

Introduction to Screenwriting

Week 1

Ideas, Story & Structure

Coming up with an idea for a short film.

The differences between short film ideas and feature length film ideas.

Week 2

Outlines & Treatments

What outlines and treatments are and what they are used for.

Plotting the story.

Week 3

Character

Creating believable characters that will hold the audiences' attention.

Week 4

Format & Scene sequences

Moving the story forward through the action of the film.

Getting a practical understanding of pace.

Week 5

Dialogue

Writing concise, believable and effective dialogue.

Week 6

Writing visually

Creating cinematic scenes and moments.

Week 7

Genre

Understanding genre conventions and making them work for you.

Week 8

Conflict & Antagonism

Maximising the dramatic impact of the script.

Week 9

Re-drafting & Editing

Learning to tighten up the script with each draft, cutting out sections that don't work and adding scenes where needed.

Week 10

Workshop & Advice

The session will focus on where next to go with your own 10 minute short film script, whether it's completing the first draft, finalising the piece or getting it made.

N.B.

1. In order to get the most out of this course, participants will need to attend every session, and be prepared to complete some work in between classes.
2. Apart from Week 10, there won't be time within class to work on the 10 minute short film script – it is intended that participants will use what they learn in class to work on that in their own time.
3. There will be opportunities to get personal feedback on your work throughout the course.