Screenplay/Playwriting – 337

Niagara Falls High School

2024-2025

SEMESTER ONE

Title	Unit	Week	Duration	NYS Performance Indicators/Standards	Objectives/Essential Questions	Resources/Suggested Activities	Cross Content Curriculum	Assessment
The Creative Writing Process	1	1-3	2 - 3 weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS1a,c TH:Cr2.1.HS1a TH:Pr4.1.HS1a,b TH:Re7.1.HS1a THRe8.1.HS1a TH:Re9.1.HS1c THCn10.1.HS1a THCn11.1.HS1a THCn11.2.HS1a	Where do writers find inspiration? How does a writer find their "voice"? What writing techniques do writers use to bring their works to life? How do literary genres differ in their format, style and purpose? What events in my own real life are worth writing about? Student/Teacher Consultation to decide writing projects to be submitted to portfolio.	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films **Suggested Activities:** Complete prewriting activities to encourage creative thinking and inspire writing projects. Consult with teacher on ideas for initial performance/ presentation Analyze and critique writers' use of literary elements, word choice, style and content. Use class writing exercises to develop ability to create characters, conflicts, settings, plots themes and refine own writing style. Write a short story Share story with Teacher and Peers	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology	Group Discussion Teacher Evaluation Peer Evaluation Self Evaluation Lectures Writing Rubric
Fiction		4-6	2-3 Weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS11a,c TH:Cr2.1.HS11a TH:Cr3.1.HS11a,b TH:Pr4.1.HS11a,b TH:Pr6.1.HS11a	What is fiction? What are the elements of a short Story? How do you create and develop characters for a story?	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films Analyze, interpret and evaluate how an	English Literature Technology History Social Studies	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric

				TH:Re7.1.HS11a TH:Re8.1.HS11a,b TH:Cr1.1.HS11a,c TH:Cr2.1.HS11a TH:Cr3.1.HS11a,b TH:Pr4.1.HS11a,b TH:Pr6.1.HS11a TH:Re7.1.HS11a TH:Re8.1.HS11a,b	Explain Setting, Plot, Theme.	author unfolds an analysis of events. Evaluate how an author's point of view shapes the content and style of a text. Write and revise reflective and an analytical short story(fiction) Share story with Teacher and Peers Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, multiple plotlines, and pacing to develop experiences, events and characters.	Psychology	Teacher Assessment Peer Assessment Self Assessment
Nonfiction		7-9	2-3 Weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS11a,c TH:Cr2.1.HS11a TH:Cr3.1.HS11a,b TH:Pr4.1.HS11a,b TH:Pr6.1.HS11a TH:Re7.1.HS11a TH:Re8.1.HS11a,b TH:Re9.1.HS11a,b,c TH:Cn11.1.HS11a TH:Cn11.2.HS11a,b	What is fiction? What are the elements of a short Story? How do you create and develop characters for a story? Explain Setting, Plot, Theme.	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films Analyze, interpret and evaluate how an author unfolds an analysis of events. Evaluate how an author's point of view shapes the content and style of a text. Write and revise reflective and an analytical short story (non-fiction) Share story with Teacher and Peers . Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, multiple plotlines, and pacing to develop experiences, events and characters.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric Teacher Assessment Peer Assessment Self-Assessment
Write Your Story		10	1 Week	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a	Complete a fiction or nonfiction writing project to be submitted to portfolio.	Create a smooth progression of experiences and events using a variety of sequencing techniques in an original work.	English Literature Technology History	Writing Rubric Teacher Assessment Peer Assessment

				TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b		Write and revise reflective and an analytical short story (5 pages). Share your story with teacher and classmates	Social Studies Psychology	Self-Assessment

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SEMESTER TWO

Title	Unit	Week	Duration	NYS Performance Indicators/Standards	Objectives/Essential Questions	Resources/Suggested Activities	Cross Content Curriculum	Assessment
The Screenplay Writing Process	2	1	1 week	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	What is a screenplay? What are the three "C's" in script writing? What are 6 essential questions of Storytelling? Who are some of the most well known Screenplay Writers?	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films Analyze, interpret and evaluate how an author unfolds an analysis of events. Evaluate how an author's point of view shapes the content and style of a text. Write informative/explanatory texts to convey ideas and information clearly. Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, multiple plotlines, and pacing to develop experiences, events and characters.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric
The Logline/ Story Structure/ Outline		2- 4	2-3 Weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	What is a logline? What are the four elements of a logline? What are the elements of plot and structure in fiction and non fiction? What is the plot of the story? What is the rising action? What is the climax?	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films Analyze, interpret and evaluate how an author unfolds an analysis of events. Evaluate how an author's point of view shapes the content and style of a text.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric Teacher Assessment Peer Assessment Self Assessment

					What is the conclusion?	Write informative/explanatory texts to convey ideas and information clearly. (Logline). Share your logline with teacher and classmates. Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, multiple plotlines, and pacing to develop experiences, events and characters.		
Character & Dialogue		5-7	2 -3 weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	Who are the main characters in the story? What clues about the character and the dialogue tell you where and when the story takes place? How do the characters behave at the beginning,, middle and end of the story?	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films Analyze, interpret and evaluate how an author unfolds an analysis of events. Evaluate how an author's point of view shapes the content and style of a text. Write informative/explanatory texts to convey ideas and information clearly. (Character and Dialogue). Share your story with teacher and classmates. Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, multiple plotlines, and pacing to develop experiences, events and characters.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric Teacher Assessment Peer Assessment Self Assessment
Treatment/First Draft of 15 pages of screenplay		9-8	2 weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	What is a treatment in a script? What elements should be included in the treatment? How long does the treatment need to be?	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films Analyze, interpret and evaluate how an author unfolds an analysis of events. Evaluate how an author's point of view shapes the content and style of a text.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric Teacher Feedback Peer Feedback Self-Assessment

