

Certificate in Screenwriting, Year 1

The Certificate in Screenwriting offers a basic introduction to the theory and practice of screenwriting. The core objective of the programme is two-fold: to verse students in the craft of screenwriting, and help them explore and express their own ideas in an encouraging, supportive and fun environment.

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Understand and analyse how screen narrative 'works'
- Express and analyse their own and other's ideas
- Write a short film script
- Develop an idea for a feature film
- Develop an idea for a web series

FM100 Introduction to Screenwriting: Writing a Short Film

This module will introduce students to the concept of cinematic narrative: the communication of story in a visual medium. Classes will explore cinematic narrative as a visual medium and the basic principles of screenwriting as creative practice. Student understanding of the form, and the craft involved in its practice, will be developed and expressed in a practical way through workshop exercises and weekly assignments. By module end students will have gained an appreciation of the concept, craft, and collaborative, creative reality of producing a short film script. They will also have begun to develop a sense of their own creative 'voice' and the confidence to express it.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment and Final Project (Short Film Script)

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Reading List

To be provided

FM101 *Screenwriting Theory & Practice: Developing a Feature Film Idea*

Building on the basic principles of cinematic writing explored in the first module, Screenwriting Theory and Practice will examine the various approaches to and theories of narrative structure and the craft and practice of screenwriting. Students will assimilate this knowledge into their own creative practice and each class will comprise a workshop element in which students will read, discuss and perform their own work in a supportive, encouraging environment.

Students will learn how to conceive, structure, and present a screenplay idea in industry-standard synopsis and treatment form. They will also develop a basic understanding of story analysis and script editing.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment and Final Project (Feature Film Synopsis and Treatment)

Weighting: 5 ECTs

Reading List

To be provided

FM102 *New Screen Stories: Writing for TV and Digital Narrative*

This module will expand on existing knowledge of the fundamentals of screen narrative and apply it to the various existing and emerging outlets for screenwriting craft. This will include classes on animation, sitcom, different forms of TV drama, and the emerging opportunity of internet and gaming narrative. Students will be exposed to the range of outlets and possibility for screenwriting and encouraged to recognise their own areas of interest and ability.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment and Final Project (TV Drama or Web Drama Proposal and Outline)

Weighting: 5 ECTs

Reading List

To be provided