

SCWR 4421/4441/4451 – REWRITING THE SENIOR WRITING PROJECT

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Practical experience in rewriting the senior project draft. The student must provide a professional copy of all senior thesis-level projects to the School of Film and Television in partial fulfillment of degree requirements.

COURSE GOAL: Students will gain practical experience rewriting the feature film screenplay or television pilot drafted in SCWR 420 as the second half of their senior thesis process.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will demonstrate a willingness to fully rethink their SCWR 4420/4440/4450 draft by revisiting its basic concept
- Students will demonstrate ability to reoutline their entire project.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in utilizing the principles of character and ethics in terms of dramatic roles and plot progression.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in creating structure out of character and conflict.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in writing dialogue.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in visual writing techniques.
- Students will demonstrate ability to improve existing scenes and sequences, adding, deleting and restructuring scenes as needed.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in giving and taking notes from the professor and classmates in a collaborative writers' room.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in pitching stories in the room.
- Students will master knowledge of either feature or one-hour and half-hour television formatting.
- For TV pilots: Students will demonstrate proficiency in understanding and executing a television pitch deck.
- Students will value a diverse range of stories that explore ethics and humanism.

COURSE DELIVERABLES

Students will:

- Rewrite of the screenplay/teleplay completed in SCWR 4420/4440/4450, including further development and re-outlining
- Submit weekly development notes for their peers' class projects
- Develop and present a 5 minute pitch of their final project (in prep for First Pitch)
- Develop project logline (in prep for Senior Screenwriting Directory)
- Screenplay must be professional grade in terms of spelling and grammar without typos.

Signature Project: Students will fully rewrite the feature screenplay or television pilot drafted in SCWR 4440/4450 and will submit a logline with the project. TV pilots will also include a pitch deck. Industry standard for a feature-length screenplay is currently 85 – 110 pages. Industry standard for a half-hour pilot of 30 – 45 pages and for a one- hour pilot is 50 – 65 pages.