Cinema, BA

Career Advancement

Because the film and TV industries include a wide array of jobs, the cinema degree is not a direct track to any one specific career, but it does provide a solid foundation for entry into this field.

University of Iowa graduates have found work on sets in Hollywood and New York as location managers, editors, camera assistants, writers, producer's assistants, location managers, casting agents, and more. Graduates also have found work in San Francisco, Chicago, Milwaukee, Seattle, and many other cities, with jobs in distribution, programming, documentary research, and education, among others. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics notes in the Occupational Outlook Handbook that occupations for film and video editors and camera operators are expected to grow by 18% over the next decade, which is much higher than average job growth. Related jobs in broadcast and sound engineering are expected to grow by 9%, and film archivist and curator positions are expected to grow by 11%, both much higher than average.

In addition to student-run clubs and professional experiences, students have the opportunity to work with Student Video Production (SVP); The Bijou Film Board; Cinematic Arts Student Organization (CASO); panels with faculty members, current students, and alumni now in the industry; internships; and study abroad. Cinema students also have the option to enroll in CINE:3080 Film/Video Production: The Business of Filmmaking, a course devoted to careers in cinema as well as CINE:2863 Film/Video Production: Film Festival, where students run an internationally recognized documentary film festival.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.