



Module Specification

Fundamentals of Writing: Script

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Fundamentals of Writing: Script

Module code: UPNN6D-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries

Partner institutions: None

Field: Linguistics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module will provide students with a thorough, detailed and in-depth understanding of the key skills, structures and techniques that underlie all successful writing for performance.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: Students will be introduced to the theories and principles of story design, character-driven narrative and the dynamics of motivation and subtext. They will analyse how stage plays, feature and short films, radio and television dramas of different styles and genres, plus forms of writing for performance delivered through online platforms, all deliver coherence and credibility through common structures and techniques. Students will gain a clear understanding of how the power to entertain and deliver exciting, engaging plot lines is created through the adaptation of universal creative writing principles to specific media forms. The challenges and opportunities of writing within specific stage, screen and online drama formats will be explored through case studies of produced scripts. The broader media and cultural arena in which these scripts were written and produced will also be explored, in order to place the scripts within their historical context.

Students will study the principles of effective dialogue, delivering subtext and using action to develop narrative. As well as studying and practising the skills needed to create original drama, students will analyse the principles and practice of adaptation, drama-documentary and working with biographical material. They will deepen their understanding of the language of writing for performance through the creation, sharing and peer critiquing of their own work, which may be for live performance, screen and/or online mediums. Principles of dramaturgy and script editing will be introduced and key critical theories and approaches discussed.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: This module is based on lecturer input, whole and small-group devising and writing activities during scheduled sessions, plus individual writing outside them. Extracts from a variety of scripts will be studied or viewed. Efficient and supportive ways to receive and offer critiquing will be practised.

A minimum of 72 hours contact time is provided for this module.

Scheduled learning: Workshops, lectorials and seminars are at the core of this module's teaching and learning methods. This allows a flexible approach to be taken

to combining lecturer input with practical work. This flexible approach also enables students to develop the skills necessary to engage with different modes of learning. The module may require students to work both independently and in small groups on a variety of tasks.

Guidance on work briefs and set reading or tasks will be available either in the module handbook, via the module information on UWE online or through any other vehicle deemed appropriate by the module/programme leaders.

Independent learning: Independent study may include a variety of tasks such as written exercises, assignment preparation, and recommended further reading. It will be guided by a clear syllabus outline in the module handbook and preparation questions and/or tasks communicated via Blackboard.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate a thorough and confident understanding of key principles of story design and characterisation and the role of motivation in driving narrative in all forms of writing for performance.

MO2 Understand how dialogue is constructed to convey complex inter-character dynamics and multiple levels of meaning.

MO3 Deploy this understanding of structure and language imaginatively and effectively in a range of their own creative writing.

MO4 Creatively respond to peer critiquing and offer positive critiquing to their fellow students.

MO5 Demonstrate an understanding of how successful scene structure and dialogue is used by performed and produced writers in diverse areas of the arts and the media.

MO6 Recognise a range of key critical theories that influence how performed, produced and digitally distributed work is received and assessed.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

<https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/E3DF8CC6-3F52-D638-AA12-FD548BA76044.html?lang=en-GB&login=1>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessments:

Portfolio (two submissions: 30%/70%)

Students are required to submit a portfolio of work that includes the outcomes of tasks set during the module. These tasks will be designed to enable students to demonstrate, for the purposes of assessment, the acquisition of skills, knowledge, understanding and/or experience that meets the learning outcomes for the module.

The word count will be determined by the nature of the tasks set, and a clear indication of word count limits will be included in the module handbook.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio - The word count will be determined by the nature of the tasks set, and a clear indication of word count limits will be included in the module handbook.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO5, MO6

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio - The word count will be determined by the nature of the tasks set, and a clear indication of word count limits will be included in the module handbook.

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio - The word count will be determined by the nature of the tasks set, and a clear indication of word count limits will be included in the module handbook.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO5, MO6

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio - The word count will be determined by the nature of the tasks set, and a clear indication of word count limits will be included in the module handbook.

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Creative and Professional Writing [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing (Fiction) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing (Scriptwriting) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing (Publishing) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing (Scriptwriting) {Foundation}

[Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing (Scriptwriting) {Foundation}

[Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing (Fiction) {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing (Scriptwriting) {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing (Publishing) {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing (Fiction) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing (Scriptwriting) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing (Publishing) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Creative and Professional Writing [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing (Publishing) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing (Fiction) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Creative and Professional Writing (Scriptwriting) [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23