

About the Course

Basic Course Information

Course Title	Part Time Screenwriting
Awarding Body	N/A
Award on Completion	N/A
Length of Course	12 sessions over 24 weeks Part Time, Alternate Saturdays
Location	MetFilm School Campus in Ealing, London and/or other teaching and production spaces in West London.

Teaching and Learning

The delivery of MetFilm School programmes is tailored to the particular learning goals of the individual course. Many courses contain production periods when the demands on individual students vary according to their individual shoots. **Specific details vary from time to time in order to maximise student experience.** Indicative calendars are issued at the start of each course and students can access their individual timetables through the student portal.

Delivery of this course will be within these parameters:

Teaching

- Your course averages 66 hours of teaching time over the period.
- Teaching on MetFilm School's *Part Time Screenwriting* course is usually scheduled between the hours of 09:00-19:00 on Saturday. Taught sessions will be timetabled within these windows.
- Students are expected to engage in independent learning, practical exercises, and tutorials outside these hours, and also have access to School wide activities including guest speakers and opportunities through MetFilm Futures.
- Throughout this course students will be given formative feedback from their tutor and through peer review. However, this course is not formally assessed academically, and no grades are given at the end of the course.

Mixed Teaching

MetFilm School's *Part Time Screenwriting* is a practical course which is taught largely in person. We have also found that we can enhance our in-person teaching using online tools, and the School has developed a *Mixed Teaching* approach which allows us to do just that. For example, some 1:1 tutorials and large group experiences are better delivered digitally. All online sessions will be noted clearly in student's timetables. In addition, where public health considerations or other matters outside our control limit access to the campus, *Mixed Teaching* ensures that students can continue their learning journey. The introduction of online tools will allow us to offer more opportunities, more content and an enhanced learning experience, at the same time delivering the in-person practical experience our students value.

The information included in this pack is provided to enhance your understanding of the course. Please note that some details may vary depending on the cohort.

Summary

Part Time Screenwriting is designed to cover the following areas:

- The fundamentals of storytelling
- How to create sustained, interesting and cinematic stories
- The psychology of character
- The principles of story structure and theme
- Different narrative traditions and genres
- Visual storytelling, dialogue and subtext
- The writer's method
- The Business of Film and TV

The course outline below describes the key craft areas and skills you will cover during your course. Students can expect to explore the multi-faceted world of screenwriting through practical workshops and lectures.

Applying for this Course

Application for this course can be made on the MetFilm School website [here](#).

In order to apply for this course, students must be 18 years old or over, and have sufficient spoken & written English. The course is suitable for beginners and those with basic skills. There are no specific academic entry requirements for the *Part Time Screenwriting* course.

Course Structure and Delivery

Met Film School Mission

Our mission is to inspire a new generation of creative screen professionals, educating them in the new world of storytelling across all screen types. By putting industry at the heart of everything we do, MetFilm School best equips its graduates for successful careers.

Our goal is to nurture skill and talent, creating a great school which empowers students to pass seamlessly into work, using our experience to help businesses adapt and change in the ever-changing multichannel world.

Part Time Screenwriting

As an educational institution, Met Film School's mission is to provide students with a practical, high-quality learning experience grounded in professional industry practice and preparation. Through our course provision we equip students with the knowledge, skills and mindset to prepare them for successful careers within the screen industries.

We seek to foster an inclusive environment in which creative, mature, focused, and considerate individuals are valued as members of a dynamic community.

We believe collaboration is the bedrock of professional practice that is reflected across the creative screen industries, and students are required to treat each other with respect and to work together in a professional manner.

Met Film School's key policies and documents can be found here: [Key Policies](#)

Students explore the following key areas of study during the *Part Time Screenwriting* course:

Cinematic Storytelling

Through film analyses you will learn how to recognize and use the techniques and methods specific to film. This will include view point, scene editing, pacing, contrast, off-screen space, time lapses.

Visual Storytelling

These sessions will cover the practicalities of transferring your ideas onto screen and ensuring you are ready for your shoot. You will learn how a director can prepare for a shoot using storyboards, script mark-ups and technical floor plans. The lessons will cover how to denote shot sizes in a storyboard. In addition, you will understand the terms used to describe shots, such as close-up, midshot and POV.

Screenwriting

This component of the course will look at the art of visual storytelling through the development of an engaging and effective screenplay. You will examine screenwriting conventions and understand how to format your script in a clear and professional manner

Film, TV and Online Markets

You will learn the different tasks and responsibilities of a screenwriter. This component will focus on the business of filmmaking and how to achieve your goals. You will learn the relevant terminology and will cover the industry best practices.

Pitching and Networking

You will study how to approach an agent and producer and how to present your project with an impact. You will also learn how to communicate effectively to generate interest from various decision makers. In addition, you will come to understand industry conventions and essentials.

