



South Central College

ENGL 230 Creative Writing: Screen Writing

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description	For students who are interested in the study of creative writing or film-making, this course content will focus primarily on the development of screen-writing skills through watching film clips, reading screenplays, evaluating story conveyance through the film medium, and practicing writing in the form. Emphasis will be placed on creating a story arc with a three-act sequence while incorporating elements of fiction such as character, setting, plot, theme, point of view, and elements of film such as scene set-up, camera angle, transitions, and primarily dialogue. Constructive critique and revision will be practiced. Assignments may take the form of reading, written critical evaluations of film and literature, occasional quizzes, student presentations, discussion, as well as student creation of screenplay. (MNTC Goal Area 6: The Humanities and Fine Arts). (Prerequisite: ENGL 100).
Total Credits	4
Total Hours	64

Types of Instruction

Instruction Type	Credits/Hours
Lecture	4/64

Pre/Corequisites

ENGL 100

Institutional Core Competencies

Critical and Creative Thinking - Students will be able to demonstrate purposeful thinking with the goal of using a creative process for developing and building upon ideas and/or the goal of using a critical process for the analyzing and evaluating of ideas.

Course Competencies

1. Determine the intrinsic value of films as reflection of culture.

Learning Objectives

Discuss how film is an effective medium of artistic expression for diverse cultures and social groups.
Identify film as a valuable medium for conveying stories that express cultural values.

2. Explore screen writing as a concrete (vs. abstract) conveyance of story.

Learning Objectives

Discuss the concrete basis of storytelling: creating story through only visual and auditory means.
Compare fictional work with film adaptation.

3. Analyze the importance of audience while writing for film.

Learning Objectives

Examine the importance of audience consideration in screen writing.
Explain how audience response affects interpretation of a film, influencing need for specificity in writing.
Demonstrate that film conveys meaning through visual and auditory means, requiring specificity in writing .
Compare written screenplay with produced screen version to observe how screenplay translates in production .

4. Practice the role of film critic in order to analyze produced works.

Learning Objectives

Develop an awareness of aesthetic criteria for evaluating films.
Use critical thinking and reflective thinking to evaluate and respond to produced works.

5. Utilize the elements of fiction in screenplay writing.

Learning Objectives

Analyze elements of fiction and how they work together to create meaning in a screenplay and produced film.
Construct story arc using elements of fiction.

6. Develop screen-writing style.

Learning Objectives

Identify elements of film that must be included in screenplay format.
Create a screenplay using correct format.
Convey story elements entirely through visual and auditory means.
Construct a plot for a film using story arc and three-act sequence.

7. Provide constructive criticism of other students' work.

Learning Objectives

Analyze other students' works submitted for screenplay workshop.
Write and verbalize constructive commentary on other students' works .

8. Practice skills of editing and revising.

Learning Objectives

Analyze commentary received from instructor and other students on original work.
Revise original work, applying constructive criticism received.

9. Practice the collaborative process of screenplay writing.

Learning Objectives

Respond to editing suggestions gained through workshops.
Work with other students to create a short screenplay in collaboration (mimicking real-life filmmaking).
Assist other students in improving their individual levels of screen-writing skills .

10. Assemble a body of work.

Learning Objectives

Practice various techniques for writing in screenplay format.
Write the opening scenes of an original screenplay.
Demonstrate evidence of careful revision in final drafts.
Assemble a final feature-length original screenplay OR assemble an outline of a feature-length screenplay with substantial completed content.

11. Discuss how the role of film has evolved in an age of technology and social media.

Learning Objectives

Discuss how film may be among the most powerful media for story conveyance in the 21st century.
Explore the dissemination of film beyond blockbuster studio productions.
Examine genres of film and platforms for production and dissemination .

12. Explore the role of business elements in professional screenplay writing.

Learning Objectives

Explore commercial and non-commercial markets for various genres of film.
Investigate avenues for marketing screenplays.

SCC Accessibility Statement

South Central College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you have a disability and need accommodations for access to this class, contact the Academic Support Center to request and discuss accommodations. North Mankato: Room B-132, (507) 389-7222; Faribault: Room A-116, (507) 332-7222.

Additional information and forms can be found at: www.southcentral.edu/disability

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