

Screenwriting

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 04-10-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Communication and Media Studies Department

Coordinating teacher: MELERO SALVADOR, JOSE ALEJANDRO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 3 Semester : 1

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

- Film narratives.
- Introduction to Media Studies.
- Reading Moving Image.

OBJECTIVES

- To appreciate the difficulties of finding ideas and developing them.
- To understand the complexities of working with other fellow writers: sharing ideas, finding consensus.
- To become familiar with the basic problems of scriptwriting: from structure to character's arc.
- To know the traditions in the schools of scriptwriting.
- Ability to analyse professional scripts and personal creative work.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

- The film script: from the idea to the story; literary script; technical script; scenes, sequences and shots; characters; dialogues; the closing of the story.
- Writing for the screen and the "camera stories".
- Structure of the script: the staged drama (actions and events). Units, parts and concordance and final discordance.
- Creative and idea mechanisms for film stories.
- The Scriptwriter's toolbox.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

These assignments may vary depending on the course dynamics.

Assignment 1. The writer within the industry. A global approach.

Assignment 2. The process of creating a story. Synopsis, argument, outline, treatment.

Assignment 3-4. Analyzing internal and external conflicts. Examples in feature films: Raging Bulls vs Rocky
Analyzing short films. Finding the objective that leads us to the end. Fighting for what we care. What are we talking about

Objective, obstacles and premises. Dramatic tension. Analyzing feature films.

Plot point, subplot. The classic narrative versus the character driven. Syd Field and his paradigm. Italian neorealism. The nouvelle vague.

Drama and Psychology. From Ibsen to James Joyce. From literature to Cinema. The three fronts. Tools for creating characters.

The process of improving the script. Finding what is wrong. The art of fixing problems. From the scene to the structure. Conclusions.

Assignment 5. Pitching
Office hours are offered for the supervision of assignments and final project.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

In-class work and homework is worth 50% of the total grade. The final exam/work is worth 50%. A minimum of 5 is required in both parts (in-class and final exam/work) to pass the course

% end-of-term-examination:	50
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	50

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Howard, David and Mabley Edward The tools of screenwriting, Griffing Edit, 1995
- King, Henry Ramona, Cinemateca (DVD). Llamentol, 2018
- King, Stephen On Writing, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1999
- Ted Nannicelli A Philosophy of the Screenplay, Routledge, 2013
- William A. Wellman Roxie Hart, Cinemateca (DVD), 2018

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Huet, Anne El gui3n/The script, Paid3s, 2006
- Ken Dancyger, Jeff Rush Alternative Scriptwriting Beyond the Hollywood Formula, Routledge, 2013

BASIC ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

- Filmoteca Espa3ola . Archivo de Filmoteca Espa3ola: <http://https://vimeo.com/filmotecaespanola>