						Write informative/explanatory texts to convey ideas and information clearly. (First draft of 15 page script). Share with teacher and classmates for feedback Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, multiple plotlines, and pacing to develop experiences, events and characters. Review and revise ideas for initial performance/ presentation		
Final Draft/Presentation of a 15 minute script (15 pgs.)		10	1 week	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	Complete 10 pages of a screenplay submitted to portfolio.	**Resources:** Screenplays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films Write a 15 minute script (15 pgs.) as an initial presentation piece. Use narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, reflection, multiple plotlines, and pacing to develop experiences, events and characters. Review and reflect the work of art	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Writing Rubric Teacher evaluation Peer evaluation Self Evaluation

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SEMESTER THREE

Title	Unit	Week	Duration	NYS Performance Indicators/Standards	Objectives/Essential Questions	Resources/Suggested Activities	Cross Content Curriculum	Assessment
The Playwriting Process	3	1	1 week	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	What is a play? What questions should you ask when writing a play? What are the essential tools of playwriting?	**Resources:** Various plays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films **Suggested Activities:** Student/Teacher Consultation on the play writing process and the work that student will submit to portfolio. Complete prewriting activities to encourage creative thinking and inspire writing projects. Analyze and critique writers' use of literary elements, word choice, style and content. Use class writing exercises to develop ability to create characters, conflicts, settings, plots themes and refine own writing style. Complete writing projects, such as short fiction. Organize a portfolio of original works.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric
Story/Main Character/Story Outline		2-4	3 Weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a	What is the inspiration for the play? Is the play fiction or non fiction?	**Resources:** Various plays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films	English Literature Technology History	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric

				Standards	Essential Questions	Resources/Activities	Connections	Assessment
				TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	What is the rising action? What is the climax? What is the conclusion?	**Suggested Activities:** Complete prewriting activities to encourage creative thinking and inspire writing projects. Analyze and critique writers' use of literary elements, word choice, style and content. Use class writing exercises to develop ability to create characters, conflicts, settings, plots themes and refine own writing style. Complete writing projects, such as short fiction. Organize a portfolio of original works.	Social Studies Psychology Media	Teacher Feedback Peer Feedback Self-Assessment
Character/Dialogue Development		5-7	2 weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	What is the character's backstory? What is the reasoning for the character's dialogue?	**Resources:** Various plays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films **Suggested Activities:** Complete prewriting activities to encourage creative thinking and inspire writing projects. Analyze and critique writers' use of literary elements, word choice, style and content. Use class writing exercises to develop ability to create characters, conflicts, settings, plots themes and refine own writing style. Complete writing projects, such as short fiction. Organize a portfolio of original works.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric Teacher Feedback Peer Feedback Self-Assessment
10 Minute Play First Draft		8-9	2 weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a	What essential elements are present?	**Resources:**	English Literature	Group Discussion

				TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b		Various plays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films **Suggested Activities:** Complete prewriting activities to encourage creative thinking and inspire writing projects. Analyze and critique writers' use of literary elements, word choice, style and content. Use class writing exercises to develop ability to create characters, conflicts, settings, plots themes and refine own writing style. Complete first draft of writing 10 minute play writing project. Organize a portfolio of original works.	Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Lectures Writing Rubric Teacher Feedback Peer Feedback Self-Assessment
The Completed 10 Minute Play		10	1 week	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	Write a completed 10 minute play with at least two characters.	**Resources:** Various plays, Short Stories, Videos, Writing Rubrics Handouts Writing Samples Films **Suggested Activities:** Complete prewriting activities to encourage creative thinking and inspire writing projects. Analyze and critique writers' use of literary elements, word choice, style and content. Use class writing exercises to develop ability to create characters, conflicts, settings, plots themes and refine own writing style. Complete writing 10 minute play writing project.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Writing Rubric

					Organize a portfolio of original works.		

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SEMESTER FOUR

Title	Unit	Week	Duration	NYS Performance Indicators/Standards	Essential Questions/Objectives	Resources/Suggested Activities	Cross Content Curriculum	Assessment
Review, Reflect, Analyze	4	1	1 week	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b	Write a complete One act Play and submit to portfolio Write a complete screenplay (Equaling 1 hour of screen time) and submit to portfolio.	**Resources:** Previously submitted portfolio work, notes, videos, lectures Suggested Activities: Review, revise 15 minute script Review previously submitted work and notes. Collaborate with classmates to give and receive feedback on works.	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Teacher Evaluation Peer Evaluation Self Evaluation Lectures Writing Rubric
		2-9	2-9 weeks	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b			English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric
Initial Performance/Presentation of a 15 minute script (15 pgs.) Final Project presentation		10	10	TH:Cr1.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Cr2.1.HS111a TH:Cr.3.1.HS111a,b,c TH:Re8.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.1.HS111a TH:Cn11.2.HS111a,b		Complete the initial performance/presentation of original script	English Literature Technology History Social Studies Psychology Media	Group Discussion Lectures Writing Rubric Portfolio Assessment