



First Steps in Screenwriting

Course information

Course Aims

This lively, interactive and practical course is for young people aged 15 to 19 who are interested in developing their skills in screenwriting.

By the end of the course participants should have:

- Gained the knowledge and skills required to develop and complete a dramatic scene for film
- Explored the principles of creative thinking and critical thought
- Experienced working as part of a creative team
- Developed artistic confidence and an ability to communicate ideas to others

Course Content

A basic introduction to the art of script writing for film, the course will take participants through this fascinating process step by step in tutor-led lessons.

Participants will study scripts and films, with the emphasis on short films, in order to gain a better understanding of what a script is and how it is transferred from paper to screen.

Class writing exercises will allow for collaboration within a creative team when exploring each new element of screenwriting. To compliment this, home writing exercises will allow participants to develop these skills individually and discover their own interests and styles.

By the end of the course each participants will have written, developed and completed an original short film scene on a theme focusing on characters and dialogue.

Schedule:

Week 1 - 3

Introduction to the art of screenwriting, formats and styles. Creating and developing characters and writing dialogue.

Week 4 - 5

Writing action and scene description – making these work for your character. How to write without words and develop story themes. Using limitations to engage the imagination.

Week 6 - 10

Project introduction and development. Writing dramatic conflict and subtext – adding depth to characters and scenes, and course evaluation.

Venue, Date and Cost

RSAMD, School of Drama

10 week course
Wednesdays
6.30 – 8.30pm
26 January to 30 March 2011

£130

Filmworks

Course Leader



Ruth Moore

Ruth Moore is a freelance writer and director. Since graduating from the Prague Film School and the University of the West of Scotland, Ruth has been working freelance as a writer penning work for both TV and film. She also writes and publishes her own poetry, and is a keen photographer.

Additional Information

No advance preparation is required for this course.

You do not need to have previous experience in writing to take part but a love of visual storytelling is essential. Writing activities will be set that participants are expected to complete at home between sessions.

“I have really enjoyed myself and each class I really felt I had learned something new. It has really helped me with my own writing and being around people with similiar passions was a really inspiring”

First Steps in Screenwriting student 2010

and Academy

Your Academy

The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama is based in Glasgow, Scotland, one of the most vibrant and dynamic cities in Europe.

We welcome students from fifty different countries and offer undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across music, dance, musical theatre, technical and production arts and digital film and television.

We stage over 300 performances every year involving students, staff and visiting artists, making the Academy one of the busiest arts venues in the United Kingdom.

Your Course

Filmworks is the Academy's access to excellence programme for children and adults. Operating within the School of Drama, Filmworks is currently developing an inspiring range of classes and courses, using the same production facilities as the senior Academy students. You too can engage, enjoy and excel with us.

Access to the Academy

The Academy is committed to widening access to the performing and production arts.

The majority of our courses are designed to allow students to explore the performance and production arts fully and enable students of differing abilities the opportunity to grow and develop through participation in the arts.

All courses are held at the Academy which is an accessible building with a lift, accessible toilets and accessible teaching spaces.

Refreshments

The Academy's café-bar is run by Where the Monkey Sleeps and offers a selection of hot and cold snacks. A fully-licensed bar operates on performance evenings. The café-bar is open to the public throughout normal Academy hours.

The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama is a company limited by guarantee Reg. No. 4703 (Scotland) and a charity registered in Scotland, No. SCO15855.