

ENGL212 : Advanced Screenwriting

General Information

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Course Code (CB01) :	ENGL212
Course Title (CB02) :	Advanced 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) :	CCC000597539
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 212 is an advanced course in narrative script writing for film. Emphasis is placed on character creation, story development, and three act structure. Students will develop story scenarios, choose one to outline as a feature film, and write Act One in screenplay format. Note: This course may not be taken for credit by students who have completed FTVM 212.
Justification:	Mandatory Revision
Academic Career:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Credit

Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">English
Alternate Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Film Studies
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">Grade with Pass / No-Pass Option

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

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.

Variable Credit Course

Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

Cooperative Work Experience
 Education Status (CB10)

Weekly Student Hours

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

Course Student Hours

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

Course Out-of-Class Hours

Lecture	108
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
Total	108

Time Commitment Notes for Students

No value

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

Prerequisite

ENGL112 - Introduction to Screenwriting (in-development)

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.

OR

Prerequisite

FTVM120 - Writing for Media

Objectives

- Write in a clear and concise manner.
- Recognize technical and aesthetic issues related to writing for various media formats (film, television, radio, online content).
- Apply fundamental principles of narrative fiction screenwriting.
- Write a variety of script formats, including the radio script, film script, television (TV) script (both sitcom and one-hour TV drama) formats.

OR

Prerequisite

FTVM112 - Introduction to Screenwriting (in-development)

Objectives

- Evaluate fundamental principles of narrative fiction screenwriting.
- Analyze basic structure, character development, conflict, and theme in professional films and screenplays.
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Entry Standards

Entry Standards

No value

Specifications

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction Collaborative Learning

Methods of Instruction Demonstrations

Methods of Instruction Discussion

Methods of Instruction Guest Speakers

Methods of Instruction Lecture

Methods of Instruction Presentations

Out of Class Assignments

- Writing assignments focused on character creation
- Writing assignments focused on scene work
- Writing assignments on structure outlining – create a complete outline/beat sheet for an original feature (e.g. structure a feature screenplay using the five major plot points: Inciting Incident, Lock-In, Midpoint, Main Culmination, Third Act Twist);
- Writing assignments focused on feature length screenwriting
- Write the First Act of an original screen play (apply student's structure outline)
- Watch produced features and create outlines AND/OR identify screenwriting elements (five major plot points: Inciting Incident, Lock-In, Midpoint, Main Culmination, Third Act Twist)
- Read feature screenplays and create create outlines AND/OR identify screenwriting elements (five major plot points: Inciting Incident, Lock-In, Midpoint, Main Culmination, Third Act Twist)
- Analyze a feature films (via 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

Write dramatic scenes

Activity (answering journal prompt, group activity)	Oral critiques by peers and instructor
Project/Portfolio	Write the first act of an original screenplay
Evaluation	Written critique of peer screenplays
Presentation (group or individual)	Analysis of feature film structure presented to class

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
Field, S	Screenplay, The Foundations of Screenwriting		2005	9870385339032
Howard, David	How to Build a Great Screenplay: A Master Class in Storytelling for Film	St. Martin's Griffin	2006	9781557832658
Truby, John	The Anatomy of Story: 22 Steps to Becoming a Master Storyteller	Faber & Faber	2008	9780865479937
Vogler, Christopher	The Writer's Journey: Mythic Structure for Writers		2007	9781932907360
Walter, Richard	Essentials of Screenwriting: The Art, Craft, and Business of Film and Television Writing		2010	9780452296275
Seger, L.	Creating Unforgettable Characters	Holt Paperbacks	1990	9780805011715
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 2016 9781615932429
Productions

Lee Jessup Getting It Write: An Insider's Michael Wiese 2014 9781615931750
Guide to a Screenwriting Productions
Career

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

No Value

Materials Fee

No value

Learning Outcomes and Objectives

Course Objectives

Recognize, organize, and apply advanced elements of screenplay character, story, and structure.

Analyze, synthesize, and evaluate written screenplays in three act structure.

Create and write detailed and complex character biographies.

Develop script outlines through applying specific film scenarios.

Complete a comprehensive plot outline for an original feature length screenplay that is broken down into eight sequences within three act structure.

Write the first act of an original feature film in screenplay form or an original feature script in proper screenplay format.

SLOs

Apply fundamentals of researching characters, develop and write character bios.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and
Core ILOs derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.

ENGL Demonstrate creative and critical thinking as it applies to writing and reading.

Creative Writing

Demonstrate increased knowledge the principles of Creative Writing.

ENGL
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

Develop, write and pitch original script ideas.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs
Core ILOs

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.

ENGL
Creative Writing

Demonstrate creative and critical thinking as it applies to writing and reading.

Demonstrate increased knowledge the principles of Creative Writing.

ENGL
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

Develop and write an outline for a feature length film.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs
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.

ENGL
Creative Writing

Demonstrate creative and critical thinking as it applies to writing and reading.

Demonstrate increased knowledge the principles of Creative Writing.

ENGL
English: Creative Writing A.A.
Degree Major

produce work that is organized and written in a style suited for its purpose and audience

Additional SLO Information

Does this proposal include revisions that might improve student attainment of course learning outcomes?

No

Is this proposal submitted in response to learning outcomes assessment data?

No

If yes was selected in either of the above questions for learning outcomes, explain and attach evidence of discussions about learning outcomes.

No Value

SLO Evidence

No Value

Course Content

Lecture Content

Character Creation and Characterization (6 hours)

- 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

Screenplay Essentials (3 hours)

- Using visual and audio elements
- Writing dialogue that reveals character or advances plot forward
- Writing Voice Over (VO) /and Off Screen (OS) dialogue
- Writing meaningful and essential description
- Creating conflict and obstacles
- Connecting scenes to create sequence
- Using transitions
- Determining beginnings from endings

Analysis of Dramatic Elements Applicable to Professional Produced work (3 hours)

- Reading professionally written and produced feature length scripts.
- Watching professionally written and produced feature length films.
- Applying understating of aspects of film structure to professionally written and produced Films and Screenplays.
- Identifying Act Breaks, Plot Points, and Sequences

Developing Story (11 hours)

Outline an Original Feature Film Screenplay Idea (6 hours)

Analysis of Dramatic Elements Applicable to Student Work (10 hours)

- Applying understating of aspects of film structure to fellow student work and own work
- Developing beginnings and endings
- Exploration of how character is revealed
- Essential Dialogue
- Identifying Act Breaks, Plot Points, and Sequences

Writing Workshop (15 hours)

- Students share pages, outlines/beat sheets and scenes (in-class or online)
- Critique and analysis of peer submissions
- Students offer written and verbal peer critiques and analysis of story, outlines/beat sheets, character development and scenes in a workshop environment

Total hours: 54