UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	September 2011
COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	September 2014
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED:	September 2019
(six years after UPAC approval)	*(month, year)*

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.

Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department – see course syllabus available from instructor

ENGL 378	College of Arts - English	4
COURSE NAME/NUMBER	FACULTY/DEPARTMENT	UFV CREDITS
	Creative Writing: Advanced Screenwriting	
	COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE	

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course explores screenwriting at an advanced level. Designed to expand on students' basic screenwriting skills, the course focuses on more complex strategies for developing original characters, dialogue, conflict, and plot structures. It is a writing intensive course. Students will produce samples of screenwriting which will then be workshopped and redrafted. Examples of the genre by professional screenwriters will be analyzed and studied as models. By the end of the term, students will have written one original 15-25 page screenplay as well as one team-written screenplay.

PREREQUISITES:	Two 200-level English courses to include one of ENGL 208, 211, 212, 213, or 215. One of Film 110 or 120 recommended.
COREQUISITES:	
PRE or COREQUISITES:	

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):
(a) Replaces:
(b) Cross-listed with:
(c) Cannot take: _____ for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: *(department/program)*

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: 60	TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:	
STRUCTURE OF HOURS:	Length of course:	
Lectures: **30** Hrs	Hours per day:	
Seminar: **10** Hrs		
Laboratory: ____ Hrs	**OTHER:**	
Field experience: ____ Hrs	Maximum enrolment: **25**	
Student directed learning: ____ Hrs	Expected frequency of course offerings: Once every three years	
Other (specify): Workshop **20** Hrs	*(every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)*	

	Yes	No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)	☐ Yes	☐ No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)	☒ Yes	☐ No
TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:	☐ Yes	☒ No

Course designer(s): **Tom Konyves**		
Department Head: **John Carroll**	Date approved:	**March 8, 2013**
Supporting area consultation (CWC)	Date of meeting:	**March 15, 2013**
Curriculum Committee chair: **John Carroll**	Date approved:	**March 15, 2013**
Dean/Associate VP: **Jacqueline Nolte**	Date approved:	**March 15, 2013**
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	Date of meeting:	**April 26, 2013**

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze a screenplay into elements essential to screenwriting, such as conflict, plot, film structure, character development, action, dialogue, etc.
- Apply theories and techniques concerned with narrative structure to their own writing.
- Critique their own and other students' work in a workshop environment.
- Use feedback from the revision process to significantly reshape and redraft their own screenplays.
- Further develop their communication skills in team-writing assignments.
- Synthesize class material into their own creative projects.

METHODS: *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lecture, screenings, workshops

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):

☐ Examination(s)   ☒ Portfolio assessment   ☒ Interview(s)

☐ Other (specify):

☐ PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:

Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting, by Syd Field, Bantam Dell, (2005); Screenplay: Writing the Picture by Robin U. Russin, William M. Downs, Harcourt (2003) A sampling of short film screenings will be made available which demonstrate technique, deconstruct plots, etc. Screenings will include selections from: *New York Stories, Night on Earth,* Magnolia Films' *Academy Award Nominated Short Films* and the NFB Short Films.

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION:

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

Logline, treatment, character descriptions	10%
Analysis assignment	15%
Rough draft/beat sheet	15%
Final script	25%
Team-script	20%
Journal	5%
Participation	10%

COURSE CONTENT:

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

Week 1:   Introduction to the course, formatting theory, expectations
Week 2:   Structure and Strategy: 3-act and 4-act structures
Week 3:   Story Before Plot, Articulate The Subject: Dramatic premises and compass loglines
Week 4:   Narrator or Not: The function of the backstory, four simple questions
Weeks 5 & 6: From Concept to Characters: Protagonist, antagonist, stakes character, ally
Week 7:   Plotting the Solution with Action: Emphasize the visual
Weeks 8-9:   Tightening the Screws on Suspense: Revision and redraft
Week 10:   Testing Authenticity: Dialogue; Team Writing: Roles and responsibilities
Week 11 & 12: Scene by scene analysis
Week 13:   Team presentations