

**FilmArche is the largest
self-organized film school in
Europe, located in Berlin.**

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

2026



LOCATION: filmArche, BERLIN, Germany

DATE: 01 August – 15 August 2026

COST: 950 € (including tuition fees & lunch on class days)

EARLY DEADLINE: 15 May 2026

FINAL DEADLINE: 31 May 2026

Lights, Camera, Action: Craft a Short Film in Two Weeks!

Begin your filmmaking journey with our focused two-week course in the culturally vibrant city of Berlin. Perfect for beginners as well as those with experience in certain areas of film, this English-language program offers a comprehensive introduction to the entire filmmaking process – from idea development to the final cut. Engage in hands-on workshops that encompass screenwriting, pre-production, directing, and the use of professional equipment.

Together, participants will select four project ideas and form teams to bring them to life. Collaborate with your peers to create a documentary, fiction, or docufiction short film, supported by lessons on editing techniques and distribution strategies. No prior experience is needed – just bring your passion for film and creativity!



This program is tailored for aspiring filmmakers who are eager to learn in a dynamic, supportive and collective environment. No prior experience needed – just bring your passion for film, openness to collaboration, and creativity!

Program Highlights:

Introduction to Self-organization: techniques for active involvement, navigation through challenges and spaces, conflict management and knowledge transfer.

Hands-On Equipment Training: Familiarize yourself with cameras, lighting, and sound equipment through hands-on workshops.

Idea Development: Start your filmmaking journey by learning how to brainstorm and refine initial ideas into compelling stories.

Screenwriting Essentials: Unlock the basics of scriptwriting, focusing on structure, character development, and dialogue to transform your ideas into a workable screenplay.

Low budget film production: Learn about Creative and Macro budgeting, Alternative Financing and Smart Production.

Pre-Production Techniques: Prepare for a smooth shooting process by mastering the creation of shot lists and shooting schedules. Learn how to organize and plan your film efficiently.

Directing Fundamentals: Step into the director's shoes and learn how to guide actors or protagonists and manage a film set. Gain practical insights into visual storytelling and scene execution.

Afternoon Film Sprint: Kick off the program by diving straight into filmmaking. In small international teams, participants write, shoot, and edit a short film using their cell phones - all within a single afternoon.

On-Set Communication and Awareness: Learn essential communication skills and set etiquette to ensure a professional environment where everyone feels valued and no one is discriminated against during shoots.

Film Shooting Experience: Experience the excitement of filming. Apply your skills in a real shooting environment as you work alongside your peers to produce your own short film.

Post-Production: Delve into the editing process. Learn how to edit your footage, integrate sound, and use editing software to shape the final version of your film.

Distribution and Film Festivals: Gain an understanding of the film distribution process. Learn how to prepare your film for submission to festivals.

FilmArche puts a special emphasis on self-organization and awareness: We encourage collaborative decision-making, creativity, and responsibility, allowing each team member to contribute their unique skills through a democratic process. The practice of awareness involves anti-discrimination strategies to create a safer, more inclusive environment for all crew members.

Ready to Apply?

Registration is conducted online via our application form on our website. Places are limited.

Early Deadline: 15 May. Applications submitted by this date will be reviewed promptly. If accepted, you'll have 8 days to confirm your participation by paying the fee.

Final Deadline: 31 May. We will continue to consider applications until this date if spots are still available. Last payment deadline is on 12 June.

The fee includes participation in all workshops, course material, and access to equipment and facilities at Filmarche. Over the course of two weeks, participants will receive approximately 70+ hours of instruction, including hands-on workshops, guided production time, and feedback sessions.

A vegetarian daily lunch is provided on class days, along with a welcome dinner at the beginning of the program. Accommodation is not included and must be arranged individually by each participant. A certificate of participation will be awarded at the end of the course.

If you're unsure whether this summer school is the right fit for you, feel free to reach out with any questions at summerschool@filmarche.de – we're happy to help!