



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Approved

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Subject and Number: Film/Video 109
Descriptive Title: Introduction to Media Writing
Course Disciplines: Film Studies
Division: Fine Arts

Catalog Description:

This course introduces students to writing for film and electronic media. Emphasis will be placed on preparing scripts in proper formats, including fundamental technical, conceptual and stylistic issues related to writing fiction and non-fiction scripts for informational and entertainment purposes in film and electronic media.

Conditions of Enrollment:

Recommended Preparation: eligibility for English 1A

Course Length:	X Full Term	Other (Specify number of weeks):
Hours Lecture:	3.00 hours per week	TBA
Hours Laboratory:	0 hours per week	TBA
Course Units:	3.00	

Grading Method: Letter
Credit Status: Associate Degree Credit

Transfer CSU: X Effective Date: 10/19/2015
Transfer UC: X Effective Date: Proposed

General Education:
El Camino College:

CSU GE:

IGETC:

II. OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

A. COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (The course student learning outcomes are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each. Student learning outcomes are not subject to review, revision or approval by the College Curriculum Committee)

1. At the end of this course, students will be able to properly format scripts for a variety of electronic media including radio, television, film, music video, commercials, and documentaries.
2. At the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the principles of basic dramaturgy for fiction programs for voice, television, and film.
3. At the end of this course, students will be able to develop a short non-fiction program based on a current event or issue.

The above SLOs were the most recent available SLOs at the time of course review. For the most current SLO statements, visit the El Camino College SLO webpage at <http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/slo/>.

B. Course Student Learning Objectives (The major learning objective for students enrolled in this course are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each)

1. Demonstrate competence in the mechanics of clear and concise writing.
 - Term or other papers
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the technical and aesthetic issues related to writing for the film and electronic media.
 - Written homework
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental principles of narrative fiction screenwriting.
 - Term or other papers
4. Demonstrate proficiency in writing in a variety of script formats, including the radio script, two-column video script, film script and sitcom script formats.
 - Written homework
5. Demonstrate proficiency in creating a complete, short fictional narrative and writing it as a short film, TV, or transmedia script.
 - Term or other papers

III. OUTLINE OF SUBJECT MATTER (Topics are detailed enough to enable a qualified instructor to determine the major areas that should be covered as well as ensure consistency from instructor to instructor and semester to semester.)

Lecture or Lab	Approximate Hours	Topic Number	Major Topic
Lecture	9	I	Writing for various mediums A. Format and style B. Clarity, economy, grammar C. Basic narrative structure/conventions
Lecture	6	II	Medium specific issues A. Writing for radio (writing for the ear) B. Writing for film and television (writing for the eye) C. Writing for multimedia (writing for the ear, the eye, and interactivity)
Lecture	3	III	Script formats A. Radio B. Film/tvsitcom

			C. Two column/music video D. New media
Lecture	6	IV	Content for the various media A. Commercials and PSAs B. Corporate and documentaries/ C. Web sites and video games D. Fictional narratives: film/TV
Lecture	6	V	Fundamentals of dramatic storytelling A. 3-act structure B. Conflict and tension C. Resolutions D. Audience considerations
Lecture	6	VI	Fundamentals of character creation
Lecture	6	VII	Fundamentals of dialogue writing
Lecture	12	VIII	Process and methodology of script writing A. Pitches, loglines, story concepts B. Outlines C. Treatments D. Drafts and rewrites
Total Lecture Hours		54	
Total Laboratory Hours		0	
Total Hours		54	

IV. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION AND SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS

A. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Substantial writing assignments

B. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENT USING PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Develop and write a plot outline for an original story for the medium understudy.

C. COLLEGE-LEVEL CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Create a premise for a short narrative fiction screenplay then write 1) a pitch that can be presented orally in one minute or less, 2) a logline, 3) a story concept that includes the main story idea and clearly states the dramatic problem, and 4) an adage that articulates the main theme of the story (such as "The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence").
2. In proper format for a selected medium, write an 8-10 treatment for a fiction or nonfiction story based on your own original premise.

D. OTHER TYPICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION METHODS:

Essay exams
Objective Exams
Term or other papers
Presentation

V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Discussion
Group Activities
Guest Speakers
Internet Presentation/Resources
Lecture
Multimedia presentations
Role Play

Note: In compliance with Board Policies 1600 and 3410, Title 5 California Code of Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Sections 504 and 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, instruction delivery shall provide access, full inclusion, and effective communication for students with disabilities.

VI. WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASS

Study
Required reading
Written work
Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content

Estimated Independent Study Hours per Week: 6

VII. TEXTS AND MATERIALS

A. UP-TO-DATE REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS

Robert Musburger. An Introduction to Writing for Electronic Media. 1st ed. Focal Press, 2007.
Qualifier Text: Discipline standard and matches text suggested by C-ID.

B. ALTERNATIVE TEXTBOOKS

C. REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

D. OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS

VIII. CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT

A. Requisites (Course and Non-Course Prerequisites and Corequisites)

Requisites	Category and Justification
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B. Requisite Skills

Requisite Skills

C. Recommended Preparations (Course and Non-Course)

Recommended Preparation	Category and Justification
Non-Course Recommended Preparation eligibility for English 1A	It is advised that students be able to read and effectively analyze college level texts, and be able to write a paper that persuasively proves an original thesis.

D. Recommended Skills

Recommended Skills
Read, write, and comprehend English. ENGL 1A - Recognize and revise sentence-level grammar and usage errors. ENGL 1A - Apply appropriate strategies in the writing process including prewriting, composing, revising, and editing techniques. ENGL 1A - Compose multi-paragraph, thesis-driven essays with logical and appropriate supporting ideas, and with unity and coherence.

E. Enrollment Limitations

Enrollment Limitations and Category	Enrollment Limitations Impact
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Course created by Kevin O'Brien on 03/05/2015.

BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 10/19/2015

LAST BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 06/17/2019

Last Reviewed and/or Revised by: Kevin O'Brien
19905

Date: 04-09-2019