



ESCUELA UNIVERSITARIA
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RECOLETOS-22 MADRID



Universidad
Rey Juan Carlos

The Film Screenplay

COURSE GUIDE

BACHELOR'S IN FILMMAKING
Course 2025/2026

Course data

<i>Duration</i>	Annual
<i>Credits</i>	6 ECTS
<i>Modality</i>	In-person
<i>Language</i>	English
<i>Faculty</i>	Filmmaking
<i>Teacher</i>	Luna Herruzo

Course presentation

Introduction to the film script with a focus on creation, creative writing and thinking, and to the theoretical tools to understand the construction of the script, and analysis and study of classic and contemporary film scripts.

Student competencies

CG01	Utilize different historical, sociologic, cultural and/or artistic sources in the creation of audiovisual projects.
CG02	Know the different tools and languages of film, to apply them in audiovisual projects..
CG03	Know the codes of ethics and deontology applicable to the audiovisual industry.
CG05	Understand the concepts of photography, the creation of the film image and audiovisual language from an artistic and technical perspective.
CG06	Communicate verbally or in writing the objectives and characteristics of an audiovisual piece, in Spanish and in a foreign language (level B2 MCERL).
CG07	Know the different study and research methodologies that enable the continuous development and innovation of an activity within the audiovisual industry.
CG08	Develop critical discourse in the field of audiovisual creation with attention to cultural, social and artistic changes.
CE01	Understand the history, evolution and contribution of film from the perspective of aesthetics, society and ethics.
CE04	Understand filmmaking in an open, multi-directional manner, from the forms and formats that are intrinsically related to the entertainment industry, to more expressive manifestations that explore avant-garde aesthetics and/or auteur philosophies.
CE05	Understand filmmaking in relation to the contemporary artistic and cultural panorama.
CE08	Develop a fiction or non-fiction story, from the birth of the idea through to its materialization in a screenplay.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course, each student must be able to:

1. Know and assimilate the basics of constructing a film screenplay.
2. Understand the role of the screenplay within a film's creative process.
3. Differentiate literary language from audiovisual language.
4. Identify and analyze the essential elements of a film screenplay.
5. Apply theory to practice in writing for audiovisual media.
6. Pick out the strengths and weaknesses of a screen by viewing a film.

Teaching methodology

<i>MD1</i>	Participatory masterclass.
<i>MD3</i>	Problem solving and discussion of results.
<i>MD5</i>	Cooperative and collaborative learning.
<i>MD6</i>	Tutoring and monitoring.

Course content

<i>Content</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 01. Writing in images. What is a film screenplay and what does it do? 02. Film constructs its own reality. 03. Need for conflict. The cinematic idea. 04. Dramatic writing for audiovisual media. 05. Film genres and their relationship to screenwriting. 06. The Aristotelean 3-act structure. Structural plot twists. Episodic plot and sequential plot. 07. General and specific dramatic contexts. 08. Approach to characters development. 09. Character conflicts: basic, relationship, internal. 10. Functions and need for dialogue. 11. Characteristics of good dialogue. 12. Writing is re-writing.
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Learning activities

<i>AF1</i>	Theoretical and practical classes.	27 hours
<i>AF2</i>	Classroom/laboratory exercises and practicals.	6 hours
<i>AF3</i>	Design and execution of artistic creation projects (individual or group).	4,5 hours

AF4	Art appreciation activities: attendance at seminars, visits to exhibitions or viewing of visual/audiovisual works.	12 hours
AF5	Research activities: search and selection of documentation, reading of supporting material and bibliographic and visual references.	35 hours
AF6	Academic tutoring.	4,5 hours
AF7	Evaluation.	6 hours
AF8	Self-study of theoretical content and independent preparation of practical work and activities.	85 hours

** The distribution of hours between training activities may undergo changes due to the academic needs of the course, the group and/or the teaching team.*

Assessment

GENERAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ATTENDANCE

The classes are in-person, and attendance is mandatory, as it is a determining factor in the continuous assessment system, as well as in class attitude and participation. However, in exceptional cases due to health situations or family reconciliation, students may request online access as a methodological adaptation (for more information, please contact the student department).

MARKS

Continuous Assessment is a comprehensive assessment of each student's results judged on the assessment criteria described in the following section, on a scale of 0 to 10 as provided in current legislation.

Students wishing to bring up their grade in the extraordinary/re-assessment period must first contact the Registrar's Office to expressly waive in writing all of the marks they obtained in the regular assessment period. Their final assessment mark will be the mark obtained in re-assessment.

SPELLING AND EXPRESSION

Spelling and written expression are taken into account in the marking of written examinations and assignments. Written examinations cannot contain more than 2 spelling errors or 10 accent errors (omitted or misplaced). Assignments completed outside of the classroom may not contain more than 1 error.

UNIVERSITY WRITTEN REPORTS

These must have a title page, table of contents and bibliography listing at least 4 sources. These works must be original. Excerpts from other authors must be properly cited. Demonstrable plagiarism is an academic offence. If one student copies the work of another student, both shall be held accountable.

SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

REGULAR ASSESSMENT PERIOD

The teaching team will provide the details/specifications on the content or submission of assessment tasks; this information will be given in class or in a document made available to the student on the Virtual Course Space (in Spanish, *Aula Virtual*).

Assignments not submitted by the deadlines set by the teaching team will receive an assessment mark of 0.

<i>Assessment task (*)</i>	<i>Revaluable/non-revaluable</i>	<i>Minimum mark yes/no</i>	<i>% of final mark</i>
SE1 In-class tests and examinations (oral and/or written)	<i>Revaluable</i>	Yes	40%
SE2 Assignments and projects	<i>Revaluable</i>	Yes	30%
SE3 Continuous assessment: weekly tasks and homework, periodical reports, problem resolution	<i>Non-revaluable</i>	No	25%
SE5 Attitude and participation	<i>Non-revaluable</i>	No	5%
			100%

(*) Records and evidence of all of the assessment tasks (writings, recordings, etc.) listed in this table will be kept and filed in the Registrar's Office.

EXTRAORDINARY/RE-ASSESSMENT PERIOD

Students that do not pass the course in the term it is delivered can attempt again in the extraordinary/re-assessment period, except in cases where the characteristics of the course make this impossible.

The teaching team will inform the student of the assessment tasks that will need to be done in re-assessment. The teaching team can decide whether to maintain the marks of 5.0 and above the student received over the course and in the regular assessment period.

REVIEW OF ASSESSMENT MARKS

As set out in the TAI School of the Arts Student Handbook.

Resources

RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

RECOMMENDED FILMOGRAPHY

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE

VISITS, MASTER CLASSES, EVENTS AND ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS

Programmed by TAI and related to the course.