Take (10 Hours Practical)
- Festival Strategy & Industry Insight
- Collaborating With Post-Production Team
- Shooting Exercise #3 Final Scene Test (10 Hours Practical)
- Final Lock & Industry Showcase Prep

## Documentary

- Ideology And Vision
- Propaganda In Action
- Broadcasting & Distribution
- Cold War Perspectives
- Rediscovering The Past
- Film Vs. Documentary I.
- Film Vs. Documentary II.
- Exploration And Adventure
- Final Reflections & Progress Review

## Editing

- Film And Reality
- Conflict And Drama
- The Role Of The Narrator
- Complex Parallel Editing I.
- Complex Parallel Editing II.
- Practical Dramaturgy
- Alternative Narrative Forms
- Advanced Film Language
- Final Film Prep I.
- Final Film Prep II.

## Sound

- Advanced Production Recording Part 2
- Sound As Indicator Of Another Dimension

- Advanced Ambient Sound
- Advanced Use Of Music
- Sound Design Part 2
- Semester Projects
- Sound Post-Production Part 1
- Sound Post-Production Part 2
- Sound Post-Production Part 3

## Post-production

- Avid – Complex Editing Exercise I.
- Avid – Complex Editing Exercise II.
- Avid – Complex Editing Exercise III.
- Avid – Complex Editing Exercise IV.
- Avid – Complex Editing Exercise V.
- Avid – Complex Editing Exercise VI.
- Avid – Complex Editing Exercise VII.
- Technical Consultations – Final Film I.
- Technical Consultations – Final Film II.
- Technical Consultations – Final Film III.

## Production Design

- Art Direction & Team Leadership
- Scheduling & Budgeting
- Presenting Ideas
- Collaboration Across Departments
- Technical Drawings & Blueprints
- Set Construction & On-Set Adjustments
- Professional Toolkit
- Industry Standards & Career Paths
- Final Design Project
- Exit Presentation

## Production

- Production Leadership & Executive Producing
- Script Breakdown & Scheduling I.
- Script Breakdown & Scheduling II.
- International Co-Productions & Global Film Business
- Film Packaging & Investor Materials

- Advanced Production Techniques I.
- Advanced Production Techniques II.
- Industry Networking & Festivals
- Feature Film Pitch Development I.
- Feature Film Pitch Development II.

## Screenwriting A

- Revisiting Themes And Subtext
- Advanced Character Work
- Twists And Subversion
- Scene Transitions And Emotional Flow
- Strengthening Core Storytelling Craft
- Advanced Scene Work & Refinement
- Mastering Narrative Flow And Visual Rhythm
- Final Polishing & Peer Review
- Knowing When Your Script Is Finished
- Final Review And Reflection

## Screenwriting B

- Structure Recap & Treatment Lock
- Test Scene Prep
- Review & Adaptation
- Dialogue Rewriting & Blocking
- Alternate Version Scene Prep
- Scene Integration & Transitions
- Climaxes & Payoffs
- Final Scene Prep
- Full Script Review
- Submission & Reflection



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