

SMFA Color Film Processing Room

Room: B005

Studio Manager: Chris Maliga chris.maliga@tufts.edu

Hazard Level: Medium

Overview

Color film from still cameras can be processed in room B005. C-41 chemistry for color negative processes is provided with the use of the Jobo CPP-3 processor. A service is also available for students to have their film processed by a student employee.

Accessing the Color Film Processing Room

- B005 is unlocked with a key available at the Media Stockroom. This key is reserved for the student monitor at various times throughout the week.
- Students may sign out or reserve B005 at any time that there is not a conflicting reservation.
- Students wishing to use B005 on their own must attend a training with the Studio Manager, or with their faculty during courses that require the use of color film.
- The color film dropbox is available for any currently enrolled Tufts student.
 - Students using the dropbox must complete the acknowledgment form: https://tufts.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cxbQyIpBUOw9tQO

Materials

- Color film is available for purchase at the SMFA Art Store and various online and retail vendors.
- C-41 Chemistry is setup for the first day of classes, and is maintained by the studio monitors throughout the week.
- Other processes, such as E-6 color positive, are allowed. Users need to purchase their own chemistry and meet with the Studio Manager about storage.

Staff

- Student monitors develop film from the color film dropbox. B005 is reserved for the monitor on duty during their entire shift.
- The Studio Manager's office is in room B023. If there is no monitor on duty, please report any issues and direct any questions to the Studio Manager. If he is not in his office, you can e-mail him at chris.maliga@tufts.edu

Studio Etiquette

- Please plan your time carefully. While the actual time to process a batch of color negative film is about 20 minutes, factor in loading and clean-up time when you make your reservation.
- Wash and dry all of the processing equipment you use before returning it to B005. Don't put wet tanks, reels, or beakers back in the drawers. They will not dry efficiently in there, and wet reels can make it hard for the next person using them to load their film.
- There is no storage of artwork or personal items allowed at the film processing sink or in the loading rooms.
- Do not add your film to a drying cabinet that is already running with someone else's film in it.
- Remove your film as soon as it is dry. Any film left behind in the drying cabinets will be removed.
- If you run into any problem with equipment, please inform the monitor on duty or the Studio Manager immediately.

Cleanliness

- Please allot at least 15 minutes at the end of your work session for clean-up.
- The film processing sink has a flat base that drains slowly. Use the squeegee when you're done washing to help keep the sink base clean.
- Do not leave anything in the film processing sink when you're done working.
- Remember to clean up your film scraps, backing paper, and/or cartridges from the loading rooms before you leave.

Instructions for processing C-41 Film

Setup

1. Close the red drain on the lower right of the Jobo
2. Set the upper level drain to position 2
3. Fill the Jobo with 10L of water from the film processing sink. Pour the water into the lower basin.
4. Measure out 500ml each of developer, bleach, and fixer into the black Jobo containers. Place in the lower basin.
5. Fill three of the white Jobo containers with water. Place in the lower basin.
6. Turn on the Jobo. Select "Auto" and press Start.

7. Select "09 C-41" and "2550 Series" and press Start. The machine will begin to come up to temperature.
8. Take a tank, center column, lid with funnel and cog wheel, and reels into the loading room with your film. Load the film while the machine is coming up to temperature.

Developer

9. Attach the film tank to the Jobo.
10. Press "Start". The tank will start rotating and commence a 7 minute pre-heat.
11. When the pre-heat is complete, press "Start" to stop the rotation and move on to the next step.
11. Pour the developer into the tank and press "Start". The developer step will run for 3 minutes at 15 seconds.

Bleach

12. When the timer goes to zero, press "Start."
13. While the rotation is stopped, lift the roller base to drain the tank. Make sure to insert the drain hose into a container to collect the waste chemistry.
14. Pour in the bleach and press "Start" to begin the 6 minute bleach step.

Fixer

15. When the timer reaches zero, press "Start" and drain the tank as before, using a container to collect the waste chemistry.
16. Fill the tank with water and press "Start" to commence a 1 minute rinse.
17. When the timer reaches zero, press "Start" and drain the rinse water. You do not need to collect rinse water in a container.
18. After draining the rinse water, pour the fixer into the tank. Press "Start" to commence the 6 minute fixer stage.
19. Press "Start" when the timer reaches zero and drain the fixer into the waste container.

Final Wash

20. Pour 500ml of water into the tank. Press "Start" to initiate the final wash.
21. After 45 seconds, the machine will prompt you to change water. Press "Start" to halt the rotation and drain the water out. The timer will continue as you do so.
22. Fill the tank with another 500ml of water and press "Start" to resume the rotation. You will be prompted to change the wash water every 45 seconds until the final wash is complete.

Stabilizer

23. When the process is complete, press "Start" to end the program and halt the tank rotation. If there is still water in the tank from the final wash, drain it.
24. Remove the tank from the Jobo and bring it to the film processing sink. Remove the lid from the tank.
25. Measure out 500ml of stabilizer and pour it into the tank with the film. Fill the rest of the tank with water, making sure that the film is fully immersed.
26. After 1 minute, remove the film from the stabilizer.
27. Remove the film from the reel and hang it in the drying cabinet. You may need to gently wipe off bubbles from the stabilizer to make sure they don't dry onto the film surface.
28. Set the drying cabinet temperature to 4 or 5 and the timer for 20-30 minutes. 29. Remove your film as soon as it is done drying.
29. Wash your tank, reels, chemical containers and beakers. Dry them and return them to the drawers under the Jobo sink.
30. Open the drain on the lower left of the machine and set the drain in the upper basin to position 1.
31. Pour the waste chemistry from the container into the collection container under the sink.