



MODULE HANDBOOK FOR

ENG-10038

Writing Scripts

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/25

Contents

Description of the module	2
Module summary	2
Module leader and teaching team	3
Module delivery information.....	3
Aims and outcomes	4
Assessment.....	5
Assessment details.....	5
Resources	6

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About this handbook:

Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in this Handbook and in all other documentation provided by the University is correct at the time of publication. If you find any broken links please head to the website and use the [search function](#) to find the information you need.

The Handbook does not replace the entries in the University Regulations, which are authoritative statements. In the case of a contradiction or other discrepancy between the information in this Handbook and the Regulations, the Regulations shall be authoritative, unless approval has been given for a variation. We would, however, be grateful to you for drawing any sources of contradictory information to our attention.

Note: please see your programme or school handbook for information, which may include: Exceptional Circumstances (ECs), attendance rules, assessment regulations, academic appeals, complaints and misconduct, student support and academic mentoring.

Link to programme/school handbook: [School of Humanities - Keele University](#)

Description of the module

Introductory statement and overview of module content

This module introduces you to the skills of writing for stage and screen, and the technical skills of generating creative ideas in the form of a dramatic scene. You will read and watch examples of practice in the field, learn how to create the text we call 'a script', and work on producing your own examples.

The module is taught by a combination of lectures, workshops, and text analysis sessions in which you will discuss examples of successful and interesting scripts and screenplays, both critically and in terms of creative practice. Your responses to these ideas will form the material of writers' workshops, where you discuss and give feedback on each others' work in a constructive and supportive group.

Module summary

Level of study

Level 4

Credit value

15

Semester(s) of delivery

Semester 1

Host School

Humanities

Who is the programme for?

Single Honours Creative Writing

English Literature and Creative Writing

Film Studies and Creative Writing

Module type

Compulsory / Optional / Global Challenge Pathway

Pre-requisites

None

Module leader and teaching team

Module leader

Freddie Machin

f.machin@keele.ac.uk

Other teaching staff

None.

Contacting us

By email, please

Module delivery information

Delivery mode

Keele campus (in person)

We want this module to offer the space for students from diverse backgrounds and with diverse characteristics to excel. Every effort has been made to ensure this module is an inclusive space of learning and interaction.

Module start and end dates

Week 1, Semester 1 to Week 12 Semester 1

Active learning hours

In addition to attending all the sessions outlined below you will be expected to complete weekly pre-reading which will be indicated on the reading list (provided on the KLE), write and submit your own short piece of writing, and read the submissions of your peers.

Organisation of teaching sessions

The module will be taught in a combination of Lectures, Writers' Workshops and Text Analysis.

Each fortnight a different aspect of dramatic writing will be introduced in a lecture. This will be followed by a writing workshop in which you will read and discuss a selection of relevant texts and use them as the basis for creating of your own work.

Each fortnight you will be expected to read and discuss either a play or a screenplay in your own time and share your thoughts in a text analysis session. You will also submit a short piece of writing which responds to the theme. This will be read and discussed by your peers in order to offer constructive feedback in the second writers workshop session.

Attendance requirements

You are expected to attend all scheduled teaching activities. Please note the University does not have reading weeks.

Week	Sessions	Length
1	Lecture 1 – What is drama? Workshop – generating your work	1-hour 2-hours
2	Workshop 2 – sharing and feedback	2-hours
3	Lecture 2 – Action is Character Workshop – generating your work	1-hour 2-hours
4	Workshop 2 – sharing and feedback	2-hours
5	Lecture 3 – Dialogue & Subtext Workshop – generating your work	1-hour 2-hours
6	Workshop 2 – sharing and feedback	2-hours
7	Lecture 4 – Story structure Workshop – generating your work	1-hour 2-hours
8	Workshop 2 – sharing and feedback	2-hours
9	Lecture 5 – Premise Workshop – generating your work	1-hour 2-hours
10	Workshop 2 – Sharing and feedback	2-hours
11	Lecture 6 – Content&Form Workshop – generating your work	1-hour 2-hours
12	Workshop 2 – Sharing and feedback	2-hours

Aims and outcomes

Module aims

- Introduce students to the key characteristics of dramatic writing
- Identify and explore these elements in a range of extant texts
- Generate an awareness of the cultural landscape in which their own creative work will sit
- Encourage critical analysis of contemporary drama
- Begin to establish how their own work might intersect with contemporary drama

Learning outcomes

- Be able to recognise and articulate the key components of dramatic writing in extant texts
- Employ oral and written communication in the critical discussion of drama

- Complete a portfolio of short works and exercises that explores the principles of dramatic writing
 - Write a complete dramatic text intended for performance
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Assessment

Summary

Your final assessment should be an original dramatic work of up to five minutes in length, which you intend to be performed either on stage or on screen. The text should be complete, formatted appropriately, and exhibit the principles of drama explored in the module. In addition you will submit a commentary reflecting on the creative process and how your work might relate to the wider cultural landscape.

Reasonable adjustments

Reasonable adjustments may be discussed with your School disability liaison officer.

Note about Turnitin

Please note: you are responsible for downloading the submission receipt for your work and this has to be done at the time of submission. It will not be automatically emailed to you. It's important to download and store this receipt in case there are subsequent queries regarding the successful submission of your work'.

Assessment details

Assessment 1

A 3-5 minute Playscript or Screenplay

Description

A complete and original dramatic text intended for performance on either stage or screen, formatted correctly, demonstrating a creative response to the teaching on the module.

Weighting

80%

Pass mark

40%

Word count or duration

See above.

Submission requirements

Deadline (date and time): 1pm Wednesday 8th January 2025

Assessment 2

A Critical Commentary of your work

Description

A reflective and technical commentary analysing the work in assessment 1.

Weighting

20%

Pass mark

40%

Word count or duration

500 words

Submission requirements

Deadline (date and time): 1pm Wednesday 8th January 2025

Note: assessment briefs are provided separately on the KLE.

Resources

Note: Reading lists are provided on the KLE

Other resources including where to access them

There will be a Teams channel which you will be expected to join and check regularly.

