

Course Sequencing and Structure

FMPR 341 – Writing for Film I

Course Description: An introduction to writing for film. Students explore the written word as a means to convey and clarify visual ideas and cinematic stories. Synopses, treatments and scenarios for various genres are explored. Students are required to submit their own writing for discussion and analysis.

Four-week intensive course (weeks 1 – 4) 33 hours of academic activity per week (120 hours/semester)

- o Twelve 3-hour synchronous sessions per semester (36hours/semester)
- o Approximately 84 hours of asynchronous work per semester

FMPR 441 – Writing for Film II

Course Description: Additional topics include adaptations of existing work for the screen and developing longer film projects. Three-act structures as well as new narrative formats and documentary approaches are explored. Students are required to submit their own writing for discussion and analysis.

Four-week intensive course (weeks 1 – 4) 33 hours of academic activity per week (120 hours/semester)

- o Twelve 3-hour synchronous sessions per semester (36hours/semester)
- o Approximately 84 hours of asynchronous work per semester

FMPR 336 – Introduction to Film Production

Course Description: A comprehensive course introducing students to the creative and administrative challenges of producing. This includes strategies for fundraising, pre-production, budgeting and scheduling techniques, legal, financial and insurance concerns, post-production, distribution, and exhibition. A broad range of genres and platforms are covered.

Nine-week course (weeks 1 – 9) 120 hours of academic activity per program

- o 36 hours of synchronous sessions
- o Approximately 84 hours of asynchronous work

Students will be asked to adhere to the proposed course sequence as shown in the following table:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Delivery mode</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Total Hours</i>
Week 1	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 2	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 3	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	x	x	x	12

	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 4	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	FMPR 341 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 5	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 6	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 7	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 8	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 441 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	FMPR 441 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Week 9	Synchronous sessions (a.m.)	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 336 3 hrs	FMPR 336 3 hrs	x	x	x	12
	Asynchronous work (p.m)	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	7	5	x	28
Total Workload	360 hrs for the entire program								

The program's learning outcomes are listed below. By the end of the micro-certificate, each student will be able to:

1. Recognize the principal stages of filmmaking: development, pre-production, production, and distribution.
2. Identify the processes required to bring an original film idea from script to screen, from initial concept to distribution.
3. Distinguish between different types of scriptwriting across fiction and nonfiction genres.
4. Analyze scripts and evaluate the techniques used in creating them.
5. Develop a variety of fundamental skills in the areas of visual storytelling and scriptwriting technique.
6. Successfully communicate a creative vision to collaborators using a thorough understanding of the professional conventions of screenwriting.
7. Apply research skills to conceive and write a film script.

8. Recognize the skills and tools producers use to navigate the financial, legal and creative challenges of independent film production.
9. Create essential documentation covering pitch/development proposals, production management, and the administrative oversight of film projects (e.g., character breakdowns, preliminary budgets, production schedules, contracts with actors' and technicians' unions, location permits, errors and omissions insurance, festival submissions, distribution agreements, etc.).
10. Identify the process of applying for financing through grant agencies, private investment, or crowdfunding.

Curriculum map: Summer 2021-22

The proposed **Micro-certificate in Screenwriting and Independent Producing** will comprise three intensive courses: 1) FMRR 341 Writing for Film I (3 credits), 2) FMRR 441 Writing for Film II (3 credits), and 3) FMRR 336 Introduction to Producing (3 credits).

The three courses should be completed over nine weeks, starting May 2021. This will allow students (including those living outside of Montreal) to complete the program over the summer.

Weeks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Pre-requisites	Learning Outcomes	Total hours
<i>FMRR 341</i>	x	x	x	x						None	3, 4, 5, 6	120
<i>FMRR 441</i>					x	x	x	x	x	FMRR 341	4, 5, 6, 7	120
<i>FMRR 336</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	None	1, 2, 8, 9, 10	120