# RTV3516 EFP II - Screenwriting and Producing

## Instructor Information
Professor Iman Zawahry  
Contact Info: iman@jou.ufl.edu | 352-392-0444 | Office: 3048 Weimer Hall  
Office Hours: Monday 11:30pm-12:30pm or by appointment.  
TA: Genevieve Curtis | jmurphy2@ufl.edu | 347-712-0583  
Office Hours: By appointment | Office: 3065 Weimer Hall

## Class Meeting
Class Tuesday Periods 6 - 8 (12:50 PM - 3:50 PM) WEIM 3215

## Course Objective
RTV3516 EFP 2 - Screenwriting and Producing will teach students the fundamentals of screenwriting from formatting to story arcs while completing a short film screenplay by the end of the semester. Students will also learn the fundamentals of producing with their written scripts.

## Student Learning Outcomes
By the end of the semester, the student should be able to:
1) Properly format their screenplay  
2) Understand character and story arcs.  
3) Write a complete short screenplay to be used in RTV4929c.  
4) Understand how to properly budget and schedule through industry standard Movie Magic Software  
5) Successfully pitch story and film to industry professionals

## Prerequisites
Grade C or better RTV3320

## Textbook
**Required Textbooks:**  
“Save the Cat!” by Blake Snyder  
“Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting” by Syd Field

**Recommended:**  
“Crafting Short Screenplays that Connect” by Claudia Hunter Johnson  
“Making a Good Script Great” by Linda Seger  
“Story” by Robert McKee

## Computer & Software
It is strongly suggested that students own Final Draft for proper screenwriting. However, students will have access to the Mac editing lab. It is recommended that students have a Thunderbolt/USB3.0 combo external drive for media storage.

## Attendance, Tardiness, and Late Assignment Policies
Students are allowed one class absence per semester. Each additional absence will result in a two-point deduction from a student’s final grade for each occurrence. Students are allowed to be tardy once during the semester in each class. Each additional tardy will result in a one-point reduction from a student’s final grade. Any unexcused late assignment will be lowered 20% of the total possible points. Any assignment turned in over a week late will be lowered 50% of the possible points.
ASSIGNMENTS, & GRADING

CLASS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and punctuality</td>
<td>10 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inference</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Film Critique 1- Story</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<td>Screenplay Critique</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Film Critique 2 - Beat</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Character Assignment</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Screenplay Idea</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<td>Short Film Critique 3 Character</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<td>First Draft</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<td>Short Film Critique 4 Story Breakdown</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<td>Final Screenplay</td>
<td>10 PTS</td>
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<td>Tone Clip</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schedule</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<td>Budget</td>
<td>5 PTS</td>
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<td>Industry Pitch</td>
<td>10 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner Critiques</td>
<td>10 PTS</td>
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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

STUDENT EVALUATION OF COURSE AND INSTRUCTOR
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.

UF HONOR CODE
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

The Honor Code (https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel.

HELP WITH COPING
The UF Counseling and Wellness Center is a terrific, free resource for any student who could use help managing stress or coping with life. The center, at 3190 Radio Road on campus, is open for appointments and emergency walk-ins from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. To make an appointment or receive after-hours assistance, call 352-392-1575.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

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GRADING SCALE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94% or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90%-93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>88%-89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84%-87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80%-83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>78%-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74%-77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70%-73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>65%-69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>64% or below</td>
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Fall 2019
RTV3516
EFP II - Screenwriting and Producing
Week 1 - August 20, 2019

Introduction and Ice Breakers
Read “Zombieland” in class
Watch corresponding scenes
Screening Short Films

Assignment:
Read Snyder Chapter 1 “What is it?” and Chapter 4 “Let's Beat it Out”
Read Field Chapter 1 “What is Screenplay”
Read Short Screenplay 1 - Watch Corresponding Short Film. Write Paragraph Story Analysis.
Writing Assignment: “Inference”
Write a one-page non-dialogue scene. Pick a dynamic location and write using only sights and sounds.
Build the tension and write both a Comedy and a Horror scene. At the end of the scene the character should make his/her entrance. Write a strong logline for each scene.

Week 2 - August 27, 2019
Story Development, Structure and Format
Read and Discuss Inference scripts.
How to Format a Screenplay – Final Draft
What are the fundamentals to creating a dramatic story?
Synder’s Beat Sheet – “Let’s Beat it Out”
Screening Short Film

Assignment:
Read Field Chapter 3-4 “Creating of Character” &“Building of Character”
Film Analysis - Choose from an Oscar winning screenplay in the past ten years. Break down the beats according to Snyder’s Beat Sheet. Write out each beat and explain in paragraph format. Final should be around 2-3 pages.
Read Short Screenplay 2 - Watch Film Short 2. What are the beats of a short film?

Week 3 - September 3, 2019
Character and Tone
Discuss beat break downs.
Read scripts with character driven stories.
Watch corresponding scenes.
In Class Writing - Character
Discuss how to pitch a screenplay idea.

Assignment:
Read: Synder Chapter 5 “Building the Perfect Beast”
Create bio’s and backstory for your main character.
Write a one-two page scene with your character that establishes three behaviors that reveals their “inner character”
Begin brainstorming three ideas with partner for your final screenplay
Week 4 - September 10, 2019
Dialogue
Discuss how to write effective dialogue (exposition, subtext, losing empty dialogue)
Watch films with effective dialogue
In Class Writing Assignment: Dialogue scene

Assignment:
Read Chapter 5 Field’s “Story and Character”
Read Short Screenplay 3 - Watch Film 3. Write character analysis.
Send Class One Screenplay Idea to class by
Will ask main questions to understand if this concept had strong dramatic potential
(Talking points outlined on Canvas)

Week 5 - September 17, 2019
Discuss Screenplay Ideas.

Assignment:
First Draft Due Next Week
Read Short Screenplay 4 - Watch Screenplay 4. Story analysis and structure breakdown.

Week 6 - September 24, 2019
Writer’s Workshop Draft 1

Assignment:
Choose a scene for actors to perform in class.
Work on Draft 2 to send to new partner
Partner to write notes for each other’s draft

Week 7 - October 1, 2019
Actor’s working with scripts.
Rising Action/Stakes in film.
Twists in Plots.

Assignment:
Work on Draft 3 to send to new partner
Partner to write notes for each other’s draft

Week 8 - October 8, 2019
The ReWrite
How to create a strong beginning
How to create a strong ending.

Assignment:
Work on Final Draft For Class

Week 9 - October 15, 2019
Writer’s Workshop Final Draft
Week 10 - October 22, 2019
Producing: Bring the Story to Life
Development and Funding
How to Pitch
Pitching to executives.
Final project pitch with pitch deck and look book

Assignment:
Begin working on Tone Clip Images

Week 11 - October 29, 2019
What is the role of a Producer?
Understanding the role of the Producer
Introduction to Movie Magic Scheduling/Budgeting

Assignment:
Breaking down script

Week 12 - November 5, 2019
Breaking down the script – Movie Magic EP Scheduling
Scheduling
Lining a script Breakdown pages
Cast and elements management
Cost and creative factors

Assignment:
Create schedule for your script – One Liner

Week 13 - November 12, 2019
Budgeting a project - Movie Magic EP Budgeting
Elements of a budget Film financing

Assignment:
Finalize Budget for your script

Week 14 - November 19, 2019
Skype Session with Producer in Industry

Assignment:
Work on Industry Pitches

Week 15 - November 27, 2019
NO CLASS - Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 16 - December 3, 2019
Industry style pitches.