**COMM 2339 WRITING FOR RADIO-TELEVISION-FILM**

**Semester and Semester Year (ie. Spring 2012)**

**Meeting Day and Meeting Time, Section, Synonym**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Office:

Phones:

E-mail:

Web:

**TEXTBOOK:**

Writing for Television, Radio and New Media by Robert L Hillard 9th edition, available at ACC bookstore.

**COURSE FORMAT:**

Lectures, discussion, class projects, script readings, script creation and performance

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

The primary objective of this course is to develop student’s media writing skills and fundamental knowledge of creating works in Radio-Television-Film-related industries through project-based activities.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This participatory workshop will develop student’s writing skills and explore the evolving role of the writer as a creative visionary in radio, television and film within a new media context. With a focus on the fundamentals of writing the script, from conceptualization to presentation, scripts will be created within each individual medium. Student’s use writing as a creative and critical process, applying techniques to develop ideas from “the inside out”, which will include analysis of scripts and case studies, and performed readings. A variety of introspective writing exercises designed to improve skills in such areas as artistic voice, visual style, characterization, and formatting will culminate in a project proposal, integrated short screenplay, and a pitch.

**PREREQUISTES:** English 1301

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

* Be able to compare and contrast the formal elements of effective writing for radio, television, film and new media.
* Applyappropriate script structures, techniques and formatting for radio, film, and television programs.
* Create scripts for a variety of media projects, learning specific techniques to explore the fundamentals of each medium.
* Through writing exercises, see how creative choices and revision tools specific to each area impact the final product, assisted along the way by the instructor, peer feedback and self-evaluation sessions.
* Understand markets for delivering content across various forms of media.

**RADIO-TELEVISION-FILM PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

ACC's Department of Radio-Television-Film envisions setting the standard for educating students in the film and digital arts in Central Texas. The goal of its training program is to enhance and inspire students to achieve their educational and career goals by the department's use of current and emerging technology, and training. The RTF department strives to collaborate with the community, organizations and businesses to insure the educational program is relevant to the students and community it serves.

**STUDENT EVALUATION/ GRADING POLICIES:**

**STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:**

WRITING FOR RADIO-TELEVISION-FILM is a participatory workshop which means in-class contributions are expected! Concepts will be explored through lecture, hands-on writing exercises, longer-form projects, feedback sessions (including of each other’s work), selected readings, analysis of scripts and screenings in and outside of class. Students are required to keep up with journal assignments, which will be collected and graded at the end of the semester. Be prepared to write, rewrite, and rewrite!

Critical, creative, and practical thinking are crucial to this class through class participation. A workshop environment encourages wide ranging viewpoints, which are welcome when appropriately voiced with respect for others. It is my belief that such an academically open environment, one which celebrates creativity and innovation, can enhance classroom dialogue and lead to a enriching experience for students and instructor alike. Students are also expected to constructively contribute to discussions and feedback sessions, and to work toward the creation of an end-of-class project/presentation.

Students are expected to:

•Maintain an ofﬁcial ACC Student email account. All email communication from ACC and this class will be sent to that address. You will ﬁnd more information about ACC Student email at: http://www.austincc.edu/accmail/

•Attend class regularly

•Participate in class discussion & activities

•Completion of work as assigned

**COURSE OUTLINE OR CALENDAR (tentative)**

Week 1: Writer as Creative Visionary

Week 2: Development Across Mediums

Week 3: Writing the Script for the Screen

Week 4: Structure, Form & Character

Week 5: Shaping Story, Visual Writing & Formatting

Week 6: Dialogue, Subtext and Thematic Statement

Week 7: Revision and Feedback

Week 8: Polish & Professional Presentation

Week 9: Feedback, Coverage and Final Drafts

Week 10: Professional-level Script Analysis

Week 11: Promos for Radio/TV/Web & Beyond

Week 12: Scripts Across Media: Comics to TV

Week 13: Educational Video Script Writing

Week 14: Social Media Extensions & Participatory Culture

Week 15: The Pitch and the Big Picture

Week 16: Final Projects & Career Exploration

**POLICIES:**

Withdrawal Policy

It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that his or her name is removed from the roll should he or she decide to withdraw from the class. The instructor does, however, reserve the right to drop a student should he or she feel it is necessary. If a student decides to withdraw, he or she should also verify that the withdrawal is submitted before the Final Withdrawal Date. The student is also strongly encouraged to retain their copy of the withdrawal form for their records.

Students who enroll for the third or subsequent time in a course taken since Fall, 2002, may be charged a higher tuition rate, for that course.

State law permits students to withdraw from no more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career at Texas public colleges or universities. With certain exceptions, all course withdrawals automatically count towards this limit. Details regarding this policy can be found in the ACC college catalog.

