



# Course Specification

— (Bachelor)

**Course Title:** Screenwriting

**Course Code:** MD3305

**Program:** BA in English Language

**Department:** Department of English

**College:** College of Social Sciences

**Institution:** Umm Al-Qura University

**Version:** 2

**Last Revision Date:** 2023



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## A. General information about the course:

### 1. Course Identification

<b>1. Credit hours:</b>					
3					
<b>2. Course type</b>					
A.	<input type="checkbox"/> University	<input type="checkbox"/> College	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department	<input type="checkbox"/> Track	<input type="checkbox"/> Others
B.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Elective		
<b>3. Level/year at which this course is offered:</b>					
Level 8/ Year 3					
<b>4. Course general Description:</b>					
This course is offered by the media department for the students of the English department/ English language and literature track. It covers the fundamental principles of screenwriting, with the purpose of developing the conceptual and technical skills needed to produce an effective screenplay. It will guide students through the various stages of scriptwriting and help them understand the concept of plot in a cinematic work, its dimensions and requirements, the principles of dramatic adaptation, and how a work can address and tackle human emotions.					
<b>5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):</b>					
Introduction to Visual Culture					
<b>6. Co-requirements for this course (if any):</b>					
None					
<b>7. Course Main Objective(s):</b>					
The course aims to develop students' understanding of the foundations of screenwriting and to apply the knowledge gained in creating screenplays.					

### 2. Teaching mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	3 hours per week	100%
2	E-learning	-	-
3	Hybrid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Traditional classroom</li> <li>● E-learning</li> </ul>	-	-
4	Distance learning	-	-
5	Others	-	-

### 3. Contact Hours (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
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1.	<b>Lectures</b>	28 hours
2.	<b>Laboratory/Studio</b>	
3.	<b>Field</b>	
4.	<b>Tutorial</b>	
5.	<b>Others: Exams, Discussion Board, Online Content</b>	2 hours
<b>Total</b>		<b>30 hours</b>

## B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Knowledge and understanding</b>			
1.1	Critique the forms and modes of screenwriting	K3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Traditional lecturing.</li> <li>- Reading critical articles.</li> <li>- Seminars.</li> </ul>	- Quizzes and exams.
1.2	Examine the elements of characterization and the methods of creating engaging and memorable characters.	K2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Traditional lecturing.</li> <li>- Reading critical articles.</li> <li>- Seminars.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quizzes and exams.</li> <li>-Class discussion.</li> </ul>
1.3	Evaluate a range of approaches, methods, and techniques that can be utilized in screenwriting.	K3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traditional lecturing.</li> <li>Reading critical articles.</li> <li>Seminars.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quizzes and exams.</li> <li>-Class discussion.</li> <li>-Online discussion.</li> </ul>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Skills</b>			
2.1	Create screenplays for a variety of platforms such as films, games and TV.	S3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Class discussion.</li> <li>-Exposure to creative content online or in class.</li> <li>-Reading analytical essays.</li> <li>- Reading creative content.</li> <li>- Interactive workshops.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class discussion.</li> <li>Online discussion.</li> <li>Creative assignment.</li> </ul>
2.2	Assess and evaluate different screenplays, including weak ones	S2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Class discussion.</li> <li>-Reading analytical essays.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class discussion.</li> <li>Online discussion.</li> </ul>



Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
	for the purposes of avoiding common pitfalls.		- Reading creative content. - Interactive workshops.	Analytical assignment. Creative assignment.
2.3	Build well-constructed creative responses that reflect independent and personal understanding of the selected texts.	S3	- Class discussion. - Exposure to creative content online or in class. - Reading analytical essays. - Reading creative content. - Interactive workshops.	Class discussion. Online discussion. Creative assignment.
2.4	Relate the selected texts to personal experiences and local texts and culture.	S3	-Class discussion. -Exposure to creative content online or in class. -Reading analytical essays. - Reading creative content. - Interactive workshops.	Class discussion. Online discussion. Creative assignment.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Values, autonomy, and responsibility</b>			
3.1	Demonstrate ethical behavior in all professional, personal and academic contexts.	V1	- Traditional lecturing - Class discussion	Class discussion. Projects Assignments
3.2	Work responsibly and autonomously when performing a task individually or within a team.	V2	- Online discussion. - Writing and reading analytical essays	

