

SCREEN SOUTH & GABRIELLA APICELLA'S FEATURE DEVELOPMENT MASTERCLASS: COURSE CONTENT

Week 1 – 15th June – 10am – 3pm

- Introduction – overview of the course
- Intro to each other and initial sharing of story ideas.
- Lecture on Character
- Exercises on Protagonist character development.
- Discussion / sharing of exercises
- Development of Antagonist and supporting cast.
- Homework – character biographies for main protagonist.

Week 2 – 22nd June 10am – 1pm

- Sharing of character biographies for feedback
- Overview of structure.
- Building Act 1
- Inciting Incidents and First Act Turning Points will be covered in depth.
- Developing story beats in class on their own and then in pairs
- Homework – writing Act 1 beats up as three pages of treatment

Week 3 – 29th June, 10 – 1pm

- Sharing of Act 1 treatments
- Building Act 3
- Understanding lowest point and 2nd Act Turning Point.
- Brainstorming and workshopping alternative options for these elements
- Essential elements for Act 3 and explanation of them
- Homework – writing Act 3 beats up as three pages of treatment as much as possible – these will evolve with the development of Act 2 so must be kept fluid.

Week 4 – 6th July, 10am – 1pm

- Sharing of Act 3 – whether beats or treatment or mixture of both.
- Act 2 – explanation of midpoint importance.
- Subplots
- Rhythms of Act 2 – variety and momentum.
- Ensuring the principles of genre and theme as well as including all story elements for exploration of story world and intentions.
- Homework – develop all 28 story beats for Act 2

Week 5 – 13th July, 10am – 1pm

- Mapping Act 2 out through arrangement of beats – 3 stories possible to do this with
- Homework – bringing all elements together – writing up all Acts into 12 pg treatment

Week 6 – 20th July, 10am – 4pm

- Individual half hour one-to-ones – all treatments to be sent in advance for feedback.



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Week 7 – 27th July, 12pm – 3pm

- Celebratory overview of achievements
- Pitch presentations of the developed projects.