

*director of photography*

Responsible for shooting footage on set, the Director of Photography works with digital and film cameras, either in a studio or on location. Our DPs also work with other crewmembers prior to a shoot to plan out the shots, as well as set up equipment and lighting.

*Canon 5D digital camera*

A digital SLR camera made by Canon, which serves as our main workhorse. The 5D shoots both high-resolution photos and video in HD. With its sleek design, it eliminates much of the bulk previously associated with video cameras, yet shoots vivid images similar to those of 35mm film cameras.

*audio technician*

By using a variety of different mics, including booms (long pole, below) and smaller devices called lavs, an Audio Technician monitors and records sound. The Technician must decide where to place microphones based on a combination of factors, including projection of dialogue, the position of the camera, the source of lighting (hence, boom shadows) and any unwanted noise sources. This ensures that the audio stays crisp and clean.

*steadicam*

A special stabilizing system for a camera, which isolates the camera operator's movement of the camera through a supportive vest, sled and spring-loaded arm. This allows for an extremely smooth shot, eliminating jostle even when the shooter is walking quickly or going up and down stairs.

*green screen*

We use a variety of different backgrounds and screens to create different visual effects during a shoot. A green screen, for example, allows us to replace the background with something else during postproduction.

*gaffer*

The gaffer is responsible for the lighting design of the set. Gaffers work with lights (like Kino-Flos) and gels (colored plastic sheets) to transform midday drab, for example, into a glorious sunset. This takes a keen knowledge of both natural and artificial light sources, shadow and color.

*kino-flo lights*

Manufactured in California, these lights employ a fluorescent tube-based system that's optimized for the color temperature of film and digital video. As opposed to the original industry standard, incandescent lights, Kinos are much more efficient and produce less heat.

*video producers*

Producers are responsible for managing projects from the time they are introduced until they are completed. They serve as key liaisons between the client and crewmembers, managing budget, schedule, scripts and research.

