

FILM 120 : Introduction to Screenwriting

Credits 5

Quarter Offered Spring (odd year)

Beginning script writing for film and television. Combination small lecture/workshop approach focusing on techniques, formats, and structure of scripts; plot and character development. This class may include students from multiple sections. (Humanities-Performance, Elective)

Course Outcomes

Write beginning scenes for film and television.

Produce a series of short scenes and/or commercials. Complete one polished longer script, either for a short film or a television show.

Discuss and apply concepts of structure and character development outlined in text and lectures.

Discuss and analyze scripts by professional writers.

Model own scripts after scripts by professional writers and after structures discussed in lectures and text.

Develop new script ideas based on models from class.

Analyze representative scenes from filmed versions of scripts and apply visual and narrative concepts from these scenes to producing original scripts.

Interact successfully with others in a workshop setting, giving and taking constructive criticism.

Recognize the limitations and possibilities of film as a written and visual medium and the differences between writing for film and other forms of creative writing. Apply this knowledge to own script writing.

Produce scripts that apply visual motifs, as well as narrative structures and well-crafted dialogue.

Analyze commercials, television shows, and films according to their underlying narrative structures and persuasive (propaganda) techniques.