

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: THE WRITER AND THE INDUSTRY
Status: Definitive
Code: **7003SW** (110939)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

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

Team	Leader
David Jackson	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 30.00
Total Delivered Hours: 66.00
Total Learning Hours: 300
Private Study: 234

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	11.000
Seminar	21.000
Tutorial	1.000
Workshop	33.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	75-90-minute feature-length screenplay, written to more than one draft.	70.0	
Presentation	AS2	Pitching the script of the Major Writing Project.	10.0	
Essay	AS3	3,000 word self-reflective, analytical essay on the student's screenplay (1) above, focusing on its genre and its place within the contemporary film market.	20.0	

Aims

1. *To develop students' ability to write, develop and restructure material according to genre specifications and professional standards.*
2. *To equip students with the practical and professional skills necessary to write feature-length screenplay.*
3. *Developing a critical awareness of, and insight into, professional practice in screenwriting.*
4. *Developing a critical self-awareness in relation to the theoretical, creative and commercial context of writing and re-drafting a feature length screenplay.*

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Write, develop and restructure material according to genre specifications and the creative and legal/copyright strictures of contemporary screenwriting practice.
- 2 Write a feature-length screenplay that is properly formatted and shows a good grasp of story structure, theme, character function, scene direction and dialogue.
- 3 Critically analyse and reflect on the process of writing and redrafting a screenplay to genre specifications.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Essay - screenplay	1	2
Presentation - pitch	1	3
Essay - 3000 word	3	

Outline Syllabus

1. *Workshopping and developing a feature length screenplay.*
2. *Diagnostic feedback on the first draft of the feature-length screenplay.*
2. *The production process and the people within it: writers, agents, script editors and producers.*
3. *Legal and copyright issues.*
4. *Marketing oneself as a professional writer.*
5. *Planning of Major Writing Project.*
6. *Practice pitches of Major Writing Project*
7. *Pitches of Major Writing Project*

Learning Activities

1. Lectures.
2. Workshops.

3. Pitching sessions.
4. Visits from agents, screenwriters, producers and other industry professionals.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Parker, P
Publishing Year	1998
Title	The Art and Science of Screenwriting
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Intellect
ISBN	1841500003

Course Material	Book
Author	Davis, R.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Writing dialogue for scripts
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	A & C Black
ISBN	0713648023

Course Material	Book
Author	Field, S.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	The Screenwriter's Problem Solver
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Dell
ISBN	0440504910

Course Material	Book
Author	Grove, E.
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Write and Sell the Hot Script
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Gotham Writers' Workshop
Publishing Year	2008

Title	Writing Movies
Subtitle	The Practical Guide from New York's Acclaimed Creative Writing School
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Duncan, S.
Publishing Year	2008
Title	Genre Screenwriting
Subtitle	How to Write Popular Screenplays That Sell
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Notes

This module equips students with the systematic skills necessary to write, adapt, and restructure material to genre specifications and industry standards. Students will write a critical essay to reinforce their knowledge of practice and product in this area.