

NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY CST 120 –SCREENWRITING (3 CR.)

Course Description

Focuses on the craft of writing for the screen. Examines film and television screenplay structure. Analyzes dramatic strategies in film and television. Learn and apply correct script form and creatively engage in the various stages of original scriptwriting. This course is cross-listed with PHT 120. Credit will not be awarded for both. Lecture 3 hours.

General Course Purpose

This course introduces fundamental techniques of screenwriting. It is for students who want to write a variety of scripts for electronic media.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: ENG 111 or equivalent or permission of the instructor

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- Show knowledge of film language and terminology
- Analyze films in terms of their dramaturgical structure
- Understand plot and story development
- Demonstrate mastery of correct screenplay format
- Present a plotted film paradigm
- Create original scripts for film or television

Major Topics to be Included

- Introduction to film and television and the history of screenwriting
- Basic film language and terminology
- Shot by shot evaluation
- The technical side of writing including dramaturgical analysis
- Plot and story development
- Film paradigm
- Beginnings and endings
- Building character
- Correct screenplay format