

Academic Vitae for Rod Bingaman

Education

Boston University College of Communication, **M.S. in Film Production** 1992

University of Missouri-Kansas City, **B.A. in Communication Studies** 1986

PSU Appointments

Associate Teaching Professor Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications, Penn State, UP
July 1, 2021-present

Assistant Teaching Professor Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications, Penn State, UP
July 1, 2016-June 30, 2021

Senior Lecturer July 1, 2011-June 30, 2016; July 1, 2006-June 30, 2011

Lecturer FT Multi-year, July 1, 2000-June 30, 2006

FT One, August 16, 1999-May 19, 2000

FT Two, January 12, 1998-May 15, 1999

Courses

Advanced Cinematography and Post Production Techniques

Course covers all upper-level film and video equipment in preparation for senior thesis work and professional entry. Students receive instruction on high end digital cine cameras; lighting and grip techniques; and color correction. Students shoot exercises and tests for senior capstone projects.

Advanced Production Project

Course is a two-semester capstone course designed for students to pitch, crew and produce advanced film and video projects in all genres. Course focuses on production issues and execution of completed project, with emphasis on advanced post-production and preparation for film festivals. Instructor oversees four or more films from concept to completion.

Advanced Post Production

Course advances concepts and techniques of post-production. Focuses on appropriate workflows and application of software to specific project requirements. Includes instruction in Avid Media Composer, Adobe After Effects & Audition, ProTools and DaVinci Resolve. Students complete practice modules and produce a short graphic animation.

Advanced Directing

Focuses on advanced directing aesthetics and techniques, combining lecture, screening and practicum. Students explore interpretive aspects of directing including acting techniques, art design, staging and rhythm/tempo. Additional emphasis on related philosophy and communication science topics. Focus is on individual style and preparation for senior capstone projects. Taught in collaboration with a Theatre course, Acting for the Camera.

Advanced Narrative Filmmaking

Course is a seminar structure designed for senior level fiction film projects in a one-semester format. Focuses on production process and completion, proper paperwork and preparation of festival deliverables. Students produce a short film in teams.

Advanced Documentary Production (Travel Abroad)

Collaborate with two other faculty members over spring break, traveling with a class of students and producing short documentary films in teams. Course also serves as a cultural exchange. Destinations: Budapest, Hungary; Barcelona, Spain; and Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Intermediate Cinematography and Post Production Techniques

Covers intermediate level camera equipment in preparation for junior and senior level production in genre courses. Students receive instruction on digital cine cameras, sound recording; lighting and grip equipment; safety; process photography; sound design and post production techniques associated with sound and video. Student shoot exercise and complete in post-production.

Intermediate Narrative Filmmaking

Course is an introduction to synchronous sound filmmaking and narrative filmmaking techniques. Focuses on script interpretation and organizational practices as well as the overall production process of producing a short fiction film. Students work in groups in both film and digital video and complete three projects.

Directing I

Course covers basic techniques of film directing, including aesthetics; script breakdown; development; casting; set decorum and procedures. Course also introduces of classical composition in art, dramaturgy and related social science topics. Students direct individual exercises that emphasize both technique and personal expression.

Camera Acting Workshop

Class meets concurrent with Advanced Directing. Students participate in exercises and scene work that explore aspects of camera presence, focus of attention and other technical considerations related to screen acting.

Basic Filmmaking

Course is an introduction to 16mm filmmaking and digital video, as well as an introduction to the philosophy and rigors of the major. Students produce a video assignment, a film project and a final project. Course is designed to introduce students to basic film photography, scene construction and non-linear editing.

Production Administration

Course emphasizes producing in electronic field production, as well as production in digital video. Students produce three projects suitable for corporate communications and web streaming, with emphasis on professional practice.

Evidence of Growth and Development

Bellisario College of Communications Summer Film Camp in collaboration with Penn State Outreach, Co-director, July 2005-present.

Week-long resident camp for 21-24 high school students from U.S. and abroad. Recruitment yield is typically 50-60% PSU application rate and four Film-Video majors per year.

Films and Friends, Alumni Networking Event, New York, in collaboration with the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications Office of Career Services, April 2006-present. Yearly networking event held at the Dolby Screening Room, New York, NY, for 75-80 students and alumni. Developed the event with Dean Bob Martin of Career Services. Host, moderate a panel of alumni professionals, and facilitate interaction among guests. Event provides opportunities for employment and internships.

Professional Affiliations and Service

Bellisario College of Communications Dean's Advisory Committee, September 2014-2021; 2023-present.

Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications Student Learning Assessment Committee, September 2014-August 2023. Chaired the Film-Video Alumni Society Board team assessment of student work. Meet with alumni reviewers and write annual report in compliance with ACEJMC competencies.

Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications Curriculum Committee, September 2017-2018; Film-Video Curriculum Committee 2002-2004 & 2008-2010. Meet semi-annually. Have participated in Film-Video Curriculum development since 2002, including writing course revisions and developing course content for Comm 340, Comm 440 and Comm 444.

Film-Video Travel Abroad, Comm 437A, Faculty Co-supervisor, March 2016, Budapest, Hungary; Barcelona, Spain; and Amsterdam, Netherlands.

College of Communications First Year Seminar Task Force, 2014-2015.

Task force met and provided written guidelines and recommendations for revisions to First Year Seminar courses. Recommendations were implemented fall 2015.

