

Script To Screen: Individual Project

CAMF5003

Introduction to module

- Module handbook
- Concept to finished film
- Intensive development, pre-production, production and post-production
- Assessment 1 – Pre-production portfolio, deadline Thursday 5th November
- Assessment 2 – 7-minute film, deadline Tuesday 12th January

Project planning

- Pitching
- Treatment
- Script (CeltX, Adobe Story, Final Draft)
- Shooting script
- Storyboards
- Images - moodboards, reference material, auditions, location scouting
- Forms – extended step outline, risk assessments, clearances, schedule, budget, call sheets, kit lists

Conceptualising short films

- The classically structured story
- Conflict
- Character
- Creative limitations
- Adaptation
- Aristotlean unity

The classically structured story

- Ordinary world
- Extraordinary world
- Return the ordinary world transformed/hero receives gift
- Hero faces challenges
- Rising action
- Each beat, scene & sequence moves the story forward

Consent - 2004



Conflict

- Characters have goals, obstacles stop them
- External challenge – outside the self/threats to survival/status/etc
- Internal challenge – the self/own doubts & anxieties
- Overarching conflict represents what the film is about, either directly or as a metaphor

The Money - 2004



Character

- Characterization versus character
- Characterisation is surface detail – dress, looks, mannerisms and so on
- Character is what a character actually does, what they truly stand for, how they reveal themselves
- A character's transformation is often at the heart of a classical story

Sign Language - 2010



Example short films

- To Kill A Mockingbird
- Becshissen
- Waiting For The Telegram
- Consent
- Sign Language
- The Money
- The Other Half

Waiting For The Telegram - 2012



To Kill A Mockingbird - 1965



The Other Half - 2007



Script To Screen – Your Short Film

- Creative limitations
- Adaptation
- Aristotlean unity

Creative limitations

- Locations
- Cast
- Crew
- Production design
- Equipment
- Budget
- Schedule

Adaptation

- Poem
- Shakespeare monologue or scene
- (Very) short story
- Folk or fairy tale
- Dramatise a personal anecdote

Aristotlean unity

- Unity of time and place
- Single location
- Limited time frame (continuous?)

Prepare pitches

- Prepare your ideas for three pitches and discuss them with your group and the tutor
- Try writing three sentences – one describing the ordinary world, one describing the extraordinary world, and one describing the return to the ordinary world transformed