



WRITING 2204F: SHORT FLICKS: AN INTRO TO SCREENWRITING – FALL 2017

SECTION: 001

DAY/TIME: Tuesdays 1:30-4:30pm

PROFESSOR: Kathryn Mockler

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

DESCRIPTION

This introductory screenwriting course explores the elements of screenwriting in a workshop environment. Students will be guided through the process of writing a short film starting with idea generation and moving through the stages of pitching, outlining, drafting, giving and receiving feedback, and finally incorporating feedback into a revision. Assignments and weekly discussions focus on the fundamental elements of screenwriting including image, three-act structure, dialogue, character development, theme, scene construction, and point of view.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to communicate information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably, orally and in writing to a range of audiences; identify the fundamental elements of narrative screenwriting; analyze and respond critically to published scripts and to the work of their peers; generate story ideas and write a 5-minute script and a 10-minute script; and incorporate feedback into revisions.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/SOFTWARE

Writing the Short Film, 3rd Edition by Pat Cooper and Ken Dancyger (available at Western Bookstore)

Celtx Screenwriting Software (free)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Method of Evaluation	Grade Value	Deadline
5-Minute Script	30%	Week 4 (Draft due in Week 3)
Proposal and Pitch of 10-Minute Script Idea	30%	Weeks 8, 9 & 10
Final Draft of 10-Minute Script and Revision Notes	40%	Week 12
Total	100%	

to do this, you should not miss a class in order to write such a test, that is your choice; your absence will not be excused.

SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES, INCLUDING PLAGIARISM

The University Senate requires the following statements, and Web site references, to appear on course outlines:

Specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>.

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy as above).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial

Where in these circumstances the accommodation is being sought on non-medical grounds, students should consult in the first instance with their instructor, who may elect to make a decision on the request directly, or refer the student to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive medical documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for accommodation on medical grounds, or for other reasons (e.g. to explain an absence from class which may result in a

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