College of Communications Film-Video Website Committee, 2007-2010.
Met with designers and coordinated with Associate Dean Hoag. Developed initial site revisions and layouts.
College website underwent revision in 2012.

Film-Video Media Studies Student Enrichment Committee, 2008-2009.
Committee hosted events to encourage interaction between students in both Media Studies and Film-Video.
Events included joint screenings and alumni guest speakers.

Penn State Schreyer Honors College Adviser, 2005-present. Film-Video Media Studies Student Program Adviser, 2006-2016.

Pennsylvania Motion Picture and Television Industry Labor Task Force, 2008-2010.
Task Force was comprised of academics, labor union representatives and members of state government to provide a report containing recommendations for attracting and retaining production to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Resulted in the creation of PA Film Production Tax Initiative.

Faculty Advisor: Delta Kappa Alpha Professional Film Society, National Chapter, 2020-present; Full Ammo Improvisational Group 2021-present; Memoriam Sketch Comedy Club, 2017; Student Film Organization, 2012 & 2024.

Awards and Honors

Dean's Excellence Award for Teaching, Bellisario College of Communications, 2001 & 2012.
Vice President's Award for Innovation, Outreach Faculty, 2006.
Excellence in Teaching Award, Bellisario College of Communications Alumni Society Board, 2005.
Faculty Excellence Award, Student Film Organization, 2000.
Bellisario College Faculty Marshal Commencement 2024, 2011, 2015 2005, 2001.

Selected Published Work

Spooky Action, Feature dramatic film, Writer/Director. Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC, distributed by X4 Pictures, 2024-present. Amazon Prime, AppleTV, Hulu.
Juried Festivals: International New York Film Festival, Best Feature under \$250,000, 2023; North Hollywood Film Festival 2024.

Egg Hill Church, short documentary, co-producer with Maura Shea, Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC, for the Centre County Historical Society., 2024. <https://centrehistory.org/article/egg-hill-church/>

Union "Old Mud" Church, short documentary, co-producer with Maura Shea, Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC, for the Centre County Historical Society., 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eu35tfZRxeE>

Interview subject: *Indie Sci-Fi Cinema Today*, by Chris Vander Kaay & Kathleen Fernandez Vander Kaay McFarland and Company, 2018.

Pond to Table, Joint Research Project, Co-Producer with Maura E. Shea
Colleen Connolly-Ahern, PhD, Lee Ahern, PhD (Advertising/Science Communication), Rachel Brennan, PhD, (Environmental Engineering) research project with video component. Presenting at International Communication Association, 2018.

Ripped! Feature dramatic film, Writer/Director. Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC, distributed by Monarch Films, February 2016-2021.

Amazon Prime, iTunes, Hulu, Vidzi, Vshare, TheVideo. Soundtrack: SoundCloud, Ringostrack.

Juried Festivals: Collegetown FF, State College 2014; Valley FF, Los Angeles, CA 2015; FirstGlance FF, Philadelphia, PA 2015; Collegetown FF, Athens, OH 2015.

Chasing Butterflies, feature dramatic film, Writer/Director. Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC, distributed by Anderson Media/Vanguard (US), Echelon Studios (International) May 2009-May 2014. Netflix, Amazon, iTunes, Blockbuster, Hollywood Video, HMV, Target, Borders, Barnes & Noble.

Juried Festivals: Philadelphia Independent FF, Philadelphia, PA 2009; FirstGlance FF, Philadelphia, PA 2009.

Hooray for Mister Touchdown, feature dramatic film, Writer/Director. Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC, distributed by Goliath Arts, Access Media Group, November 2009-November 2014. American Program Service, iTunes, Hulu, Yuppflix, YouTube.

Juried Festivals: Asheville FF, Asheville, NC, 2006; Sedona International FF, Sedona, AZ, 2005; FirstGlance FF, Philadelphia, PA 2005; Harrisburg ArtsFest, Harrisburg, PA 2005; Iris FF, Huntingdon, PA 2005; Frederick FF, Frederick, MD 2004.

A Holiday Affair, feature dramatic film, Writer/Director, Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC.

Juried Festivals: Brooklyn International FF (Audience Prize Winner), Brooklyn, NY 2000; Tribeca Grand Hotel Special Screening, New York, 2001; FirstGlance FF, Philadelphia, PA 2001; Woods Hole FF, 2002.

Overview: Participated in all preproduction activities, including fundraising, casting and scheduling. Productions involved professional cast members, including SAG/AFTRA performers; 15-35 crew (PSU professionals/students) for 11-28 days in summers of 1999, 2002, 2007, 2012 & 2013; 2019 & 2021. Co-editor, including special effects. Attended and introduced film at festivals. Participated in distribution submission and negotiations. Provided deliverables to distributor, including secure music rights, production art and graphics, and relevant press materials. [Ma & Pa Pictures, LLC](#)

Recent Scripts

Spider Blue, feature-length mystery-comedy, 2025

Spooky Action, feature-length mystery, 2018. Produced and released in 2024.

Fire Lake, feature-length comedy-drama, 2015

Ripped! feature-length musical comedy, 2012. Produced and released in 2016.

Knotholes, feature-length comedy-drama, 2008.

Chasing Butterflies, feature-length comedy-drama, 2005. Produced and released in 2007.

Hooray for Mister Touchdown, feature-length musical comedy, 2002 Produced and released in 2003.

A Holiday Affair, feature-length comedy-drama, 1999 Produced & released in 2000.