

SCR503 : Writing Episodic Drama (CFS)

Status	Approved
Module Name	Writing Episodic Drama (CFS)
Module Code	SCR503
Credit Value	60
Level	5
Pre-requisites	
Named Module Leader	Marshall, Kingsley

Module Aim

The module aims to provide an introduction to the television formats associated with episodic fiction such as series, serials, soaps, sitcoms and webisodes broadcast online.

Summary Module Description

This module will examine the characteristics of episodic fiction on television and online platforms.

The principles and conventions that inform TV and internet platforms are examined in this module for you to fully understand the specific format characteristics. You will undertake studies that reveal the anatomy of episodic writing, including format development, outlining episodic arcs, programme ideas and episodic writing conventions.

Module-Specific Employability Skills

The module will offer you an opportunity to practice the following specific skills that can be used in professional settings in film, television and creative industries.

Industry & Business Knowledge: You will develop an ability to recognise and apply relevant terminologies, formats, technologies and processes to your creative practice or evaluation of others' work.

Critical Thinking & Analysis: You will develop an ability to look below the surface of film and television, make connections and reflect on different social and creative perspectives. Through this

process, you will build a more profound understanding not only of film and television but also of values and attitudes in contemporary global societies that influence what you see on the screen.

Expanded Worldview: You will appreciate a range of diverse creative practices and modes of expression. You will also develop social and political sensitivity, especially regarding representation.

Ethical and Legal Responsibilities: You will progress your understanding of how to work professionally within industry-standard ethical and legal frameworks.

Problem Solving and Innovation: You will grow your capability to logically and critically evaluate current screenwriting practices and develop an innovative creative style by applying conceptual models to practical challenges.

Imagination and Creativity: You will gain confidence to determine your potential contribution to the creative industries, finding the courage to use creative solutions and produce unique and original work.

Collaboration and Team Working: You will develop a positive attitude when working with others in a respectful, organised and collaborative manner.

Organisation: You will advance your project and time management skills.

Entrepreneurial skills: You will learn to identify and take advantage of professional and personal opportunities. You will develop your business awareness and understand what effort is required should you choose to work as a freelancer.

Communication skills: You will practice an ability to articulate your ideas in writing and speech in a coherent and clear manner that can be understood by non-specialist audiences.

Personal Development: You will be advised on how to define your priorities, manage your time effectively, develop an understanding of personal strengths and weaknesses and find ways of responding to constructive criticism and feedback. Your ability to forge productive relationships with others and to understand the essential elements of how creativity is fostered in team environments will go on to support you and your ambitions in your academic career and beyond.

Learning Outcomes

LO	Learning	Learning Outcome Description	Assessment
----	----------	------------------------------	------------

#	Outcome Name		Criteria Category
BASCWASFU01 BA(Hons) Screenwriting (2 year) - CFS v1.1			
1	Technical	Demonstrate ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project	PROCESS
2	Collaboration	Demonstrate constructive relationships and work effectively in the conception and delivery of a team project	COLLABORATION
3	Communication	Demonstrate professional communication and presentation skills	COMMUNICATION
4	Professionalism	Demonstrate self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression	ORGANISATION
5	Research	Demonstrate the use of research, resources and methodologies that inform a project	None
6	Analysis	Demonstrate the ability to analyse specialist information and practices	None
7	Innovation	Demonstrate problem solving techniques, independent enquiry, practice and experimentation in the realisation of a project	INNOVATION
8	Industry	Demonstrate industry vocabulary and knowledge to support your engagement with the commercial marketplace	None
BASCWISFU01 BA(Hons) Screenwriting with Integrated Foundation Year (3 years) - CFS v1.1			
1	Technical	Demonstrate ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project	PROCESS
2	Collaboration	Demonstrate constructive relationships and work effectively in the conception and delivery of a team project	COLLABORATION
3	Communication	Demonstrate professional communication and presentation skills	COMMUNICATION
4	Professionalism	Demonstrate self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression	ORGANISATION

5	Research	Demonstrate the use of research, resources and methodologies that inform a project	None
6	Analysis	Demonstrate the ability to analyse specialist information and practices	None
7	Innovation	Demonstrate problem solving techniques, independent enquiry, practice and experimentation in the realisation of a project	INNOVATION
8	Industry	Demonstrate industry vocabulary and knowledge to support your engagement with the commercial marketplace	None

Assessment Methods

Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	%	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Compulsory or Compensatable
PO	Series development documents & script	70	CLO: 1 , 3 , 4 , 7 , 1 , 3 , 4 , 7	Compulsory
PW	Presentation	30	CLO: 2 , 3 , 4 , 2 , 3 , 4	Compulsory

The following codes for assessment methods apply

PO	Portfolio
PW	Presentation of Work

Modes of delivery

Module Target Learner Hours: 600	
Activity	Hours
Lecture	48
Seminar	36
Tutorial	18
Project supervision	18
Practical classes and workshops	18
Supervised time in studio/workshop	12
Guided independent study	450

Indicative list of resources

Reading List

GIBBS, N. 2012. ***Writing The TV Drama Series: Get Your Scripts Commissions***. US: McGraw-Hill Professional Publishing

SMITH, E. Revised Expanded Ed. 2010. ***Writing Television Sitcoms***. US: Penguin Group Inc.

DOUGLAS, P. 3rd Revised Ed. 2011. ***Writing The TV Drama Series: How To Succeed as a Professional Writer in TV***. Michael Wiese Productions

RABKIN, W. 2011. ***Writing the Pilot TV***. Moon & Sun & Whiskey, Incorporated

GRACE, Y. 2014. ***Writing for Television TV***. Creative Essentials

Refer to the Module Guide for a range of up-to-date resources e.g. films, series, scripts, journal articles, websites and podcasts.

Named Awards

Course
BASCWASFU01 BA(Hons) Screenwriting (2 year) - CFS
BASCWISFU01 BA(Hons) Screenwriting with Integrated Foundation Year (3 years) - CFS