



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

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University



# ARTS2066

Writing for the Screen

Semester One // 2018

## Course Overview

### Staff Contact Details

#### Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
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### School Contact Information

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The School of the Arts and Media would like to Respectfully Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians, the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Art & Design Campuses) and the Ngunnawal people (Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra) of the lands where each campus of UNSW is located.

### Attendance Requirements

A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face (F2F) or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.

A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.

If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, their request should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance. A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course's learning outcomes and/or volume of learning. A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

For more information about the attendance protocols in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

### Academic Information

For essential student information relating to: requests for extension; review of marks; occupational health and safety; examination procedures; special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure; student equity and disability; and other essential academic information, see <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

## Course Details

### Credit Points 6

### Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Film Studies*

This course can also be studied in the following specialisation: *Creative Writing*

This course introduces you to the study and practice of storytelling for screen media. It will provide you with a framework through which to recognise and critically analyse key elements of the screenwriting process. Through practical exercises, you will be able to develop fundamental skills in the art of writing for the screen. You will study a variety of screenwriting forms including short films, feature films and writing for television.

### At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to

1. Identify and implement the fundamental elements and techniques of screenwriting.
2. Engage critically and reflectively with critical and conceptual scholarship on screenwriting.
3. Compose, draft and revise a piece of screen writing.
4. Link creative production with theoretical and critical knowledge.
5. Collaborate in a collegial process of peer review

### Teaching Strategies

This course introduces students to the fundamental skills and techniques in screenwriting by taking an approach that combines theory and practice. In the first instance the course will be taught in a traditional mode with a 1 hour lecture and 2 hour seminar (or equivalent in intensive mode). In this mode, the course will be supported by significant online material that will prepare students for active learning in the face-to-face teaching environment. In future iterations the course may be taught in a blended mode depending on staff expertise in this area. This will include online pre-learning material including screencasts, reading material and film viewing. An important part of the required pre-learning for the course in either mode will consist of reading and analysing a variety of critical and conceptual literature about screenwriting, as well as reading screenplay texts and viewing the corresponding films. Students will reflect on these and draw lessons from them during the 2-hour seminars.

Through exemplars, students will be provided with a model and point of departure for their own work. The majority of the 2-hour seminars will be devoted to practical writing, workshops and peer-to-peer learning activities. Through a structured range of activities, students will practice the skills to craft their own screenplays. In each seminar focus will be placed on a specific aspect of the screenplay, such as pitch, synopsis, plot, character, dialogue etc.

As an introductory course, the teaching methods are focused on showing students how and helping them to develop a level of competence, rather than developing high-level experience or mastery. At the same time, students will learn how to access knowledge and resources, as well as the value of incorporating peer feedback into the learning cycle, which will enable them to continue to deepen their learning beyond the course.

## Assessment

### Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Story exercise	25%	19/03/2018 04:00 PM	1,3
Peer script assessment	30%	30/04/2018 04:00 PM	1,4,5
Script, synopsis and logline	45%	11/06/2018 04:00 PM	2,3,4

### Assessment Details

#### Assessment 1: Story exercise

**Start date:**

**Details:** 2-3 pages 11-point font 1.5 spacing (1000-1200 words) Students receive written feedback, grading rubric and numerical grade via the Learning Management System.

#### Assessment 2: Peer script assessment

**Start date:**

**Details:** 600 words. Students are assessed on their script assessment, rather than on their draft screenplays. While this task provides an excellent opportunity for students to provide peer feedback, they do not assess other student's work for credit. Students receive written feedback, grading rubric and numerical grade via Learning Management System.

#### Assessment 3: Script, synopsis and logline

**Start date:**

**Details:** 10-12 page script 11-point font 1.5 spacing in correct script-writing format. 500 word synopsis and logline. This is the final assessment task. Students receive written feedback, grading rubric and numerical grade via the Learning Management System.

**Turnitin setting:** This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

Students are expected to put their names and student numbers on every page of their assignments.

## Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on [externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au](mailto:externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au). Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

## Late Assessment Penalties

An assessed task is deemed late if it is submitted after the specified time and date as set out in the course Learning Management System (LMS).

The late penalty is the loss of 5% of the total possible marks for the task for each day or part thereof the work is late. Lateness will include weekends and public holidays. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted fourteen (14) days after the due date will be marked and feedback provided but no mark will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but for the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component, a student will be deemed to have met that requirement. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted twenty-one (21) days after the due date will not be accepted for marking or feedback and will receive no mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will automatically fail the course.

## Special Consideration Applications

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances interfere with your assessment performance.

Sickness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control may:

- \* Prevent you from completing a course requirement,
- \* Keep you from attending an assessable activity,
- \* Stop you submitting assessable work for a course,

\* Significantly affect your performance in assessable work, be it a formal end-of-semester examination, a class test, a laboratory test, a seminar presentation or any other form of assessment.

For further details in relation to Special Consideration including "When to Apply", "How to Apply" and "Supporting Documentation" please refer to the Special Consideration website:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

## Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

**Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

**Inappropriate paraphrasing:** changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.

**Collusion:** working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

**Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

**Duplication ("self-plagiarism"):** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose

- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

(<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>)

## **Resources**

### **Prescribed Resources**

Not available

### **Recommended Resources**

Not available

### **Course Evaluation and Development**

### **Image Credit**

Bodies & Interfaces 2016

### **CRICOS**

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G