

Application Overview

Notes: Please write ONLY the last 4 digits of your Student ID at the top of each submitted page and on every piece of work, including file names. All application files should be saved in Google Drive and labeled with the last 4 digits of your ID along with the material type (i.e. “#####BFA_Portfolio,”), be sure to label each component appropriately and send the entire file with all components to filmoffice@colorado.edu.

1. **Online submission form**

Submit online submission form, be sure to include all information. Webform found here:
<https://www.colorado.edu/cinemastudies/bfa-application>

2. **Typed Application Essay**

[double-spaced, 3 pages or less, PDF format, labeled #####*ApplicationEssay*] Essay must include the following:

- Describe your aesthetic approach to filmmaking using a recent film you’ve made as an example.
- Which filmmakers influence your work? Give examples and explain specifically how they’ve influenced you. Do some research and cite sources (interviews, critical studies, artist statements) that reinforce your position.
- Describe your creative sample in terms of your approach to the art form you are submitting (painting, photography, film, poetry, etc), your part in any projects that involved others, and any aesthetic statements that might make your sample clearer to the judges. See #5 below.

3. **Critical Essay Sample** [PDF format, labeled #####*CriticalPaper*]

Submit a copy of a graded academic research paper or formal essay you have written for any college level class (e.g. Film Studies or Anthropology). This cannot be a creative written piece (short story, poem, etc.). If submitting a paper from outside of CU, please include the date of the work, class name, professor’s name, department and institution. If you have no graded papers you may write an original formal film critical studies essay (not creative) up to 3 pages, double-spaced.

4. **4 Minute Sample Film** [in digital format, labeled #####*BFAFILM*]

A two to four minute work of any film or video shot/created by you. Films with sound are allowed.

5. **Sample of your Creative Work** [one of the following labeled #####*CreativeSample*]

You must indicate extent of involvement in sample submitted (i.e. if sample work is a song, did you write, sing, play, arrange it, etc.).

- 1-2 minutes of “time-based” work: video, film, performance, music or audio [in digital format]
- Up to three scanned slides/photos of: drawings, paintings, sculpture or photography [in PDF format]
- Up to 2 page sample of Creative writing or poetry [in PDF format]
- Up to 2 page film treatment (NO scripts) [in PDF format]

Failure to adhere exactly as shown above will result in your application being disqualified.

Formatting Guidelines

We recommend the following basic guidelines for compressing your files:

You can compress your time-based media using a variety of free or proprietary softwares (Compressor, Adobe Media Encoder, Bit Vice, etc.).

VIDEO: ProRes codec, keyframe every 24 frames, multi-pass encoding, at least 48kHz sample rate (for audio). Video files should not exceed 4GB.

AUDIO (NOT part of a video file): AIFF or WAV, at least 48kHz sample rate. 2D

MEDIA (photographs, scans of other 2D work, etc.): Must be delivered as a singular PDF. Individual image files will not be considered. Singular file label given in application overview.

TEXT: any text, scanned or original, must be in PDF format only.

BFA Application Checklist

Application Top Sheet (Online submission)

- Did you meet with your advisor
- Did you submit the online submission form

Application Essay

- Did you write your application essay according to specifications (3 pages, double spaced)?
- Did you check your essay for your name and replace it with the last 4 digits of your Student ID?
- Did you save your essay as XXXXApplicationEssay.pdf?

Critical Essay Sample

- Did you remove your name from everywhere in the critical essay and replace it with the last 4 digits of your student ID?
- Did you scan your critical essay and/or save it as XXXXCriticalPaper.pdf?

Creative Sample

- Did you make sure your name does not appear anywhere on your creative sample?
- Did you check that your Creative sample is in the correct file format (i.e. PDF for 2-D work, AIFF/WAV for audio, etc) and length (no more than 2 mins for time based, 3 pages for written work, etc.)?
- Did you save your Creative work as XXXXCreativeSample.wav (or .aiff, .pdf, .mov as applicable)?

4 minute BFA Film

- Did you make sure your name does not appear anywhere on your sample?
- Did you check that your Film sample is in the correct file format and length (2-4 mins) and meets the specifications (H.264 codec, keyframe every 24 frames, multi-pass encoding, 48khz sample rate for sound, less than 3 gb)? D Did you save your sample as XXXXBFAFilm.mov?

Portfolio Folder and Submission

- Did you set up your portfolio folder as XXXXBFA_Porfolio and include your Essay, Critical Paper, Creative Sample and BFA Film?
- Did you save your portfolio components in Google Drive?
- Did you email the Google Drive to filmoffice@colorado.edu?

IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS, CONGRATS! YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR APPLICATION FOR THE CINEMA STUDIES BFA.