

Jack Bryant, M.F.A. B.A. English, Literature, 2004

By Sarah K. Miller & Max Chambers

**Associate Professor and Director of
the Cinema, Photography, and
Media Arts Program,
Ithaca College**

*“Get as much education as you can, because
learning is never a waste.”*



Jack Bryant graduated from WKU with a bachelor’s degree in Literature in 2004. He went on to obtain his Master in Fine Arts degree from Boston University. Bryant is currently the Director of the Cinema, Photography, and Media Arts Program at [Ithaca College](#), where he oversees three degrees in cinema, photography, and screenwriting. He is also an Assistant Professor of screenwriting courses.

After graduating with his MFA from Boston University, Bryant taught at the [New York Film Academy](#) for a semester, then moved to Los Angeles and worked as an assistant at [International Creative Management](#) in the talent department. He then moved to New York City and worked in film and video game production. When the economy declined, he moved to Rochester, New York, and found a teaching position at the [Rochester Institute of Technology](#). He became an assistant professor at Ithaca College in 2013, and he has enjoyed his work there ever since.

Bryant also works as a professional screenwriter for [Silent Giant Productions](#), a NYC-based film production company. He has produced two films so far with Silent Giant, the latest of which is called [Fair Haven](#). It was acquired for distribution by Breaking Glass Pictures and is now available to watch on Google Play, Showtime, and Amazon Video. His next film, *Purity Falls*, was written for [Stargazer Films](#), a Kentucky-based film company, and is scheduled for release in 2019. A third feature, *Rear View Mirrors*, is currently in pre-production with Silent Giant Productions.

Bryant says his English degree definitely influenced his success in teaching and screenwriting. “As a professional writer, my English degree has certainly helped me in obvious ways. But, it also helped me become a better storyteller and a better editor for my students. I’ve also recently started a new course on writing speculative fiction,

something I was inspired to do by taking classes with Dr. Karen Schneider while I was at WKU.”

Bryant advises current English students to explore classes from many different disciplines. “While I was at WKU, in addition to literature, I also studied anthropology, history, mathematics, computer science, film, philosophy, astronomy, politics, and more. It's helped me understand culture, the past, the present, people—it's made me a better writer and, I hope, a better person.”