Incompletes

An instructor may award a grade of “I” (Incomplete) if a student was unable to complete all of the objectives for the passing grade in a course. An incomplete grade cannot be carried beyond the established date in the following semester. The completion date is determined by the instructor but may not be later than the final deadline for withdrawal in the subsequent semester.

**Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty**

A student attending ACC assumes responsibility for conduct compatible with the mission of the college as an educational institution. Students have the responsibility to submit coursework that is the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. Students must follow all instructions given by faculty or designated college representatives when taking examinations, placement assessments, tests, quizzes, and evaluations. Actions constituting scholastic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, collusion, and falsifying documents. Penalties for scholastic dishonesty will depend upon the nature of the violation and may range from lowering a grade on one assignment to an “F” in the course and/or expulsion from the college. See the Student Standards of Conduct and Disciplinary Process and other policies at http://www.austincc.edu/current/needtoknow

**Student Rights and Responsibilities**

Students at the college have the rights accorded by the U.S. Constitution to freedom of speech, peaceful assembly, petition, and association. These rights carry with them the responsibility to accord the same rights to others in the college community and not to interfere with or disrupt the educational process. Opportunity for students to examine and question pertinent data and assumptions of a given discipline, guided by the evidence of scholarly research, is appropriate in a learning environment. This concept is accompanied by an equally demanding concept of responsibility on the part of the student. As willing partners in learning, students must comply with college rules and procedures.

**Statement on Students with Disabilities**

Each ACC campus offers support services for students with documented disabilities.  Students with disabilities who need classroom, academic or other accommodations must request them through the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).   Students are encouraged to request accommodations when they register for courses or at least three weeks before the start of the semester, otherwise the provision of accommodations may be delayed.

Students who have received approval for accommodations from OSD for this course must provide the instructor with the ‘Notice of Approved Accommodations’ from OSD before accommodations will be provided.   Arrangements for academic accommodations can only be made after the instructor receives the ‘Notice of Approved Accommodations’ from the student.

Students with approved accommodations are encouraged to submit the ‘Notice of Approved Accommodations’ to the instructor at the beginning of the semester because a reasonable amount of time may be needed to prepare and arrange for the accommodations.

Additional information about the Office for Students with Disabilities is available at [http://www.austincc.edu/support/osd/](http://www.austincc.edu/support/osd/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

**Safety Statement**

Austin Community College is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. You are expected to learn and comply with ACC environmental, health and safety procedures and agree to follow ACC safety policies. Additional information on these can be found at http://www.austincc.edu/ehs. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the Emergency Procedures poster and Campus Safety Plan map in each classroom. Additional information about emergency procedures and how to sign up for ACC Emergency Alerts to be notified in the event of a serious emergency can be found at http://www.austincc.edu/emergency/.

Please note, you are expected to conduct yourself professionally with respect and courtesy to all. Anyone who thoughtlessly or intentionally jeopardizes the health or safety of another individual will be dismissed from the day’s activity, may be withdrawn from the class, and/or barred from attending future activities.

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**Use of ACC email**

All College e-mail communication to students will be sent solely to the student’s ACCmail account, with the expectation that such communications will be read in a timely fashion. ACC will send important information and will notify you of any college related emergencies using this account. Students should only expect to receive email communication from their instructor using this account. Likewise, students should use their ACCmail account when communicating with instructors and staff. Instructions for activating an ACCmail account can be found at <http://www.austincc.edu/accmail/index.php>.

**Testing Center Policy**

Under certain circumstances, an instructor may have students take an examination in a testing center. Students using the Academic Testing Center must govern themselves according to the Student Guide for Use of ACC Testing Centers and should read the entire guide before going to take the exam. To request an exam, one must have:

* [ACC Photo ID](http://www.austincc.edu/support/admissions/student_id.php)
* Course Abbreviation (e.g., ENGL)
* Course Number (e.g.,1301)
* Course Synonym (e.g., 10123)
* Course Section (e.g., 005)
* Instructor's Name

Do NOT bring cell phones to the Testing Center. Having your cell phone in the testing room, regardless of whether it is on or off, will revoke your testing privileges for the remainder of the semester. ACC Testing Center policies can be found at http://www.austincc.edu/testctr/

**Student And Instructional Services**

ACC strives to provide exemplary support to its students and offers a broad variety of opportunities and services. Information on these services and support systems is available at:  [http://www.austincc.edu/s4/](http://www.austincc.edu/current/)

Links to many student services and other information can be found at: http://www.austincc.edu/current/

ACC Learning Labs provide free tutoring services to all ACC students currently enrolled in the course to be tutored. The tutor schedule for each Learning Lab may be found at: <http://www.autincc.edu/tutor/students/tutoring.php>

For help setting up your ACCeID, ACC Gmail, or ACC Blackboard, see a Learning Lab Technician at any ACC Learning Lab.