



COURSE OUTLINE : ENGL 212
D Credit – Degree Applicable
COURSE ID 002053
Cyclical Review: June 2018

COURSE DISCIPLINE : ENGL
COURSE NUMBER : 212
COURSE TITLE (FULL) : Advanced Screenwriting
COURSE TITLE (SHORT) : Advanced Screenwriting

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

ENGL 212 is a continuation of English 112. Students will learn to think critically and develop their screenwriting skills through reading selected screenplays and viewing dramatic scenes portrayed on film. Students will analyze films to learn the fundamentals of character development, three act structure, and cinematic sequences. Students will develop a variety of feature length scenarios, choosing one to outline as a feature length film.

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

Prerequisite: ENGL 112.



ENTRY STANDARDS

	Subject	Number	Title	Description	Include
1	ENGL	112	Screenwriting	analyze, synthesize, and evaluate script scene-types and script sequences portrayed on film;	Yes
2	ENGL	112	Screenwriting	understand, organize, and demonstrate the basic elements of screenplay form and structure;	Yes
3	ENGL	112	Screenwriting	combine these elements in original short script and specific dramatic scenetype compositions writing for cinema;	Yes
4	ENGL	112	Screenwriting	create complex characters with complete stories within the context of a specific scene-type.	Yes

EXIT STANDARDS

- 1 recognize, organize, and apply advanced elements of screenplay character, story, and structure;
- 2 analyze, synthesize, and evaluate written screenplays in three act structure;
- 3 create and write detailed and complex character biographies;
- 4 develop story outlines through applying specific film scenarios;
- 5 complete a comprehensive plot outline for an original feature length screenplay that is broken down into eight sequences within three act structure;
- 6 write the first act of an original feature film in screenplay form.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 apply fundamentals of researching characters, develop and write character bios
- 2 Explain story essentials, develop and write story scenarios
- 3 apply structure fundamentals to develop and write an outline for a feature length film
- 4 write the First Act (approx 24 – 30 pages depending upon genre) of an original feature script in proper screenplay format



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 	6	0	6
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 sequence • Using transitions • Determining beginnings from endings • Avoiding predictability • Creating audience identification 	3	0	3
3	Developing Story Scenarios	11	0	11
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 	11	0	11
5	Outlining a Feature Film Screenplay	8	0	8
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 	15	0	15
				54



OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

- 1 writing assignments on character creation (e.g. a character bio that applies the three stages of character research: the initial idea, general context, and specific context);
- 2 writing assignments on story development (e.g. write a specific story scenario: rebellion, caper, love, escape, revenge, etc.);
- 3 writing assignments on structure outlining (e.g. structure a feature screenplay using the five major plot points: Inciting Incident, Lock-In, Midpoint, Main Culmination, Third Act Twist);
- 4 writing assignment on feature length screenwriting. (e.g. application of a student's structure outline by completing the First Act of the original screenplay);
- 5 individual presentations (e.g. an individual project including a written outline and presentation that pitches the student's feature screenplay idea as a logline and as a synopsis);
- 6 group presentations (e.g. group table readings for the first sequence – approx. 12 – 15 pages) of Act One of a student's screenplay).

METHODS OF EVALUATION

- 1 quizzes;
- 2 midterm examinations;
- 3 instructor and peer evaluation of student work;
- 4 peer review or critique of student work;
- 5 small group case study analyses followed by class presentations of analyses;
- 6 class presentations of group projects;
- 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
- Demonstration
- Field Activities (Trips)
- Guest Speakers



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Presentations

TEXTBOOKS

Title	Type	Publisher	Edition	Medium	Author	ISBN	Date
Screenplay, The Foundations of Screenwriting	Required		5	Print	Field, S	0385339038	2005
How to Build a Great Screenplay: A Master Class in Storytelling for Film	Required	St. Martin's Griffin		Print	Howard, David	031235262X	2006
Creating Unforgettable Characters	Supplemental	Holt Paperbacks			Seger, L.	0805011714	1990
Online Screenwriting Resource (www.thescriptlab.com)		The Script Lab					2017
The Anatomy of Story: 22 Steps to Becoming a Master Storyteller	Supplemental	Faber & Faber		Print	Truby, John	0865479518	2008
The Writer's Journey: Mythic Structure for Writers	Supplemental		3	Print	Vogler, Christopher	193290736X	2007
Essentials of Screenwriting: The Art, Craft, and Business of Film and Television Writing	Supplemental			Print	Walter, Richard	0452296277	2010