

## ENGL112 : Introduction to Screenwriting

### General Information

Author:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Joanna Parypinski</li></ul>
Course Code (CB01) :	ENGL112
Course Title (CB02) :	Introduction to Screenwriting
Department:	ENGL
Proposal Start:	Fall 2024
TOP Code (CB03) :	(1507.00) Creative Writing
CIP Code:	(23.1302) Creative Writing.
SAM Code (CB09) :	Non-Occupational
Distance Education Approved:	No
Will this course be taught asynchronously?:	No
Course Control Number (CB00) :	CCC000587113
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	10/25/2023
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	12/19/2023
Last Cyclical Review Date:	10/25/2023
Course Description and Course Note:	ENGL 112 is a basic introductory course in narrative script writing for film and episodic television. Emphasis is placed upon the essentials of screenplay structure, characters, conflict, theme, and technical script formatting in the development of a short screenplay. Note: This course may not be taken for credit by students who have completed FTVM 112.
Justification:	Mandatory Revision
Academic Career:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Credit</li></ul>

### Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Alternate Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Film Studies</li></ul>
Alternate Discipline:	No value

### Course Development

Basic Skill Status (CB08)	Course Special Class Status (CB13)	Grading Basis
Course is not a basic skills course.	Course is not a special class.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grade with Pass / No-Pass Option</li></ul>

Allow Students to Gain Credit by Exam/Challenge

Pre-Collegiate Level (CB21)

Course Support Course Status (CB26)

Not applicable.

Course is not a support course

## Transferability & Gen. Ed. Options

### General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

### Transferability

Transferable to both UC and CSU

### Transferability Status

Approved

C-ID	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
FTVE	Film, Television, and Electronic Media	Pending	No value	FTVE 115 - Introduction to Screenwriting

## Units and Hours

### Summary

Minimum Credit Units (CB07)	3
Maximum Credit Units (CB06)	3
Total Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	54
Total Course Out-of-Class Hours	108
Total Student Learning Hours	162

### Credit / Non-Credit Options

#### Course Type (CB04)

Credit - Degree Applicable

#### Noncredit Course Category (CB22)

Credit Course.

#### Noncredit Special Characteristics

No Value

#### Course Classification Code (CB11)

Credit Course.

#### Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

Cooperative Work Experience  
 Education Status (CB10)

Variable Credit Course

### Weekly Student Hours

	In Class	Out of Class
Lecture Hours	3	6
Laboratory Hours	0	0

### Course Student Hours

Course Duration (Weeks)	18
Hours per unit divisor	0
Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	
Lecture	54

Studio Hours	0	0	Laboratory	0
			Studio	0
			<b>Total</b>	54
<b>Course Out-of-Class Hours</b>				
			Lecture	108
			Laboratory	0
			Studio	0
			<b>Total</b>	108

## Time Commitment Notes for Students

No value

## Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, Anti-requisites and Advisories

### Advisory

ESL151 - Reading And Composition V

#### Objectives

- Read and critically analyze various academic readings.
- Summarize readings.
- Organize fully-developed essays in both expository and argumentative modes.
- Compose a 500 to 550-word essay which: summarizes and cites appropriately a reading passage; includes a clear thesis statement; uses evidence to support the thesis; shows clear organization into an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Revise writing to eliminate errors in syntax, and grammatical constructions.
- Employ basic library research techniques.
- Compose one research paper (1,000 words) or two short research papers (500-700 words each) with citations.

OR

### Advisory

ENGL101 - Introduction to College Reading and Composition

#### Objectives

- Read, analyze, and evaluate a variety of primarily non-fiction readings for content, context, and rhetorical merit with consideration of tone, audience, and purpose.
- Apply a variety of rhetorical strategies in writing unified, well-organized essays directed by a well-reasoned thesis statement with persuasive support.
- Develop varied and flexible strategies for generating, drafting, and revising essays.
- Analyze stylistic choices in their own writing and the writing of others.
- Write timed, in-class essays exhibiting acceptable college-level control of mechanics, organization, development, and coherence.
- Integrate the ideas of others through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting without plagiarism.
- Find, evaluate, analyze, and interpret primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written essays using appropriate documentation format.
- Proofread and edit essays for presentation so they exhibit no disruptive errors in English grammar, usage, or punctuation.

## Entry Standards

Entry Standards

No value

## Specifications

### Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction                      Lecture

Methods of Instruction                      Discussion

Methods of Instruction                      Multimedia

Methods of Instruction                      Collaborative Learning

Methods of Instruction                      Guest Speakers

Methods of Instruction                      Presentations

### Out of Class Assignments

- Outline (beat sheet) for a short film
- Create/Conflict need statement for an original idea
- Write the First scene of an original screenplay
- Watch a short film and create a possible beat sheet
- Watch produced films and create Conflict/need statements
- Analyze a variety of short films, features and episodic programs (through viewing produced films AND reading scripts) from filmmakers of various background

### Methods of Evaluation

### Rationale

Exam/Quiz/Test

Written tests to demonstrate understanding of professional screenwriting principles

Writing Assignment

Outline (beat sheet) for a short film

Presentation (group or individual)

Present an analysis of a variety of short films, features, and episodic programs (through viewing produced films AND reading scripts) from filmmakers of various backgrounds

Project/Portfolio

Write the first scene of an original screenplay

Evaluation

Offer written and oral critique of peer scripts

## Textbook Rationale

Many of the textbooks listed below are older than 6 years. The justification is that since screenwriting is such a specific, niche subject, there are not that many textbooks that are published and they are not revised or edited often. It is quite different from the more traditional course material.

