

FTVE R110: INTRO TO MEDIA WRITING

Originator

alawson

College

Oxnard College

Discipline (CB01A)

FTVE - Film, Television, & Elec Media

Course Number (CB01B)

R110

Course Title (CB02)

Intro to Media Writing

Banner/Short Title

Intro to Media Writing

Credit Type

Credit

Start Term

Fall 2021

Formerly

TV R105

Catalog Course Description

This is an introductory course that trains students to write for film and electronic media and to prepare scripts in proper formats. Students learn to plan and develop scripts utilizing professional standards and methods.

Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)

0604.20 - *Television (including combined TV/film/video)

Course Credit Status (CB04)

D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)

A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)

N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

SAM Priority Code (CB09)

D - Possibly Occupational

Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

Course Classification Status (CB11)

Y - Credit Course

Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)

Y - Not Applicable

Course Noncredit Category (CB22)

Y - Credit Course

Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

Course Program Status (CB24)

1 - Program Applicable

General Education Status (CB25)

Y - Not Applicable

Support Course Status (CB26)

N - Course is not a support course

Field trips

May be required

Faculty notes on field trips; include possible destinations or other pertinent information

Students may be asked to attend film screenings or professional screenwriting panel discussions/workshops.

Grading method

Letter Graded

Does this course require an instructional materials fee?

No

Repeatable for Credit

No

Is this course part of a family?

No

Units and Hours

Carnegie Unit Override

No

In-Class

Lecture

Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours

52.5

Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours

52.5

Activity

Minimum Contact/In-Class Activity Hours

0

Maximum Contact/In-Class Activity Hours

0

Laboratory

Minimum Contact/In-Class Laboratory Hours

0

Maximum Contact/In-Class Laboratory Hours

0

Total in-Class

Total in-Class

Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours

52.5

Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours

52.5

Outside-of-Class

Internship/Cooperative Work Experience

Paid

Unpaid

Total Outside-of-Class

Total Outside-of-Class

Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours

105

Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours

105

Total Student Learning

Total Student Learning

Total Minimum Student Learning Hours

157.5

Total Maximum Student Learning Hours

157.5

Minimum Units (CB07)

3

Maximum Units (CB06)

3

Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1	Student will create believable psychological motivation in character work by utilizing action and subtext in their screenplays.
2	Student will write a screenplay outline/treatment that contains 7 major story beats. These beats are Inciting Incident, Apparent Solution, No Turning Back, Mid Second Act Twist, All Hope is Lost Moment, Climax and Resolution.
3	Student will graph the act structure of a given Hollywood narrative film and apply these techniques to an original screen story concept.
4	Student will identify the central character of a given Hollywood narrative film and describe the character's arc.
5	Student will create a properly formatted screenplay using screenwriting software for an original script concept.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1	Identify and use various formats and styles of scripts used in electronic media.
2	Identify act structure in a film or television program.
3	Write scripts using proper script format.
4	Create characterizations in a dramatic script.
5	Compose storylines which conform to accepted dramatic structures.
6	Analyze stories from different media for possible adaptation.
7	Write a beat sheet for a feature-length screenplay.
8	Perform background research for a script.
9	Demonstrate competence in the mechanics of clear and concise writing.
10	Demonstrate an understanding of the technical and aesthetic issues related to writing for the film and electronic media.
11	Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental principles of narrative fiction screenwriting.

- 12 Demonstrate proficiency in writing in a variety of script formats, including the radio script, two-column video script, film script and sitcom script formats.
- 13 Demonstrate proficiency in creating a complete, short fictional narrative and writing it as a 20-30-page film script.

Course Content

Lecture/Course Content

1. Writing for the Screen
2. Writing regardless of medium or format.
 - a. Clarity, economy, grammar, style.
3. Script formats and script formats (including, but not limited to)
 - a. Radio (writing for the ear)
 - b. Television: Two-column script (writing for the eye)
 - c. Film/Video screenplay (writing for the eye)
 - d. Sitcom: Three-column scripts (writing for the eye)
 - e. Multimedia: Three-column script (writing for the ear, the eye, and interactivity)
 - f. Proper use of a screenwriting software (Celtx, Final Draft, Studio Binder or a similar software).
4. Introduction to content for the various media.
 - a. Commercials
 - b. PSAs
 - c. Corporate productions
 - d. Documentaries
 - e. Web content
 - f. Fictional narratives (film, half-hour TV comedy, one-hour TV drama)
5. Fundamentals of dramatic structure
 - a. Conflict
 - b. Character creation
 - c. Dialogue writing
6. Process and methodology of script writing
 - a. Outlines
 - b. Beat sheets
 - c. Treatments
7. Language style for spoken words.
8. Writing direction and description.
9. Types of Scripts
 - a. Dramatic
 - b. Comedic
 - c. Informative
 - d. Persuasive
10. Identifying Act Structure
 - a. Act 1
 - i. Inciting Incident
 - ii. Refusal of the Call
 - iii. Meet the Mentor
 - iv. Emotional Question Introduced
 - v. No Turning Back
 - b. Act 2
 - i. Test and Allies
 - ii. Mid Second Act Twist
 - iii. Road Back Home
 - iv. Enemy Closes In
 - v. All Hope is Lost
 - c. Act 3
 - i. New Plan
 - ii. Climax
 - iii. Resolution
11. Dramatic and thematic structure
 - a. Conflict: the essence of drama
 - b. Universal themes in writing

12. Research
 - a. Academic research
 - b. Social research
13. Adaptation
 - a. Considerations in creating scripts using works from other formats
 - b. Using external resources in writing
 - i. Literary adaptation
 - ii. "Headline drama"
14. Pre-scriptwriting
 - a. Creating a beat sheet
 - b. Treatment
 - c. Storyboard
15. Writing and Rewriting
 - a. Multi-draft writing
 - b. Using feedback
16. Scriptwriting as a business
 - a. How to get into the business
 - i. Agents
 - ii. Spec scripts

Laboratory or Activity Content

None.