### C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Thinking like a Screenwriter	3





2	<b>Reverse Engineering Successful Scripts</b>	3
3	<b>Building Your Story World</b>	3
4	<b>Developing Your Characters</b>	3
5	<b>Tone: The Screenwriter's Lens</b>	3
6	<b>Plotting Your Story Beats</b>	3
7	<b>Text Analysis</b>	3
8	<b>Texts Analysis</b>	3
9	<b>Text Analysis</b>	3
10	<b>Texts Analysis</b>	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>

#### D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	<b>Midterm Exam:</b> The exam should contain at least 10% subjective questions dedicated to measuring the students' ability to analyze and think critically. Students should be held responsible for language mistakes. A "reasonable" percentage of the grade should be allocated to language and punctuation problems.	<b>6</b>	30%
2.	<b>Assignments or Quizzes:</b> - Teachers have a choice between implementing quizzes and exams such as open-book exams and reading quizzes or assignments. - Assignments can include annotations, short written responses or analytical essays. -Topics, guidelines and deadlines should be specified at the beginning of the course. Assignments should be marked for structure, punctuation, content and proper citation of sources. -A clear rubric should be followed.	<b>9</b>	10%
3.	<b>Discussion in class and online:</b> Students should be encouraged to speak up and express their opinion on a variety of topics and issues related to the course.	<b>weekly</b>	10%
4.	<b>Final:</b> The exam should contain at least 20% subjective questions dedicated to measuring the students' ability to analyze and think critically. Students should be held responsible for language mistakes. A "reasonable" percentage of the grade should be allocated to language and punctuation problems. A clear rubric should be followed.	<b>13</b>	50%

\*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.).





## E. Learning Resources and Facilities

### 1. References and Learning Resources

<b>Essential References</b>	Fletcher, Angus. Screenwriting 101: Mastering the Art of Story. The Teaching Company, 2017.
	Field, Syd. Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting. Delta, 2005.
	Field, Syd. The Screenwriter's Problem Solver: How to Recognize, Identify, and Define Screenwriting Problems. Delta, 1998.
	Ballon, Rachel. Blueprint for Screenwriting: A Complete Writer's Guide to Story Structure and Character Development. Routledge, 2005.
	Cowgill, Linda, J. Writing Short Films: Structure and Content for Screenwriters. Lone Eagle, 2005.
	Pope, Tom. Good Scripts, Bad Scripts: Learning the Craft of Screenwriting Through 25 of the Best and Worst Films in History. Three Rivers Press, 1998.
<b>Supportive References</b>	
<b>Electronic Materials</b>	
<b>Other Learning Materials</b>	

### 2. Required Facilities and equipment

Items	Resources
<b>facilities</b> (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	Classrooms
<b>Technology equipment</b> (projector, smart board, software)	Projectors
<b>Other equipment</b> (depending on the nature of the specialty)	NA

## F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Students	Institutionally controlled questionnaires (Direct)
Effectiveness of Students assessment	Peer Reviewer	Institutionally controlled questionnaires/ Peer-review procedure. (Direct)
Quality of learning resources	Students	Institutionally controlled questionnaires (Direct)





Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Course Instructor	Institutionally controlled questionnaires / Peer-review procedure (Direct)
Other		

**Assessors** (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

**Assessment Methods** (Direct, Indirect)

### G. Specification Approval

<b>COUNCIL /COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT COUNCIL</b>
<b>REFERENCE NO.</b>	<b>424040414453 / 132022</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>2023 - 1445</b>

