

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: INTRODUCTION TO SCREENWRITING
Status: Definitive
Code: **4011CRWRI** (110454)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2013

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School

Team	Leader
David Jackson	Y
Jeffrey Young	

Academic Level: FHEQ4 **Credit Value:** 12.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 24.00
Total Learning Hours: 120 **Private Study:** 96

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	8.000
Online	4.000
Seminar	12.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Portfolio	AS1	A treatment and two drafts of a script for a short film with no dialogue.	50.0	
Essay	AS2	Analysis of a short film or a sequence from a longer film in terms of techniques of visual storytelling.	50.0	

Aims

1. To introduce the student to the primacy of the image in the craft of screenwriting

through the reading, viewing and analysis of a wide range of texts.

2. To foster the student's ability to express, account for and interpret systems of images.

3. To introduce the student to the influence of the literary and art world on the development of screen language (e.g. impressionism, symbolism, iconography.)

4. To introduce the student to the need for 'showing' rather than 'telling' screen stories.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Recognise and demonstrate an understanding of aspects of screen language such as transition, montage, visual metaphor, flashback and image systems and relate these concepts to a wide range of texts, including their own writing.
- 2 Produce a written analysis of a text or texts with particular regard to issues of screen language.
- 3 Produce a piece of creative work utilising some of the concepts discussed on this course.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Portfolio	1	3
Essay	2	

Outline Syllabus

In a series of interactive lectures/seminars/screenings students will view a range of cinematic texts, looking at ways in which films communicate stories through a variety of non verbal methods. Students will be encouraged to analyse sequences and to use filmic storytelling techniques in their own work.

Learning Activities

Lectures, seminars, screenings

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Potter, C.
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Screen Language
Subtitle	
Edition	

Publisher	Methuen
ISBN	

Course Material	CD/DVD
Author	Marker, C. dir
Publishing Year	1962
Title	La Jette
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	CD/DVD
Author	Lynch, D. dir
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Mullholland Drive
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	CD/DVD
Author	Murnau, F.W. dir
Publishing Year	1927
Title	Sunrise
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	CD/DVD
Author	Bergman, I. dir
Publishing Year	1959
Title	Wild Strawberries
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	CD/DVD
Author	various
Publishing Year	
Title	Various Short Films
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Notes

This module is intended to introduce the student to screen language and differentiate screenplay writing and visual storytelling as a different and distinct craft from other forms to prose fiction.

It will introduce the student to the screenplay format and to various methods of non-verbal exposition employed by visual storytellers.