GAVILAN COLLEGE

5055 Santa Teresa Blvd
Gilroy, CA 95023

Course Outline

COURSE: FTVE 20   DIVISION: 10   ALSO LISTED AS: THEA 20

TERM EFFECTIVE: Summer 2024   CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE: 05/14/2024

SHORT TITLE: INTRO TO SCRIPTWRITING

LONG TITLE: Introduction to Scriptwriting

Units	Number of Weeks	Type	Contact Hours/Week	Total Contact Hours
3	18	Lecture: 3	54
		Lab: 0	0
		Other: 0	0
		Total: 3	54

Out of Class Hrs:	108.00
Total Learning Hrs:	162.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is an introductory course on script development and writing for film, television, and electronic media. Emphasis on preparing scripts in proper formats. Conceptual and stylistic issues related to writing fiction and non-fiction scripts. Previously known as THEA 20.

PREREQUISITES:

COREQUISITES:

CREDIT STATUS: D - Credit - Degree Applicable

GRADING MODES
    L - Standard Letter Grade
    P - Pass/No Pass

REPEATABILITY: N - Course may not be repeated

SCHEDULE TYPES:

      02 - Lecture and/or discussion

      05 - Hybrid

      71 - Dist. Ed Internet Simultaneous

      72 - Dist. Ed Internet Delayed

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Recognize the structures for film, television, and electronic media productions, and apply them to their work.

2. Assemble scripts using correct formatting as required by industry standards.

3. Analyze completed scripts, and explain, use, and apply the process of pre-production in script development.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Be able to organize their stories into outlines and treatments, which are used for writing screenplays and pitching ideas.

2. Understand character development for the protagonist & antagonists and other characters.

3. Understand the concept of story and character arc.

4. Explain exposition and other story elements.

5. Understand screenwriting terms like Archetypes, Back Story, Blocking the Scene, Cliffhanger, Climax, Continuity, Establishing Shot, Foreshadowing, Hook,

Logline, Segue, Spec Script, Subplot, Subtext, Tag, and Treatment.

6. Know how to write in the proper screenplay format.

7. Produce effective character development.

8. Analyze others' screenplays for elements like structure, format, style, and genre.

COURSE CONTENT:

CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE: 05/14/2024

7 HOURS

Overview Pre-production and Script Development for television and electronic media.

Introduction to script writing formats for television broadcast and electronic media.

Brainstorming techniques.

Understanding Libel and slander.

Evaluate television scripts produced for broadcast.

Understanding the visual aspects of scriptwriting.

Critique and provide feedback to submitted scripts.

Write a response to all of the scripts submitted for this assignment.

Prepare written critiques.

3 HOURS

A Brief History of plays on Television: Teleplays, Live Showcases

Read and view The Shawshank Redemption by Frank Darabont.

Write a scene by scene analysis of the action

3 HOURS

What is a Screenplay? Elements of the script for the screen compared to television and electronic media scripts.

Compare and contrast screenplays

COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):

3 HOURS

Writing the screenplay: Elements of the Script

Introduction for Final Draft. Formatting a screenplay.

Writing exercise: make a list of the people you came into contact with today. Write 3 things that you know about them and then write 3 things you imagine might be true about them.

Begin writing down ideas for your screenplay.

Evaluate and recognize the screenplay format.

Review and describe the elements of a shooting script.

3 HOURS

How to begin writing your script. The

Subject- The Characters. Writing a compelling script.

Who, what, where, what is happening.

Brainstorming ideas.

Writing exercise: Finding a central character. A protagonist.

Surround your protagonist with other characters in his/her/its life.

Compose a compelling protagonist.

Apply and use imagination to create a character for a screenplay.

3 HOURS

Let the writing process begin. The Screenplay format

Techniques in formatting a screenplay.

What is a treatment?

Using index cards to outline action.

Write a treatment or outline of the plot or action of your screenplay.

Apply the techniques of screenplay formatting.

Describe and explain the struggle of a protagonist.

