



COURSE OUTLINE : ENGL 112

D Credit – Degree Applicable

COURSE ID 002015

Cyclical Review: February 2018

Revision: November 2021

COURSE DISCIPLINE : ENGL
COURSE NUMBER : 112
COURSE TITLE (FULL) : Screenwriting
COURSE TITLE (SHORT) : Screenwriting
ACADEMIC SENATE DISCIPLINE: English

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

ENGL 112 is a basic course in the principles and practice of writing for film and cinema. Emphasis is placed upon the essentials of screenplay structure, format, sequence, characterization, and the dramatic scene. The course includes critical analysis through reading selected screenplays and viewing specific dramatic scenes portrayed on film. Students will learn fundamentals of dramatic screenwriting and be familiarized with the elements and tools of screenwriting. Students must complete a finished short script by the end of the course.

Total Lecture Units:3.00

Total Laboratory Units: 0.00

Total Course Units: 3.00

Total Lecture Hours:54.00

Total Laboratory Hours: 0.00

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.00

Total Contact Hours: 54.00

Total Out-of-Class Hours: 108.00

Recommended Preparation: ENGL 100 or ESL 151.



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ENTRY STANDARDS

	Subject	Number	Title	Description	Include
1				ability to read and write in english.	Yes
2	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	Read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories to identify topic, thesis, support, transitions, conclusion, audience, and tone;	Yes
3	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories for the comprehension of difficult content and the identification of main ideas and (topic-based) evidence;	Yes
4	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate student compositions for unity, development, use of evidence, interpretation, coherence, and variety of sentence form;	Yes
5	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write a summary of a contemporary article or story with correct citation techniques;	Yes
6	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that has an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion, demonstrating a basic understanding of essay organization;	Yes
7	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that addresses the topic, is directed by a thesis statement, uses appropriate textual evidence, develops logical interpretations, and concludes with some compelling observations;	Yes
8	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that integrates the ideas of others (i.e., authors) through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting with correct citation techniques;	Yes
9	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that generates novel ideas (those that add to the conversation rather than repeating the author's ideas) related to the topic and the readings;	Yes
10	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write compositions (e.g., summaries and argumentative essays) that are easy to read and follow, though some errors in grammar, mechanics, spelling, or diction may exist;	Yes
11	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	proofread and edit essays for content, language, citation, and formatting problems.	Yes
12	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	Read and critically analyze various academic readings;	Yes
13	ESL	151	Reading and Composition V	summarize readings;	Yes



EXIT STANDARDS

- 1 analyze, synthesize, and evaluate script scene-types and script sequences portrayed on film;
- 2 understand, organize, and demonstrate the basic elements of screenplay form and structure;
- 3 combine the basic elements of screenplay form and structure into short script and specific dramatic scene-type compositions writing for cinema;
- 4 create complex characters with complete stories within the context of a specific scene-type.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 critically read screenplays and texts in order to identify and apply screenwriting fundamentals;
- 2 analyze and critique specific dramatic scenes portrayed on film;
- 3 write specific dramatic scenes, in proper screenplay format, demonstrating elements learned;
- 4 write a critical analytical essay that identifies major plot points, basic character elements, and screenplay fundamentals learned.

COURSE CONTENT WITH INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

	Description	Lecture	Lab	Total Hours
1	Character Creation and Characterization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a character • Researching a character • Character arcs • Character roles • Main characters: protagonist vs. antagonist • Supporting characters: friends and rivals • Symbolic characters • Mythic characters • One-string characters 	7	0	7
2	Screenplay Essentials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using visual and audio elements • Writing dialogue • Writing Voice Over (VO) /and Off Screen (OS) dialogue • Creating conflict and obstacles • Connecting scenes to create sequences • Using transitions • Determining beginnings from endings • Avoiding predictability • Creating audience identification 	7	0	7
3	Developing Story Scenarios	7	0	7



4	Analysis of Film Scenes Applicable to Student Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing beginnings and endings • Exploration of how character is revealed • Identifying Act Breaks, Plot Points, and Sequences • Illustrating the link between critical thinking and writing 	10	0	10
5	Outlining a Feature Film Screenplay	7	0	7
6	Writing Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student presentation of written work • Critique and analysis of that work • Feedback for students to apply to future work 	16	0	16
				54

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

- 1 writing assignments on specific scene types (e.g. three pages unexpected visitor scene where one character is preparing for someone to arrive and the wrong person shows up);
- 2 writing assignments on basic structure (e.g. a critical analysis essay that responds to a selected film by identifying basic structure and character elements).

METHODS OF EVALUATION

- 1 quizzes;
- 2 small group case study analyses followed by class presentations of analyses;
- 3 instructor and peer evaluation of student work;
- 4 peer review or critique of student work;
- 5 midterm examinations;
- 6 workshop participation with response to student work;
- 7 instructor evaluation of individual assignments presented to class;
- 8 final examination.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- Lecture
- Laboratory
- Studio
- Discussion
- Multimedia
- Tutorial
- Independent Study
- Collaboratory Learning



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Demonstration

Field Activities (Trips)

Guest Speakers

Presentations

TEXTBOOKS

Title	Type	Publisher	Edition	Medium	Author	IBSN	Date
The Screenwriter's Bible	Required	Silman-James Press	6		Trottier, David	9781935247104	2014
Story: Substance, Structure, Style and the Principles of Screenwriting	Required	ReganBooks	1		McKee, Robert	9780060391683	1997