

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Communications, Art and Social Sciences

Programme: BA Contemporary Literature and Creative Writing

FHEQ Level: 5

Course Title: Script Writing

Course Code: CRW 5200

Total Hours: 120

Timetabled Hours: 45

Guided Learning Hours: 0

Independent Learning Hours: 75

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits

3 US credits

Course Description:

Students are guided through the creative processes of writing scenes for the stage, TV, and film. The building of character and plot is examined as well as the industry standard formats for writing in these media. Group and team work is encouraged as well as discussions, critique, and analysis of the narrative techniques used in existing stage plays and films.

Prerequisites: ARW 4195 or GEP 4180

Aims and Objectives:

This course aims to introduce students to a variety of narrative scripts, providing them the theoretical knowledge base to critically analyse central issues such as how to format a script, identify the narrative structure of a script, and build character and plot. Students will put theory into practice as they try their hand at creating scenes for film, stage and television.

Programme Outcomes:

5Aiii, 5Biii, 5Cii, 5Ciii, 5Di, 5Dii, 5Diii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification.

This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of contemporary theories and practices in script writing
- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of how different audiences and cultures perceive, consume and understand scripted narratives
- Deliver work with limited supervision to a given brief, referencing their sources and ideas where relevant and using a problem solving approach
- Exercise a degree of independent and informed critical judgement in analysis
- Demonstrate their project management skills, including the ability to work within a group, to engage in self-reflection and to employ their imaginative abilities needed to effectively undertake the entire process required in script writing
- Demonstrate the ability to adapt to non-routine performance tasks using ICT for specific purposes as they produce original scripts and deliver a creative portfolio

Indicative Content:

- Narrative structure and techniques
- Plot development
- Character development
- Stage play scripts
- Screen play scripts
- Settings
- Creating effective and believable dialogue

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic

Board: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

Each session includes an interactive discussion on a particular approach or theory. The structure and narrative techniques of various film and theatre pieces are examined through readings and the viewing of video extracts. Classes are structured around a series of writing workshops, which lead to the creation of scenes for the stage and for the screen. Regularly these scenes are performed in class readings and then critiqued by the group. Group discussions aid in the development of the way a particular student's piece might develop. Guidance and appraisal techniques also include one to one sessions with the lecturer.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):

Field, Syd. *Screenplay: the Foundations of Screenwriting*. New York: Delta, 2005.
Gooch, Steve, *Writing a Play*. London: A&C Black, 2001
McKee, Robert. *Story*. London: Methuen 1999

Journals

Sight and Sound

Web Sites

<https://www.celtx.com/index.html> www.bafta.org

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Major	Change number from COM to CWR	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Change Programme Outcomes to new CLCW Prog.	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Revised Learning Outcomes	LTPC 28/11/2014	
	Annual update	May 2023	
	Total Hours Updated	April 2024	