Course Title: An Introduction to Screenwriting: You Oughta Be (Writing) in Pictures
Course Code: EGL 126
Instructor: Adam Tobin

Course Summary:
EGL 126 is a writing workshop that serves as an introduction to writing for film or television. The course begins with two weeks of lecture and exercises, followed by introductory workshop of scene writing and ultimately in-class workshop of longer sequences of screenplay material, roughly 8-20 pages in length. Goals are to develop a clear sense of the tools and form of screenwriting, to create original work, and to practice giving, receiving and implementing feedback.

*Please see course page for full description and additional details.

Grade Options and Requirements:

• No Grade Requested (NGR)
  o This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided. You will not be graded, but you will have the opportunity to workshop and to turn in any assignments for feedback. You are expected to attend other students’ workshop weeks and give written feedback.

• Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  o Regular attendance and turning in your workshop material is required, as is written feedback to other students.

• Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
  o Written work, as assigned by the instructor, will determine a student’s grade. 34% class participation and written feedback, 33% first workshop material, 33% second workshop material.

*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.

Please contact the Stanford Continuing Studies office with any questions
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Tentative Weekly Outline:

Week 1:  
**Introduction to Screenwriting: Concept, Character and Loglines**  
Introductions to the course and to each other. Discuss NORTH BY NORTHWEST; concept, character behavior and goals, and loglines. “Misbehavior” and logline exercises in class.  
**Assignments:** Concept exercise; Logline; Protagonist profile. Watch TOY STORY.

Week 2:  
**Workshop loglines and Introduction to Screenplay Structure**  
Workshop loglines, protagonist profiles. Discuss film structure: 3, acts, 6 key points, 8 sequences; main tension, main conflict, main relationship, antagonist  
**Assignments:** Character profile, 6 key events. Watch THELMA AND LOUISE.

Week 3:  
**Introduction to Scene Writing and in class scene writing exercise**  
Screenplay format; how to write a screenplay scene; in class writing exercises: nondialogue (prep/aftermath, 3 entrances); and dialogue (tough spots)  
**Assignments:** Scene exercises. **STUDENTS 1-5 longer sequences due next week!**

Week 4:  
**Workshop scene exercises**  
(Students 1-5, workshop material due to be handed out.) Workshop scene exercises  
**Assignments:** Workshop students 1-5 next week; students 6-10 due to be handed out next week.

Week 5:  
**Students 1-5 material workshop**  
(Students 6-10 material handed out)  
**Assignments:** Workshop students 6-10 next week. Students 11-15 material due to be handed out next week. On your own: outline seq 2.

Week 6:  
**Students 6-10 material workshop**  
(Students 11-15 material handed out)  
**Assignments:** Workshop students 11-15 material next week. Outline seqs 3 & 4.

Week 7:  
**Students 11-15 material workshop**  
(Students 16-20 workshop material handed out)  
**Assignments:** Workshop slots 16-20 next week. Second 1-15 handed out next class. Outline seqs 5 & 6.
Week 8:
**Students 16-20 material workshop**
*Assignments:* Small group workshop - students 1-15 next week. 16-20 handed out next week. Outline seqs 7 & 8.

Week 9:
**Small group workshop - students 1-15 share work**
*(Students 16-20 second workshop material handed out.)* We will split up into small “writing groups” of roughly 5, each group including three students from 1-15 and one student from 16-20. Students from 1-15 will have their material workshopped by their group this week. (Students from 16-20 will have their material workshopped next week.)
*Assignments:* Second workshop slots 16-20 next week.

Week 10:
**Small group workshop students 16-20; lecture on rewriting and the entertainment industry**
6:30-7:30 Workshop Workshop slot 16-20
7:30-7:45 break
7:45-9:20 Finishing a script and rewrites; the entertainment industry