

2065 343
Writing for Film and Video II
Rochester Institute of Technology
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This course continues the exploration of the writing of fiction for theatrical films and television, concentrating on the elements of dramatic construction leading to expository, story-telling forms..

During this quarter the student will complete a master scene fictional script, 25 to 45 pages in length. The script is to be continually revised and discussed in the seminar setting of the class. This production, discussion and quality of this script is worth 80% of the final class grade.

A short paper analyzing a recommended film script and the accompanying film or video will also be produced in the middle of the quarter. This paper will be worth 20% of the final grade.

Required Texts:

Irwin R. Blacker; The Elements of Scriptwriting; Collier (1986).

Recommended:

David Mamet; On Directing Film; Penguin Books (1986).

Any and all books and plays referred to in class, screenplays and film scripts will prove helpful, especially if they can be further explored and integrated via videotape study. Self-help books which assist you in understanding human communication (vocal and visible as well as "invisible" codes and proxemics) will also prove beneficial.

Of ultimate benefit is, of course, direct experience in living and careful, thoughtful reflection upon human relationship and existence. If you depend solely upon the "mediated reality" of pre-existent films and television for the content of your script ideas, you will insure that your work is but a pale and dependent reflection of those already refined and filtered materials.

The Workload: is weekly, with your materials present for class and, in half of the cases, duplicated before class for examination by everyone. **YOUR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS ARE THE MATERIALS OF OUR CLASSES.** Your continuous applied work in writing and your creative and critical feedback will be **ESSENTIAL** for all class members.

Develop a pace in your scriptwriting, and stick to it. We have only ten weeks in this class, so your attendance and production is required.

As ever, we must remain open to each other's experiences and needs in the class, designing and producing this class as we go.