

**ORANGE COAST COLLEGE**  
**Spring 2020**

<b>FILM 240: STORY DEVELOPMENT &amp; PRODUCTION</b>		
Section	Time / Day	Room
<b>31139</b>	9:00 am - 1:15 pm / M	Art Ct 136

Transfer Credit: CSU; UC. (3 Units) Optional equipment fee: \$60 Prerequisite: Film 110	Instructor: L. Riggins Email: lriggins@ccd.edu Office Hours: M 1:30-2:00, Rm. FA-119A
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**STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES** – This class is designed to introduce you to advanced storytelling and screenwriting (development of fiction structure), pre-production, and film production. Students will:

1. Structure, develop, and write fiction screenplays.
2. Write, produce and direct a short film.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in producing and pre-production.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in post-production.

**CLASS SESSIONS** – Lectures, discussions, demonstrations, exercises.

**ATTENDANCE** – Mandatory. OCC Policy states an instructor may drop a student after “two weeks of absences.” In Film 240, this translates to “two absences.” If you withdraw, **you** must drop in a timely manner; I will not “undo” any failure for you to withdraw in accord with OCC deadlines and paperwork.

**ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITY** – OCC recommends students with disabilities or specific learning needs contact professors during the first two weeks of class to discuss academic accommodations. If you believe that you may have a disability and would like more information contact Disabled Students Programs and Services at (714) 432-5807 (voice), (714) 432-5604 (TDD), or disabledstudents@occ.cccd.edu.

**READINGS / TEXTS / SOFTWARE**

- **Final Draft Screenwriting Software (required)**
- **The Artists Way (recommended).**

**ASSIGNMENTS** – The bulk of non-class time is devoted to developing screenwriting projects, film exercises, and fiction film projects. There will be a written Final Exam.

**MATURE THEMES** – This course involves fiction writing and may include discussion of R-rated films, themes, student scripts, and dialogue.

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
Time Compression Exercise	5
Short Script	15
Coverage Exercise	5
Film Production	30
Film Editing Visuals	10
Film Editing Audio	10
Participation	10
Written Exam	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

Week #1	JAN	27	Confirm pre-req's / Class business Lecture: Writing / Creativity Assignment: Freewriting Assignment: Time Compression Exercise, Due: Midnight, Sat., Feb 1. Assignment: Three Story Ideas
Week #2	FEB	3	Story, Writing, Structure, Clustering. Due: Three Story Ideas
Week #3		10	Lecture: Writing / Directing Due: Full Concept for Fiction Film
Week #4		17	HOLIDAY
Week #5		24	Lecture: Writing / Directing
Week #6	MAR	2	Discussion: Synopsis / Scripts
Week #7		9	Discussion: Synopsis / Scripts Lecture: Lighting, Acting, Sound Assignment: Coverage Exercise
Week #8		16	Discussion: Synopsis / Scripts
		23	HOLIDAY / Spring Break
Week #9		30	Discussion: Synopsis / Scripts Lecture: Pre-production
Week #10	APR	6	Production
Week #11		13	Production
Week #12		20	Production
Week #13		27	Production / Editing
Week #14	MAY	4	Production / Editing
Week #15		11	Editing Tutoring, Meetings, Discussions
Week #16		18	Exam: Written Final Due: Fiction Film Due: Student-Producer's Personal Script

**COURSE RUBRIK**

**TIME COMPRESSION EXERCISE (5 points)** – A fun production linking dialogue with location and time. Lighting, acting, directing are secondary.

**SHORT SCRIPT (15 points)** – Screenplay developed using Instructor’s Story Structure for course’s FILM PRODUCTION. Student Writer-Director working alone may write a script as short as 6-8 pages for a 6-10 minute film. If Writer-Director works with a Partner, then film is expected to be longer and/or boast more elaborate PRODUCTION VALUE. Note: If Student is film’s PRODUCER (does not write or direct), then Student-Producer’s separate script is due at end of semester.

**COVERAGE EXERCISE (5 points)** – A brief production exercise to demonstrate coverage of two or three characters in student-written scene.

**FILM PRODUCTION (30 points)** – Shot on location. PRODUCTION points awarded based on DIRECTING, CINEMATOGRAPHY, and PRODUCTION VALUE.

- If student works alone, the Production Value element carries less weight under the assumption Student did not possess as many resources (money, contacts, time) as a production using a Team of students.
- If students work as a Team, one is the PRODUCER, one is DIRECTOR. Production Value is gauged by complexity and value of the film, that is: Did Producer include multiple Locations, Props, and larger Cast.

**EDITING VISUALS (10 points)** – Cutting the film’s visuals during post-production. OCC Film students are usually quite skilled at this step.

**EDITING AUDIO (10 points)** – Easiest aspect of post-production as sound f/x are readily obtained from the internet. Ten points for Audio encourages students to cut their visuals as quickly as possible enabling them time developing better audio.

**PARTICIPATION (10 points)** – Brainstorm and offer story and production solutions, be present, present projects on time, ask questions, follow instructions.