Methods of Evaluation

Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):

Written expression

Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):

Essays

Individual projects

Journals

Oral analysis/critiques

Objective exams

Quizzes

Written creation (poem, screenplay, song)

Instructional Methodology

Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course

Audio-visual presentations

Class activities

Class discussions

Distance Education

Demonstrations

Field trips

Group discussions

Guest speakers

Instructor-guided interpretation and analysis

Instructor-guided use of technology

Lecture

Small group activities

Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:

1. Instructor led discussion and analysis of screenplays read in and outside of class.
2. In-class script reading and analysis.
3. Lectures detailing character development, dialogue writing, screenplay structure, beat work and various other elements of screenwriting.
4. In-class writing exercises focused on short-form writing strategies.
5. In-class screenwriting software demonstrations.

Representative Course Assignments

Writing Assignments

1. Short fictional writing to develop story ideas and characterization.
2. Development of treatments and beat sheets into an original script.
3. Analysis of existing scripts.
4. Scriptwriting.

Critical Thinking Assignments

1. Character and plot written analysis assignments for provided screenplays.
2. Written assignments dedicated to analyzing premise and theme provided scripts.

Reading Assignments

1. Textbook reading: typically a chapter every other week, such as "Cut to the Chase, writing with the pros."
2. Reading of scripts, such as "Django Unchained," to understand screenplay format.

Skills Demonstrations

1. Properly format an original script idea using appropriate screenwriting software.
2. Properly write and format a presentation treatment for an original screen story.

Other assignments (if applicable)

1. Library and online research for developing screenplay ideas.
2. Viewing and analyzing films and television programs and analyzing theme, character, plot, conflict and structure.
3. Create a beat-sheet for an original screenplay idea.

Outside Assignments

Representative Outside Assignments

1. Library and online research for developing screenplay ideas.
2. Viewing and analyzing films and television programs and analyzing theme, character, plot, conflict and structure.
3. Create a beat-sheet for an original screenplay idea.
4. Create screenplay coverage for an provided screenplay.
5. Identify intentions and obstacles in the protagonist and antagonist in a provided screenplay.

District General Education**A. Natural Sciences****B. Social and Behavioral Sciences****C. Humanities****D. Language and Rationality****E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology****F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies****CSU GE-Breadth****Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking****Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning****Area C: Arts and Humanities****Area D: Social Sciences****Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development****CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:****IGETC****Area 1: English Communication****Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning****Area 3: Arts and Humanities****Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences****Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences****Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)****Textbooks and Lab Manuals****Resource Type**

Textbook

DescriptionLinda Venis (2013). *Cut to the Chase: Writing Feature Films* (1st). Gotham. 1592408109**Resource Type**

Textbook

DescriptionChamberlain, J. (2016). *The Nutshell Technique: Crack the Secret of Successful Screenwriting* (First). Austin University of Texas Press. 1477303733**Resource Type**

Other Resource Type

Description

Various screenplays available for free at www.script-o-rama.com or via online resources provided by the instructor.

Distance Education Addendum**Definitions****Distance Education Modalities**

Hybrid (51%–99% online)

Hybrid (1%–50% online)

100% online

Faculty Certifications

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will receive training in how to satisfy the Federal and state regulations governing regular effective/substantive contact for distance education. The training will include common elements in the district-supported learning management system (LMS), online teaching methods, regular effective/substantive contact, and best practices.

Yes

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will meet with the EAC Alternate Media Specialist to ensure that the course content meets the required Federal and state accessibility standards for access by students with disabilities. Common areas for discussion include accessibility of PDF files, images, captioning of videos, Power Point presentations, math and scientific notation, and ensuring the use of style mark-up in Word documents.

Yes

Regular Effective/Substantive Contact**Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality:**

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Additional learning content including sample scripts, video clips and screenwriting tips presented via discussions and LMS assignments.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Additional recorded lectures and screenwriting software demonstrations via LMS.

Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Additional learning content including sample scripts, video clips and screenwriting tips presented via discussions and LMS assignments.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Additional recorded lectures and screenwriting software demonstrations via LMS.
Video Conferencing	Collaborative writing projects using online tools to share and co-write screenwriting projects and scripts.

100% online Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Additional learning content including sample scripts, video clips and screenwriting tips presented via discussions and LMS assignments.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Additional recorded lectures and screenwriting software demonstrations via LMS.
Video Conferencing	Collaborative writing projects using online tools to share and co-write screenwriting projects and scripts.
Synchronous Dialog (e.g., online chat)	Live script formatting samples, software demonstrations, and lectures covering all aspects of media writing.

Examinations

Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality

Online
On campus

Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality

Online

Primary Minimum Qualification

MEDIA PROD/BROADCASTING TECH

Additional Minimum Qualifications

Minimum Qualifications

English

Broadcasting Technology

Mass Communication

Review and Approval Dates

Department Chair

04/16/2020

Dean

04/16/2020

Technical Review

04/22/2020

Curriculum Committee

04/22/2020

Curriculum Committee

05/13/2020

CCCCO

MM/DD/YYYY

Control Number

CCC000556729

DOE/accreditation approval date

MM/DD/YYYY