

**RTV 3101:
Advanced Writing for Electronic Media**

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Semester: Spring 2017

Description of Course

This course is designed to provide you with a thorough understanding of the elements of scriptwriting and storytelling. You will learn proper formatting techniques for a variety of mediums, including television commercials, serials, and screenplays. We will study the classic components of storytelling and learn how to create dramatic tension within the pages of our scripts. Finally, you will develop strong editing skills and will become better equipped to evaluate your own work and that of others. This course will be comprised of lectures, exercises, analyses, discussions, and screenings.

Grading

10% Attendance
10% Commercial Script
10% Hero's Journey Analysis
10% Dialogue Exercise
10% Television Scene
25% Exam
25% Final Project

Timeliness is crucial within the screenwriting community. Therefore, a deduction of one letter grade will be made for each day an assignment is late.

Three freebies are allowed for attendance. These can be used for any reason. However, any unexcused absences after your freebies are spent will result in a half percent deduction from your Attendance grade. Students will never be penalized for absences resulting from serious illness, family emergencies, etc.

Required Text

The Screenwriter's Bible (6th edition, expanded & updated) by David Trottier

University Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

On-Line Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Prerequisites

A grade of C or better in RTV 2100 and RTV 3000, as well as junior standing in Telecommunication.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week 1

Wednesday, January 4th - Intro to Course

Week 2

Monday, January 9th - Intro to Formatting, Elements of Scriptwriting

Wednesday, January 11th - Intro to Storytelling

Week 3

Mon, January 16th - Holiday - NO CLASS

Wed, January 18th - The Hero's Journey, *A New Hope*

Week 4

Mon, January 23rd - A/V Commercial Scripts

Wed, January 25th - Crafting a Strong Opening Act - **ANALYSIS DUE**

Week 5

Mon, January 30th - A/V Commercial Scripts, cont.

Wed, February 1st - Crafting a Dramatic Second Act

Week 6

Mon, February 6th - Intro to Writing for Television/Serials - **COMMERCIALS DUE**

Wed, February 8th - Crafting a Satisfying Final Act

Week 7

Mon, February 13th - Writing for Television/Serials, cont.

Wed, February 15th - Creating Interesting Characters

Week 8

Mon, February 20th - Writing for Television/Serials, cont.

Wed, February 22nd - Constructing Effective Dialogue

Week 9

Mon, February 27th - Intro to Screenwriting

Wed, March 1st - TBD Tarantino Film - **TELEVISION SCENE DUE**

Week 10

Mon, March 6th - Spring Break - NO CLASS

Wed, March 8th - Spring Break - NO CLASS

Week 11

Mon, March 13th - Screenwriting, cont.

Wed, March 15th - Dialogue, cont.

Week 12

Mon, March 20th - Screenwriting, cont. - **DIALOGUE EXERCISE DUE**

Wed, March 22nd - Building Dramatic Tension

Week 13

Mon, March 27th - Intro to Editing Techniques, Perfecting the Script

Wed, March 29th - Building Drama, cont.

Week 14

Mon, April 3rd - Perfecting the Script, cont.

Wed, April 5th - Exam Review Day

Week 15

Mon, April 10th - **FINAL EXAM**

Wed, April 12th - TBD Film Presentation

Week 16

Mon, April 17th - Final Project Discussions

Wed, April 19th - **FINAL PROJECTS DUE**