**FINAL EXAM (15 points)** – A short-answer written test.

**TOTAL POINTS: 100**

Grades = Points
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = < 60

The website for Film 240 is **rodusher.com** and contains the handouts below in zip format. IMMEDIATELY print the first two handouts for class #2. Print the remaining handouts by class #4.

**A-Film-240-SPRING-2019-SYLLABUS-RUBRIK.pdf**

**B-240-HANDOUT-CharacterVillainStructureHandout.pdf**

C-240-HANDOUT-CastingMixerTipsBackStage.docx

D-240-HANDOUT-Pre-Production-Pkg.pdf

E-Pre-Production-List.docx

F-240-HANDOUT-1-Script.fdr

G-240-HANDOUT-2-Report.fdr

H-240-HANDOUT-3-Breakdown.fdr

I-240-HANDOUT-4-Script Breakdown Instructions.pdf

J-240-HANDOUT-5-SAMPLE-Script+Breakdown.pdf

J-240-HANDOUT-PRODUCTION-BOOKS.docx

K-Microphone Pickup Patterns.docx

L-240 Equipment Checkout List.pdf

M-OCC-On-Campus-FILMING RULES and REQUEST.pdf

N-240-HANDOUT-CAMERA-Floor-Plan.docx

O-Script-Format-SAMPLE.fdx

P-Dialogue Trim Sample.docx

Q-CalendarSample.docx

R-SAG&AFTRA.docx

Y-240-Camera-Test-for-DPs.pdf

Z-AcademicHonestyFilm240.pdf

**TIME COMPRESSION FILM, DUE: Saturday at Midnight.**

As described, this is your “badda bing badda boom” movie. You will write/shoot/edit this brief fun film. You will upload it to **Vimeo** or **YouTube** and email the LINK to me. You may NOT use any other method of submission; no Google, or Cloud, or Whatever.

**EMAIL PROCEDURE:**

My email for Film 240: [rusher666@earthlink.net](mailto:rusher666@earthlink.net). Submit **all** emails using format:

**Subject Line: FILM 240 – LAST NAME – SUBJECT OF EMAIL.**

FILM 240 – JOHNSON – TIME COMPRESSION FILM

FILM 240 – REYNOLDS – STORY OUTLINE

FILM 240 – SMITH – QUESTION ABOUT DEADLINES

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you do not use this format, your email may be deleted.

**FREEWRITING:** As the “calisthenics” of the course, write 15-45 minutes per day. (It’s better if you write TWICE per day.) Below are topics that trigger emotional responses. Complete several before next class meeting:

- |                                                              |                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Daddy</b>                        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Farm.</b>                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lonely</b>                       | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Outer space.</b>                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Clown</b>                        | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Friend.</b>                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Write <u>as</u> your Villain</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>My favorite song is ___ because ___.</b>       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>My pet...</b>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I am angry.</b>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I am bleeding...</b>             | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>The most evil jerk I have ever known is...</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>My boyfriend...</b>              | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>The most evil thing I’ve ever done is...</b>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>My girlfriend...</b>             | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>The story of my final film is about...</b>     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I am nervous</b>                 |                                                                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Police.</b>                      |                                                                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Wizard.</b>                      |                                                                            |

**THREE STORY IDEAS:**

These are concepts for your film, the “largest” project of the class. These are **due next class meeting**. As with ALL writing assignments, these will be typed/printed and submitted with student name. Your concepts do not need to be complete “loglines,” but they should imply clear characters:

1. A guy falls in love with a girl who is a werewolf.
2. A warden orders a psychiatrist to spy on an inmate.
3. An American soldier protects a German POW from an evil American Sergeant.

Agreement Regarding Classroom Activity

Student acknowledges that the following conduct is prohibited in this class pursuant to, among other things, Education Code § 78907, Board Policy 5500, California Penal Code § 632 and California Civil Code § 3344, and if violated may constitute cause for academic discipline, grade reduction, and civil and/or criminal liability:

- Academic dishonesty;
- Threatening or intimidating behavior, including harassment (sexual or otherwise);
- Endangerment of others, including but not limited to the possession or use of weapons;
- Unauthorized audio, video or photographic recording of any person while in this classroom or in any equivalent site of instruction without the prior permission of instructor or disabled student office; and
- Disruptive behavior, including but not limited to willful disobedience or willful misconduct.

These rules, regulations, and potential liability apply irrespective of any written acknowledgement. Nonetheless, to ensure a classroom environment that allows a safe and open expression of beliefs, thoughts and ideas, please sign and date below to indicate your understanding of the foregoing.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**FILM 240: CLASS / CAREER FOCUS**

**What are your skills? Check all that apply:**

- Writer
- Producer
- Director
- Performer
- Cinematographer
- Art Director
- Crew \_\_\_\_\_
- Editor
- Sound Designer / Editor

**What would you like to focus on this semester?**

- Writer
- Producer
- Director
- Performer
- Cinematographer
- Art Director
- Crew \_\_\_\_\_
- Editor
- Sound Designer / Editor

**What would you like to be?**

- Writer
- Producer
- Director
- Performer
- Cinematographer
- Art Director
- Crew \_\_\_\_\_
- Editor
- Sound Designer / Editor

Give details about the above:

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