



CTWR 431

Crafting the Past and Future: Writing Time Travel Films

#19373R • Irving Belateche • Tuesdays • 6-9:30pm • 2 units

Get ready to blast off on an adventure through time! In this course, we'll dive into the captivating genre of time travel films, where anything is possible and the only limit is your own imagination. Whether you're riding shotgun in a DeLorean, chasing after a wily groundhog, or charting your own course through the space-time continuum, time travel films have captivated audiences worldwide for decades. Join us as we learn what storytelling elements make this genre such a powerhouse in Hollywood and beyond. From comedies like *Groundhog Day* and *Back to the Future* to mind-bending thrill rides like *Edge of Tomorrow* to heart-felt horror like *Happy Death Day*, we'll examine the key ingredients that make these films so entertaining. How do writers use time travel to build tension and suspense? How do they create emotional connections with audiences even in the midst of mind-bending temporal paradoxes? Through screenings and intensive analysis, we'll distill the key storytelling elements that have made time travel films a lasting part of the movie universe and we'll learn how to harness the limitless potential of this fascinating genre. So grab your flux capacitor, hop in your spaceship from *Planet of the Apes*, or take a dip in the mysterious pool of *Palm Springs*, and join us on a journey that defies time itself!

Irving Belateche is a screenwriter and award-winning author. He's written screenplays for Paramount Pictures, Sony Pictures, Warner Bros., and other studios, as well as for TV networks HBO and Syfy. Among the twenty-two feature film scripts Belateche has sold are *Combustion*, *Testament*, *Expecting*, and *The Veil*. He's written scripts for producers Lawrence Bender (*Pulp Fiction*), Joel Silver (*The Matrix*), Jason Blum (*Paranormal Activity*, *Get Out*), Gavin Polone (*Gilmore Girls*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*), and director Robert Zemeckis (*Back To The Future*, *Forrest Gump*). He also founded and designed the screenwriting program at ShanghaiTech University in China and taught seminars at Tencent and Blizzard Entertainment (the world's two largest gaming companies).

Potential Screenings:

Arrival, *About Time*, *Back To The Future*, *Donnie Darko*, *Edge of Tomorrow*, *Groundhog Day*, *Happy Death Day*, *Looper*, *Palm Springs*, *Planet of the Apes*, *Source Code*, *Terminator*