### Textbooks

Author	Title	Publisher	Date	ISBN
Trottier, David	The Screenwriter's Bible	Silman-James Press	2014	9781935247104
McKee, Robert	Story: Substance, Structure, Style and the Principles of Screenwriting	ReganBooks	1997	9780060391683
Linda J. Cowgill	Writing Short Films: Structure and Content for Screenwriters	Lone Eagle	2005	9781580650632
Syd Field	Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting	Delta	2005	9870385339032
William Goldman	Four Screenplays with Essays	Applause	2000	9871557832658
David Howard	How to Build a Great Screenplay: A Master Class in Storytelling for Film	St. Martin's Griffin	2006	978031235622
Richard Walter	Essentials of Screen- writing: The Art, Craft, and Business of Film and Television Writing	Plume	2010	9780452296275
Blake Snyder	Save the Cat! The Last Book on Screenwriting You'll Ever Need	Michael Wiese Productions	2005	9781932907001
Jill Chamberlain	The Nutshell Technique: Crack the Secret of Successful Screenwriting	Echo Point Books & Media, LLC	2020	B08D9QWGM1
Pilar Alessandra	The Coffee Break Screenwriter	Michael Wiese Productions	2016	9781615932429

**Other Instructional Materials (i.e. OER, handouts)**

No Value

**Materials Fee**

No value

**Learning Outcomes and Objectives****Course Objectives**

Evaluate fundamental principles of narrative fiction screenwriting.

Analyze basic structure, character development, conflict, and theme in professional films and screenplays.

Demonstrate understanding of the technical formatting utilized in professional screenwriting.

Demonstrate ability to pitch project ideas and screenplays.

Demonstrate proficiency in creating original scenes with dramatic action, effective scene description, character development and meaningful dialogue.

**SLOs****Critically read screenplays and texts in order to identify and apply screenwriting fundamentals.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

<i>ILOs</i> Core ILOs	Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.
<i>ENGL</i> English - A.A. Degree Major	Apply literary and rhetorical concepts in order to critically read, write, think, and research
<i>MEDIA</i> Film,TV,and Elctr Media - AST	Demonstrate an understanding of the various techniques of film language and the cinematic tools to tell a story including producing, screenwriting, directing, cinematography, production design, sound design, and editing (picture and sound).
<i>ENGL</i> Creative Writing	Demonstrate creative and critical thinking as it applies to writing and reading.
<i>ENGL</i> English: Creative Writing A.A. Degree Major	analyze and critically read a variety of texts and various forms of media from contemporary literature and the literary canon  develop analytical and creative writing that demonstrates an understanding of literary concepts, genre, and ethical use of sources

<i>MEDIA</i> Visual Arts: Media Arts - A.A. Degree Major	demonstrate mastery of conceptual editing techniques to support storytelling and solving story problems through the use of editing dialogue, sound design, music, and sound effects to complete the creation of the master for final deliverables.
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**Analyze and critique specific dramatic scenes portrayed on film.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

<i>ILOs</i> Core ILOs	Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.
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<i>ENGL</i> English - A.A. Degree Major	Apply literary and rhetorical concepts in order to critically read, write, think, and research
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<i>MEDIA</i> Film,TV,and Elctr Media - AST	Demonstrate an understanding of the various techniques of film language and the cinematic tools to tell a story including producing, screenwriting, directing, cinematography, production design, sound design, and editing (picture and sound).
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<i>ENGL</i> Creative Writing	Demonstrate creative and critical thinking as it applies to writing and reading.
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<i>ENGL</i> English: Creative Writing A.A. Degree Major	analyze and critically read a variety of texts and various forms of media from contemporary literature and the literary canon  develop analytical and creative writing that demonstrates an understanding of literary concepts, genre, and ethical use of sources
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<i>MEDIA</i> Visual Arts: Media Arts - A.A. Degree Major	demonstrate mastery of conceptual editing techniques to support storytelling and solving story problems through the use of editing dialogue, sound design, music, and sound effects to complete the creation of the master for final deliverables.
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**Write an original short dramatic script demonstrating character development, effective dialogue and conflict.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

<i>ILOs</i> Core ILOs	Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.  Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.
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<i>ENGL</i> English - A.A. Degree Major	Apply literary and rhetorical concepts in order to critically read, write, think, and research
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<i>MEDIA</i> Film,TV,and Elctr Media - AST	Demonstrate an understanding of the various techniques of film language and the cinematic tools to tell a story including producing, screenwriting, directing, cinematography, production design, sound design, and editing (picture and sound).
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<i>ENGL</i> Creative Writing	Demonstrate increased knowledge the principles of Creative Writing.  Demonstrate increased reading and writing comprehension of English.
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<i>MEDIA</i> Visual Arts: Media Arts - A.A. Degree Major	demonstrate mastery of conceptual editing techniques to support storytelling and solving story problems through the use of editing dialogue, sound design, music, and sound effects to complete the creation of the master for final deliverables.
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<i>ENGL</i> English: Creative Writing A.A. Degree Major	develop analytical and creative writing that demonstrates an understanding of literary concepts, genre, and ethical use of sources  produce work that is organized and written in a style suited for its purpose and audience
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# Course Content

## Lecture Content

### Language (2 hours)

- Clarity, economy, grammar, and style

### Structure (10 hours)

- Feature, Episodic, Short Film
- Outlines, scenes, sequences, and acts

### Professional Script Formatting (2 hours)

### Developing Story (19 hours)

- Character creation, conflict and rising tension, theme, and resolution

### Fundamentals of Dialogue Writing (8 hours)

### Story and Script Critical Analysis (5 hours)

- Reading and Critiquing Peer Scripts & Professional Scripts
- Watching and Critiquing Short Films, Features and Episodic Programs

### Business Overview (3)

- Copywriting and pitching a script

### Representation (5 hours)

- Race/ethnicity, gender, class, sexual orientation, and ability

**Total hours: 54**