DD0000 WRITING NARRATIVES FOR CREATIVE MEDIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Coordinator</td>
<td>Senior Lecturer Ben Slater</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
<td>DD0000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Writing Narratives for Creative Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>No of AUs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Hours</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal Date</td>
<td>28 April 2017</td>
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Course Aims

This course introduces you to the practice and theory of writing narratives for creative media. Narrative, the principles of storytelling, play a crucial part in much of the media and design landscape, and writing is a key tool for their construction. Narrative writing has to engage with the materiality of the media and is in a creative dialogue with form and content. During this course you will engage with and analyse notable examples, forms, techniques and ideas around narrative and storytelling, and you will begin to develop your own writing practice through a series of practical projects with the instructor and peer feedback.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you (as a student) would be able to:

1. Analyse the fundamental elements of a dramatic story, and how and why stories are constructed and designed.

2. Recognise the differences between narrative media and demonstrate various ways to communicate via ‘storytelling’ in those media.

3. Creatively and reflexively apply principles learnt in class (and through external reading) to develop your own narratives in several different media.

4. Communicate your ideas about story effectively in presentations.

5. Critique your own and your peers’ work in a clear and constructive manner.

Course Content

- **Why do we have Stories?**
  Overview of key concepts and theories around narrative and how we develop as consumers of narratives.

- **How do we construct Stories?**
  An exploration of story structures from Aristotle to Dan Harmon, via Joseph Campbell and Shakespearean Drama. Examining the purpose of story structure and its uses for the writer and the storytelling process.
• Exploring Narrative Forms
  Overview of key issues and concepts in relation to three major narrative forms – prose fiction, cinematic storytelling and interactive narratives, with many examples.

• Story Development & Writing
  Three creative projects which explore three different kinds of writing – prose fiction, screenwriting and interactive narratives. Developed through proposals, workshops and peer/instructor feedback sessions.

Assessment (includes both continuous and summative assessment)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Course LO Tested</th>
<th>Related Programme LO or Graduate Attributes</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Team/Individual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Assessment 1 (CA1): Assignments: Short Story Short Screenplay</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
<td>Competence, Creativity, Communication and Character</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Individual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuous Assessment 2 (CA2): Participation</td>
<td>1,2,4,5</td>
<td>Communication and Character</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Individual</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project: Interactive Narrative</td>
<td>2,3,4</td>
<td>Competence, Creativity, Communication and Character</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
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Formative feedback

Students will receive feedback from the instructor and peers on the strengths and weaknesses of their work during and/or after every project. This feedback takes different forms (written and verbal) and comes at different stages which vary on each of the three projects.

Learning and Teaching approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approach</th>
<th>How does this approach support students in achieving the learning outcomes?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Students are introduced to fundamental concepts of narrative and storytelling and techniques to improve/develop their work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creative Projects</td>
<td>Students will have opportunities to develop and create their own stories in three different media. Students can apply concepts of story structure and storytelling practice in their work. Demonstrate ability to explore different ways of writing/creating narrative in individual and/or group-based assignments.</td>
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</table>
Project Critique

Students will receive feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of their work from the instructor and peers.

Recommended Reading and References


Course Policies and Student Responsibilities

(1) General

Students are expected to complete all assigned readings, activities, assignments, attend all classes punctually and complete all scheduled assignments by due dates. Students are expected to take responsibility to follow up with assignments and course related announcements. Students are expected to participate in all project critiques, class discussions and activities.

(2) Punctuality

Students are expected to be punctual for all classes. If you are more than 30 minutes late, you will be deemed as absent and will not be able to sign in to the attendance register.

(3) Absenteeism

In-class activities make up a significant portion of your course grade. Absence from class without a valid reason will affect your participation grade. Valid reasons include falling sick supported by a medical certificate and participation in NTU’s approved activities supported by an excuse letter from the relevant bodies. There will be no make-up opportunities for in-class activities.

Academic Integrity

Good academic work depends on honesty and ethical behaviour. The quality of your work as a student relies on adhering to the principles of academic integrity and to the NTU Honour Code, a set of values shared by the whole university community. Truth, Trust and Justice are at the core of NTU’s shared values.

As a student, it is important that you recognize your responsibilities in understanding and applying the principles of academic integrity in all the work you do at NTU. Not knowing what is involved in maintaining academic integrity does not excuse academic dishonesty. You need to actively equip yourself with strategies to avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, academic fraud, collusion and cheating. If you are uncertain of the definitions of any of these terms, you should go to the academic integrity website for more information. Consult your
instructor(s) if you need any clarification about the requirements of academic integrity in the course.

**Planned Weekly Schedule***

*Subjected to adjustment by instructor according to students’ progress, public holidays and unforeseeable circumstances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Course LO</th>
<th>Readings/ Activities</th>
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| 1 - 2 | • Why do we have Stories?  
Overview of key concepts and theories around narrative and how we develop as consumers of narratives. | 1,2 | Introductory Lecture  
In-class exercise on ‘How to Begin A Story’  
Lecture on ‘Story & Storytelling’  
In-class exercise on Personal Narratives |
| 3 - 4 | • How do we construct Stories?  
An exploration of story structures from Aristotle to Dan Harmon, via Joseph Campbell and Shakespearean Drama. Examining the purpose of story structure and its uses for the writer and the storytelling process. | 1,2 | Lecture on Story Structure  
Part 1 & 2  
Assign Project on analysing story structure  
Student Presentations on story structure |
| 5 - 13 | • Exploring Narrative Forms  
Overview of key issues and concepts in relation to three major narrative forms – prose fiction, cinematic storytelling and interactive narratives, with many examples.  
• Story Development & Writing  
Three creative projects which explore three different kinds of writing – prose fiction, screenwriting and interactive narratives. Developed through proposals, workshops and peer/instructor feedback sessions. | 2, 3, 4 | Workshop on Creative Writing/Prose Fiction  
Lecture on Cinematic Storytelling  
Lecture on Interactive Narratives  
In-class exercise Creative Writing  
Assign Readings Short Fiction/Screenplays  
Assign Projects  
Screenwriting/Interactive Narrative  
Project consultation  
Screenwriting/Interactive Narrative  
Project Critique  
Screenwriting/Interactive Narrative/Short Fiction  
Student Presentations on Interactive Narratives. |