

**DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: CIN 1022 Masterclass in Professional Screenwriting**  
US CR: 1.5/0/1.5

Spring 2023

**PREREQUISITES:** Prospective students may register following academic advising by the Program Coordinator / Department Head

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** A hands-on course that introduces students to storytelling practices and techniques. Students explore the importance of character development in screenwriting, both in terms of a story’s plot as well as the interrelationships of the story’s “family of characters.”

**RATIONALE:** Character creation and development are essential components of storytelling generally and screenwriting specifically. They comprise the fundamentals that any aspiring screenwriter must master first. The course introduces main concepts and techniques to students from a practitioner’s perspective, whilst allowing them to gain the necessary practical experience that the workshop provides.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** *As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:*  
 Demonstrate understanding of popular narrative archetypes  
 1. Demonstrate understanding of the story-crafting process and character development  
 2. Analyze stories from concept to scene

**METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:** In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:

- Lectures and class discussions.
- Homework assignments.
- Office hours held by the instructor to provide further assistance to students.
- Use of library facilities for further study and preparation for the exams
- Use of the Blackboard course management platform to further support communication, by posting lecture notes, assignment instruction, timely announcements, formative quizzes and online submission of assignments.

**ASSESSMENT:**

<b>Summative:</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> assessment: Writing Assignments	40%
2 <sup>nd</sup> assessment: Story Treatment	40%
3 <sup>rd</sup> assessment: Pitching of story	20%
<b>Formative:</b>	
Peer work	0

The formative assignment aims to prepare students for the summative assessments.

	<p>The first summative assessment tests Learning Outcomes 1, 2, and 3</p> <p>The second summative assessment tests Learning Outcomes 1 and 2</p> <p>The third summative assessment tests Learning Outcome 2</p> <p><i>The final grade for this course will be determined by averaging all summative assessment grades, based on the predetermined weights for each assessment. Students are not eligible to resit failed assessments in this course.</i></p>
<b>INDICATIVE READING:</b>	<p><b>REQUIRED READING:</b> The required reading list will be determined by the instructor</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED READING:</b> Myers, Scott (2022). <i>The Protagonist's Journey: An Introduction to Character-Driven Screenwriting and Storytelling</i>. Palgrave Macmillan. Batty, Craig (2014), <i>Screenwriters and Screenwriting: Putting Practice into Context</i>. Palgrave Macmillan. Hay, Lucy V. (2017), <i>Writing Diverse Characters for Fiction, TV or Film</i>. Creative Essentials. Horton, Andrew (2004), <i>Screenwriting for a Global Market</i>, University of California Press. Mukherjee, Robin (2014), <i>The Art of Screenplays: A Writer's Guide</i>. Creative Essentials.</p> <p>Other sources, including journal and newspapers' articles, research papers etc. recommended by the instructor during the academic term.</p>
<b>INDICATIVE MATERIAL:</b> <i>(e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</i>	<p><b>REQUIRED MATERIAL:</b> The instructor will recommend sources that are appropriate based on specific topics.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:</b> The instructor will recommend sources that are appropriate based on specific topics.</p>
<b>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</b>	Academic use of English, both oral and written
<b>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</b>	MS Office and Blackboard CMS Pre-Production software
<b>WWW RESOURCES:</b>	<a href="http://www.gointothestory.com">www.gointothestory.com</a>
<b>INDICATIVE CONTENT:</b>	To be determined by the instructor's approach/specialization

