



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2066 Writing for the Screen - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2066

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of the Arts and Media

Delivery Mode : Multimodal

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course provides a unique opportunity to learn the fundamentals of writing for the screen.

Classes are structured to ensure a supportive environment to hone your unique creative voice, build your skills in visual storytelling, and write a short film screenplay to completion. You will be

encouraged to pursue your curiosity with story ideas, experiment with form and content, and consider your position as a writer in the exciting global field of screenwriting. Lectures and seminars are supported by film screenings, readings, in-class discussions, practical writing exercises, workshops, the analysis of the work of your peers, and peer feedback. Our classes explore key aspects of writing for the screen, such as character and narrative design, a consideration of visual style, crafting dialogue and descriptions, shaping a logline and synopsis, etc. The training provided in this course and the knowledge and skills developed in this course, including the opportunity to give and receive peer feedback and learn key screen industry conventions, will help you develop the confidence to tell stories for the screen in a fresh and engaging way.

Course Learning Outcomes

| Course Learning Outcomes |
|--|
| CLO1 : Identify and implement the fundamental elements and techniques of screenwriting. |
| CLO2 : Engage critically and reflectively with critical and conceptual scholarship on screenwriting. |
| CLO3 : Compose, draft and revise a piece of screen writing. |
| CLO4 : Link creative production with theoretical and critical knowledge. |
| CLO5 : Collaborate in a collegial process of peer review |

| Course Learning Outcomes | Assessment Item |
|--|--|
| CLO1 : Identify and implement the fundamental elements and techniques of screenwriting. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue with Turning Point Exercise • Logline, synopsis and screenplay |
| CLO2 : Engage critically and reflectively with critical and conceptual scholarship on screenwriting. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Portfolio • Dialogue with Turning Point Exercise • Logline, synopsis and screenplay |
| CLO3 : Compose, draft and revise a piece of screen writing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dialogue with Turning Point Exercise • Logline, synopsis and screenplay |
| CLO4 : Link creative production with theoretical and critical knowledge. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Portfolio • Dialogue with Turning Point Exercise • Logline, synopsis and screenplay |
| CLO5 : Collaborate in a collegial process of peer review | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Portfolio |

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

| Assessment Item | Weight | Relevant Dates |
|---|--------|--|
| Learning Portfolio Assessment Format: Individual | 25% | Start Date: Part 1A is due on the 1st of March, 11:59 pm. Part 1B and Part 2 are due on the 19th of April, 11:59 pm Due Date: 01/03/2024 11:59 PM |
| Dialogue with Turning Point Exercise Assessment Format: Individual | 25% | Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 15/03/2024 11:59 PM |
| Logline, synopsis and screenplay Assessment Format: Individual | 50% | Due Date: 19/04/2024 11:59 PM |

Assessment Details

Learning Portfolio

Assessment Overview

This assessment includes two parts: 1. Self-reflection: Students are required to submit two brief works of self-reflection based on their classroom contributions, drawing on ideas discussed in class and other course content. 150 words each. Due in Week 3 and Week 10. 2. Workshop preparation and peer feedback: Students are required to submit their work for workshopping in class, be present in class for their workshop and provide brief, constructive written appraisals on Moodle (50-200 words each) on all manuscripts submitted for workshopping by their peers. Feedback must draw on class discussions.

Feedback via LMS

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Engage critically and reflectively with critical and conceptual scholarship on screenwriting.
- CLO4 : Link creative production with theoretical and critical knowledge.
- CLO5 : Collaborate in a collegial process of peer review

Detailed Assessment Description

This assessment has different components, as follows:

Part 1A: Self-reflection: This is based on your classroom contributions, drawing on class discussions and other course content. Word Limit: 150 words (10% leeway) Due date: The end of Week 3, Friday the 1st of March, 11:59 pm. Submission via Moodle.

Part 1B: Self-reflection: This is based on your classroom contributions, drawing on class discussions and other course content. Word Limit: 150 words (10% leeway) Due date: The end of Week 10, Friday the 19th of April, 11:59 pm. Submission via Moodle.

Part 2: Workshop preparation and peer feedback: Students are required to submit their work for workshopping in class, be present in class for their workshop and provide brief, constructive written appraisals on Moodle (50-200 words each) on all manuscripts submitted for workshopping by their peers. Feedback must draw on class discussions. Workshopping due dates will be discussed in each tutorial. Written appraisals are to be submitted via Moodle and are due at the end of Week 10, on Friday the 19th of April, 11:59 pm.

Submission notes

Part 1A is due at the end of Week 3, on Friday the 1st of March at 11:59 pm. Part 1B and Part 2 are due at the end of Week 10, on Friday the 19th of April, 11:59 pm.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Dialogue with Turning Point Exercise

Assessment Overview

Students are required to submit four pages of dialogue with a turning point, using the correct, industry standard, screenplay format.

Feedback via LMS

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and implement the fundamental elements and techniques of screenwriting.
- CLO2 : Engage critically and reflectively with critical and conceptual scholarship on screenwriting.
- CLO3 : Compose, draft and revise a piece of screen writing.
- CLO4 : Link creative production with theoretical and critical knowledge.

Assessment Length

4 pages

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Logline, synopsis and screenplay

Assessment Overview

Students are required to submit a 25-word logline, a 500-word synopsis, and a 10-12 page completed short film screenplay, based on drafts workshopped in class, using the correct, industry standard, screenplay format.

Feedback via LMS

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and implement the fundamental elements and techniques of screenwriting.
- CLO2 : Engage critically and reflectively with critical and conceptual scholarship on screenwriting.
- CLO3 : Compose, draft and revise a piece of screen writing.
- CLO4 : Link creative production with theoretical and critical knowledge.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

| Teaching Week/Module | Activity Type | Content |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February | Topic | Introduction to Writing for the Screen |
| Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February | Topic | Dialogue |
| Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March | Topic | Description / Action Lines |
| Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March | Topic | Character Design |
| Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March | Topic | Finding Your Story + Structuring Your Story |
| Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March | Topic | Mid-term break. No lectures or tutorials this week. |
| Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March | Topic | TBA |
| Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April | Topic | Writing A Logline & A Synopsis |
| Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April | Topic | The Three-Act Story Structure |
| Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April | Topic | Writing For TV |

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

All resources available on Moodle

Recommended Resources

All resources available on Moodle

Staff Details

| Position | Name | Email | Location | Phone | Availability | Equitable Learning Services Contact | Primary Contact |
|----------|------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Convenor | Roanna Gonsalves | | Robert Webster Building 231G | | By appointment via email | Yes | Yes |

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your

needs

- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here.](#)

School Contact Information

School of the Arts and Media

Location: Room 312, Level 3 Robert Webster Building

Opening Hours: Monday -Friday, 9am - 5 pm

Email: sam@unsw.edu.au

Phone: +612 9385 4856

web: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-schools/arts-media>