

USC School of Cinematic Arts

CTPR 450 Development, Production and Post-Production Practice

2 Units

Tuesday 9:00 am – 11:50 pm

Location: SCI 106

Instructors:

Brenda Goodman

SCA 437

USC 213 740 3320

Home/office 310 493 3249

bgoodman@cinema.usc.edu

office hours: Tuesday 1-3, and by appointment

Harold Apter

haroldapter@gmail.com

818-259-5703

Office Hours: By Appointment

Student Assistant:

Edwin Soto

edwinsoto19@gmail.com

(425) 501-3224

Prerequisite: CTPR 310 Intermediate Production Corequisite: One of the following practicum:

CTPR 421 Practicum in Editing

CTPR 424 Practicum in Cinematography

CTPR 438 Practicum in Producing

CTPR 440 Practicum in Sound

CTPR 465 Practicum in Production Design

CTPR 476,478 Directing

The course will focus on creative development as well as the role of assistants in the 479,480/484 classes.

Students will conceive and develop projects with instruction from Producing and Writing faculty. Students will initially present project ideas in groups and then later in pitches and scripts.

During the semester, students who wish to work in and on 480 productions in the spring of 2016 will come together to form a team.

Suggested Readings

"Aristotle's Poetics" and "The Tools of Screenwriting" by David Howard and Edward Mabley.

Shooting To Kill: Christine Vachon & David Edelstein, Quill paperback, 2002

The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, short stories, novels

Students are expected to be on time and prepared for each class. Two unexcused absences will result in your grade being lowered by one full point (example: an "A" becomes a "B." A third unexcused absence will result in your grade being lowered another full point (example: a "B" becomes a "C." Your grade will be lowered by one point for every absence thereafter. Two late arrivals equates to one full absence. We understand there may be times where you are required to be in two places at once. The key is communication. If you must miss class please contact either the SA or one of your instructors prior to class.

450 Week by Week

Tuesday August 25 Week 1

9-10:30 450 will be combined with 480 class in SCA 112

10:45 – noon 450

Who are you?

Class introduction and discussion of how 450 works

Tuesday September 1 Week 2

The short film examples, fiction, doc, and other short content

Your role in 479, 480, 484

Presentation of optional reading and watching list

Tuesday September 8 Week 3

Character development - Harold

The class will be divided in to 10 groups of 6

Each group will come up with multiple ideas [a character, a world and a conflict] stories inspired by Harold's Character presentation.

One person from each group will describe report back (not pitch) their notions to the full class.

Tuesday September 15 Week 4

Alex McDowell

World building how does that work

Group 2 each group will come with ideas inspired from Alex's presentation

One person from each group will describe report back (not pitch) their notions to the full class.

Tuesday September 22 Week 5

Yom Kippur

480 & 450 together for dailies

Tuesday September 29 Week 6

Starting from reality the documentary world - Brenda

Group 3 each team to come up with ideas based on Brenda's presentation

One person from each group will describe report back (not pitch) their notions to the full class.

Assignment: Create three loglines for projects or submit script via email to your professors.

Tuesday October 6 Week 7

We will view successful 480 and other short films. The reasons why they were successful will be explored from writing, producing, directing, and cinematography, editorial sound and picture and design perspectives.

Group 4

Who already has or wants to write a script? Come prepared to tell us about the ideas you want to write. Pitch and discuss ideas within the small groups. Write up loglines to distribute to full class.

Tuesday October 13 Week 8

Coalescing around a project or role. We will explain this more in class.

The roles in 486,480,484 planning for your future

Groups 5

Groups will reform around potential projects of their choosing. Groups may become larger at this point, depending upon interest in individual projects and qualifications for crew positions.

First draft or revised scripts due.

Tuesday October 20 Week 9

Preparing to submit for 480 if you are

THURSDAY October 22, 5PM

First submission date for 480

Tuesday October 27 Week 10

450 & 480 together

November 6 480 scripts announced

Tuesday November 3 Week 11

CLASS Pitches of selected project

Tuesday November 10 week 12

Pitch preparation. How does one pitch

Tuesday November 17 Week 13

TBD

480 PITCHES FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20

Tuesday November 24 Week 14

No class

Tuesday December 1 week 15

480 & 450 together

Assignments and Grading

Please refer to assignments in the week to week schedule

Each student will write an essay reflecting on their crew experience – no more than 2 pages.

This is Due by noon December 11.

Final Grades: Class Participation 20%
Crew Participation in 479/480/484 30%
Log lines and scripts 30%
Final essay 20%

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards* <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the *Department of Public Safety* <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/departement-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support,

and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicssupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.