Sample Indicative Timetable

details may vary from cohort to cohort

Session 1	What is Story Week one will focus on: ○ The differences between the three types of narration: classical, non-classical, documentary ○ The basic elements of a story ○ Main character in a story and their roles ○ Basic storytelling terminology ○ The role of the screenwriter
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Session 2	Revising the logline, finding your audience Sessions this week will look at: ○ An overview of a script development process ○ Different types of projects: “on spec”, commissioned, subsidised ○ The log line ○ Film audiences and market criteria
Session 3	Character and Characterization During this week you will focus on: ○ Characterization and character ○ The main character’s arc ○ The subtext ○ The inner truth of the main character ○ What drives a good main character ○ The goal and “need” ○ The role of the secondary characters
Session 4	Story structure, story and plot, theme This session will include: ○ The three-act structure and its examples ○ Advanced storytelling terminology ○ Inciting Incident and other life changing events ○ The thesis, antithesis, synthesis worlds ○ Mid-point ○ Rock bottom moment and catharsis ○ Resolution
Session 5	The forces of antagonism, genre This week’s session will explore: ○ how to create meaningful work through an examination of genre, form, identity, representation and audience. ○ understand how genre is defined and how these definitions impact upon the film making process from both a creator’s perspective and an audience point of view. ○ understand the way in which genre informs storytelling and how its discourse informs the development of screen content.
Session 6	Visual Storytelling, writing the scene ○ Differences between “story”, “situation” and “character” ○ The DNA of the story and its representation in a scene ○ “Show don’t tell!” principle and what makes a scene cinematic

	○ The point of view ○ Pace and editing ○ The production requirements of a scene. ○ Notions of cost and shooting constraint
Session 7	First Table Read During this week students will read work produced to date. The session will include tutor and peer feedback
Session 8	The Art of Dialogue This session will explore: ○ Differences between how people talk in real life and how they talk in films ○ How the triad “Story”- “Situation”- “Character” applies to dialogue ○ Contradictions, lies, Freudian slip and other conveyors of subtext ○ Realism, naturalism, idiosyncrasy
Session 9	TV vs Feature Writing This week’s sessions will explore: ○ The genres that work on TV ○ How to write for smaller budget television ○ Different types of scripted shows: special episode (one-off), series, stand-alone, mini-series, soap operas, sit-coms, web series ○ Influences of the new SVoD channels
Session 10	Table Read with Actors Building on early session, professional actors will read and give feedback on student work.
Session 11	Pitching This week’s session includes: ○ understand the integral role pitching plays in screen industries ○ how developing pitching skills can help effectively persuade an audience to buy into a project.
Session 12	Presentation and next steps Students will present their final project in a pitch format with tutor and peer feedback, before discussions on industry next steps.

Please note that this is an indicative calendar. Specific details including the order of modules may vary from cohort to cohort. Students will be issued with a more detailed schedule at the start of the course, and your personalised calendar will be available via the student portal.

Being at MetFilm School

Teaching and Learning

Part Time Screenwriting forms part of the non-accredited course delivery run by Met Film School. The course structure comprises of a range of teaching and delivery patterns: lectures, workshops, exercises, presentations and individual one-to-one career and development tutorials.

Curriculum delivery is enhanced by access to MetFilm Futures, MetFilm School's student and graduate online community, where students can access competitions and guest speaker masterclasses.

Course details are contained within the Student Guide which students will be given when they start the course. The Student Guide is the core course document containing specific learning outcomes for each weekly session in line with the overall objectives of the course.

MetFilm School encourages independent learning and reflective learning. Students may be given structured homework to complete, encouraged to practice their skills independently or challenged to network and consider key industry contacts.

Tutors

MetFilm School works with a large team of teaching staff across its full portfolio of courses, profiles of many of whom you can find on our website [here](#).

Student Support

MetFilm School is committed to providing and supporting a diverse and inclusive environment that promotes and develops equality of opportunity for all students and staff. We seek to continually improve our standards across the student lifecycle encompassing access and admission; support and progression; and graduate employability and entrepreneurship.

We seek to provide a caring, supportive environment that recognises each student as a unique individual and fosters their personal and professional development. We are committed to each student's wellbeing, and there are a range of support mechanisms in place to aid student progression through their course of study.

The Student Handbook, which can be found [here](#), gives guidance on the support structures open to students at the School.

Formative Feedback

Throughout this course students will be given formative feedback from their tutor and through peer review. However, this course is not formally assessed academically, and no grades are given at the end of the course.

In addition, MetFilm School provides regular opportunities for students to give each other feedback through the learning system, which encourages feedback within peer-to-peer sessions. Being able to critically reflect on your own work and the work of your fellow students in a constructive, meaningful

way, both verbally and in written form, demonstrates good practice and enhances your learning experience.

Evaluative Feedback

MetFilm School is committed to continual improvement, and student feedback – both informal and formal – is an important part of the evaluative feedback we use. Students are therefore invited to complete feedback forms midway and at the end of their course.

Costs

Tuition Fees can be found on the course page on the MetFilm School website [here](#).