

PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

**INTRODUCTION TO SCREENWRITING
ENGL 2670**

Class Hours: 3.0

Credit Hours: 3.0

Laboratory Hours: 0.0

Revised: Spring 2011

Catalog Course Description:

Writing of screenplays in combination with study of models and techniques.

Entry Level Standards:

Students should have knowledge of expository writing skills, the sort often derived from, but not exclusive to, freshman composition.

Prerequisites:

ENGL 1020 or consent of instructor

Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:

Akers, William M.: *Your Screenplay Sucks!* Studio City: Michael Weise Productions, 2008

Field, Syd. *Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting*. New York: Dell, 1994.

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

Week	Topic
1	<i>Screenplay</i> , 7-17 YSS, 1-7
2	<i>Screenplay</i> , 18-25 YSS, 1-17
3	<i>Screenplay</i> , 26-33 YSS, 18-72
4	<i>Screenplay</i> , 59-72 YSS, 43-79
5	<i>Screenplay</i> , 73-94 YSS, 80-108
6	<i>Screenplay</i> , 95-113 YSS, 106-127
7	<i>Screenplay</i> , 114-131
8	<i>Screenplay</i> , 132-156

	YSS, 126-137
9	<i>Screenplay</i> , 167-179
10	<i>Screenplay</i> , 180-203 YSS, 171-194
11	<i>Screenplay</i> , 204-217
12	<i>Screenplay</i> , 118-229
13	<i>Screenplay</i> , 230-241
14	YSS, 195-226
15	Final Exam Period

II. Course Goals*:

The course will:

- A. Impart the techniques of imaginative and paradigmatic literature and the critical approaches that clarify its nature and meaning. I.1, I. 4; II.1, 6
- B. Encourage appreciation of the imagination and the discipline required to produce screenplays. I.1, I.4; II.6
- C. Develop and expand a sensitivity to the art of film and a thoughtful attitude toward life and its experiences. II.2, II. 4, II. 5; III.3
- D. Strengthen the skills of writing and revising, critical reading and thinking. I.1, I.4, I.5, I.7, II.1, II.6

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference TBR's general education goals.

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*:

The student will be able to:

- 1. Identify the paradigmatic structure and features of a screenplay. A, B
- 2. Develop a screenplay from story concept and premise. A, B, C, D
- 3. Develop and build characters in a screenplay. A, B
- 4. Identify and adapt the screenplay format. A, B, D
- 5. Write individual scenes according to five basic principles. A, B, D
- 6. Write and revise an entire screenplay individually or in collaboration. A, B, C, D

* Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

IV. Evaluation:

- A. Testing Procedures:

Fifty percent of the final grade will be based on tests and quizzes. Fifty percent of the final grade will be based on a portfolio of exercises and a completed screenplay.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

None

C. Field Work:

None

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

None

V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of the Learning Division, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of the Learning Division.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at

www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/.