3 HOURS

Review the Foundations of Screenwriting

Writing a Treatment/

Review Syd Field's Screenplay

Submit a treatment for screenplay.

Identify the elements of a compelling protagonist.

Prepare a character analysis for the main character of a screenplay.

3 HOURS

Character development

View the movie: "JUNO" or other appropriate character driven movie.

Writing Exercise: Define what the protagonist wants? What is his/her/its dilemma? Describe the crises he/she/it faces? How were they

overcome it? What was a resolution?

Submit character analysis for feedback.

Respond to the characters submitted by your fellow writers.

Evaluate and analyze characters in a given screenplay.

COURSE CONTENT (CONTINUED):

6 HOURS

Act I-The Beginning: The set-up and plot points

The first 30 pages

Write the first 15-30 pages of screenplay.

Submit them for class feedback.

Read and provide feedback to scripts submitted as assigned.

Evaluate the opening sequences of a screenplay.

Employ proper formatting in developing the opening sequences of the screenplay.

6 HOURS

Act II-The Middle: The confrontation, dilemma, the struggle, complications, reversals. The Rising Action. Plot points.

Questions to ask.

Write the middle 15-30 pages of script.

Submit them for class feedback.

Read and provide feedback to scripts submitted as assigned.

SPO: Evaluate the middle sequences of a screenplay.

Review and provide feedback for scriptwriters.

Apply and use critiquing skills in discussing plot, characters, dialogue, and setting.

6 HOURS

The End- The Climax, The Denouement, The Resolution, The Falling Action.

Write the final 15-30 pages of your screenplay.

Submit them for class feedback.

Evaluate the final sequences of a screenplay.

Apply critiquing skills on plot, characters, dialogue and theme.

6 HOURS

Submitting a First Draft

Review and reflect on the feedback received from the class.

Incorporate the feedback into the first draft of your script.

Submit the first draft of your script.

Read and respond to script submitted as assigned.

Read and incorporate the feedback you received from you submission.

Apply critiquing skills on plot, characters, resolution, and theme.

Evaluate the underlying meaning of a story.

Rewrite, beginning the Second Draft

Submit the second draft of your screenplay.

Read and respond to script as assigned.

2 HOURS

Final written evaluation

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture and discussion, submission of a variety of scripts, student to student peer evaluation, viewing interviews, films, television, and electronic media programming. Students will interact with each other and the instructor to ask questions, explore concepts, and engage in shared learning.

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Required Outside Hours 50

Assignment Description

A completed original short screenplay or the first act of a feature-length screenplay.

Required Outside Hours 48

Assignment Description

Numerous short assignments to prepare to write a screenplay.

Required Outside Hours 10

Assignment Description

An original 10-page treatment

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Writing assignments

Evaluation Percent 85

Evaluation Description

Written Homework

Reading Reports

Term or Other Papers

Other: critiques, writing scripts, character analysis.

Objective examinations

Evaluation Percent 15

Evaluation Description

A final exam that covers all terms and concepts.

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

The Screenwriter's Bible: A Complete Guide to Writing, Formatting, and Selling Your Script, David Trottier, Silman-James Press, 2020 or a comparable textbook/material.
ISBN: 978-1935247210
Rationale: We've used many textbooks to teach class, and none are better than this textbook.
13 Grade Verified by: Grant Richards

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Associate Degree:

CSU GE:

IGETC:

CSU TRANSFER:

Not Transferable

Not Transferable

UC TRANSFER:

Not Transferable

Not Transferable

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Basic Skills: N

Classification: Y

Noncredit Category: Y

Cooperative Education: N

Program Status: 1 Program Applicable

Special Class Status: N

CAN:

CAN Sequence:

CSU Crosswalk Course Department:

CSU Crosswalk Course Number:

Prior to College Level:

Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N

Funding Agency Code: Y

In-Service: N

Occupational Course: C

Maximum Hours:

Minimum Hours:

Course Control Number:

Sports/Physical Education Course: N

Taxonomy of Program: 061220