

Screenwriting 101  
Spring 2012

Introduction to Screenwriting

Instructor: Dan Mundt  
Office: 04 Town Square Television  
5845 Blaine Ave.  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

Office Hours: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm T&R  
Phone: (651) 451-7834 office

email:

Prerequisite: An interest in the art of filmmaking

Grading: The grades for this class will be based on the following distribution:

Attendance	35%
Screenplay Project 1	30%
Screenplay Project 2	35%

Course Description: **Screenwriting 101**

Students will learn the techniques of screenwriting in a workshop environment. Students will write two short-form screenplays during the course; student screenplays will be read in class for comments and suggestions toward revision.

**Screenwriting 101** is a 12-week course of study. The class will meet Saturdays from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm beginning January 7.

Location: Town Square Television Conference Room.

Attendance: as the majority of the learning takes place in a “hands-on” fashion, attendance is essential. Attendance is worth 35% of the overall grade.

Screenplay Projects: Each student will write two short-form screenplays. Screenplay project will be worth 65% of the overall grade.

Text: Syd Field, *Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting*,  
Random House Publishing Group

**Class Schedule:**

- Week 1      January 7:      Introduction to Filmmaking 101  
Introduction to the screenplay. Discussion of student screenplay ideas.
- Week 2      January 14:      Elements of The Scene  
**Reading: Chapter 10 & 11**  
Discussion of screenplay ideas continues.
- Week 3      January 21:      Getting the Ball Rolling  
**Reading: Chapters 2, 6 & 7**  
1-page introductory scene due. All scenes read and discussed in class.
- Week 4      January 28:      Creating Interesting Characters  
**Readings: Chapters 3, 4 & 5**  
Dialogue scene due. Reading and discussion of scenes. Discussion of screenplay ideas.
- Week 5      February 4:      Structure of the Story  
**Readings: Chapters 8, 9 & 12**  
Discussion of dialogue scenes.
- Week 6      February 11:      Classroom Screenplay Readings  
Screenplay 1 Due. Begin reading and discussion in class.

- Week 7: February 18: Classroom Screenplay Readings  
Screenplay 1 readings and discussion continues.
- Week 8: February 25: Classroom Screenplay Readings  
Screenplay 1 readings and discussion continues.
- Week 9: March 3: Classroom Screenplay Readings  
Screenplay 2 opening scenes due. Begin reading and discussion.
- Week 10: March 10: Classroom Screenplay Readings  
Reading and discussion of Screenplay 2 opening scenes.
- Week 11: March 11: Classroom Screenplay Readings  
Screenplay 2 due. Begin reading and discussion.
- Week 12: March 24: Classroom Screenplay Readings  
Screenplay 2 readings and discussion.