

**REDLANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGH SCHOOL COURSE APPROVAL REQUEST FORM
GRADES 9-12**

THIS SECTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE:

School Submitting Information

School: Redlands eAcademy Department Electives
(course offerings will be made available for all schools)

Contact Information

Contact Person: Raelene Chaney Phone: 909-307-5390

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Summer Contact Person: Raelene Chaney

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Course Information

Course Title: Intro to Screenwriting Transcript Name (15 Max): Intro Scrnwrtng

Length of course: one semester Amount of Units: 5
(one semester, two semesters, or one-year course)

Area of Credit: Elective
(How will this course satisfy graduation requirements? Math, English, Elective, etc. Will it roll to a secondary credit if any?)

Teacher Requirements

Credential Required: Secondary ELA Credential Additional Training: _____

Department Review Date: 9/3/24 Dept. Signature: _____

Site Administrator Signature: _____

THIS SECTION IS RESERVED FOR DISTRICT USE:

Assigned Reviewer Section

Reviewed by: Mark Blum Date reviewed: 9/10/24

☒ District section of this form is appropriately completed

☒ All required attachments are affixed and appropriate

☒ Site signatures current and appropriate

Recommendation: ☒ Approve ☐ Do Not Approve Signature: _____

Course Approval Curriculum Committee

Approved by: Majority Decision 85% Date approved: 9/20/24

Date approval/disapproval notification letter sent: 10/9/24

Signature: _____

Board Submission Date: _____ Board Approved Date: _____

The 3 Act Structure is fundamental to the majority of films made today. Acts have specific beat points and page counts professional writers are expected to convey evidence of. An historical and contemporary knowledge of films and filmmakers that excel at this structure is vital for the creation of a solid 3 Act Structure.

Unit Assignment:

Students study past and current examples of films and screenplays to identify the plot points of each act. Students emulate these beats in their own original screenplay, developing an outline of their script using 3 Act Structure. Students will approximate the page count for each act, and fill in the beat skeleton with appropriate expected action.

Unit 3: Act 1

The first act of a film establishes a number of points for an audience, chief among them are the conflict that characters will be involved in and seek to resolve, and the establishment of the characters themselves. The first act establishes the typical conditions of the world we are engaging with and the normal behavior of the characters in it, and adds a complication to this normalcy that the characters have to overcome.

Unit Assignment:

Students study past and contemporary examples of films and screenplays for complex characters who engage in meaningful conflict, as opposed to flat/stereotypical characterization engaged in predictable/stereotypical conflict. Students will draft Act 1 of their screenplay using the correct formatting, within the appropriate page count range, and with the required dramatic beats. Students will use a school-supplied Celtx account, or their own software, to ensure correct screenplay formatting. Students will attempt to create characters that evidence a rich background that adds to the sense of representation and/or contribution to culture.

Culminating Assessment:

Students will create a draft of the first act of their own screenplay.

COURSE MATERIALS

Chromebook

Google Classroom

Internet

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

Celtx Software

Save The Cat! The Last Book on Screenwriting You'll Ever Need by Blake Snyder