Montgomery County Community College
MSP 126
Introduction to Scriptwriting
3-2-2

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Students analyze narrative scriptwriting for film, television and radio. Emphasis is placed on the pitch, treatment, and appropriate format. Students apply the foundations of scriptwriting to original and adapted material. Students are encouraged to develop a unique voice by researching, writing, and editing preparatory, and marketing material for completed scripts. Students write scripts to form for television, film, and radio that are also used in advertising, public relations, gaming, animation, and narrative drama. This course is subject to a course fee. Refer to http://mc3.edu/adm-fin-aid/paying/tuition/course-fees for current rates.

REQUISITES:
Previous Course Requirements
   * MSP 111 Mass Media and Society with a minimum grade of "C"

Concurrent Course Requirements
None

COURSE COMMENT
   * COM 126 with a minimum grade of "C" may be substituted for MSP 126

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Utilize the basic vocabulary of scriptwriting.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
2. Write a basic character sketch, character bible, pitch, log line, demographic statement, treatment, scenario, and tag.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio
3. Write a simple script to professional form.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio
4. Discuss narrative construction including character development, story arc, dialog, and plot points.	Lectures/Discussions Demonstrations and Practice Case Studies Student Presentations Peer to Peer Review Writing Assignments	Peer to Peer Review Portfolio

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:
1. Introduction to Storytelling
2. Introduction to Final Draft
3. Defining the Audience
4. The Writing Process
5. Dialog and Action
6. The Pitch, Log Line, and Tag
7. Treatment and Use of the Storyboard
8. Character Sketches, Character Bible
9. Narrative Structure
10. Radio Scripts
11. Television and Film Scripts

LEARNING MATERIALS:
Russin, R.U. and Downs, William. (2012). *Screenplay: Writing the Picture*. 2nd ed;
    Boston: Silman-James Press.
Brass Brad fasteners
Cover Stock
Recommended: Final Draft 8 Scriptwriting software

In addition, the instructor may provide students with handouts or access to selected Radio or Television programs or clips.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:
Note: MSP/COM 126 was created from deleted courses COM120 and COM121; refer to these courses for prior history.

Prepared by: Allan Schear   Date: 8/2015
VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification:
        Victoria Bastecki-Perez, Ed. D.   Date: 6/1/2016

Revised by: Allan Schear/Therol Dix   Date: 9/7/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Date: 11/1/2017

This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.