

FINISH YOUR F*CKING SCRIPT SYLLABUS

PREPARATION

(1) Watch one of the following that you feel may resemble in structure, character, story or otherwise your script: "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946) "Used Cars" (1980) "Romancing the Stone" (1984) "Thelma and Louise" (1991) "Terminator 2: Judgement Day" (1991) "Unforgiven" (1992) "Seven" (1995) "Clockers" (1995) "Fargo" (1996) "Gattaca" (1997) "G.I. Jane" (1997) "Out of Sight" (1998), "Training Day" (2001) "Ocean's 11" (2001) "Intolerable Cruelty" (2003) "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl" (2003) "Inside Man" (2006) "Children of Men" (2006) "Let the Right One In" (2008) "Iron Man" (2008) "The Hangover" (2009) "Winter's Bone" (2010) "The Heat" (2013)

(2) Read, if not have a familiarity with the book "SAVE THE CAT". In particular, understand and know the Blake Snyder Beat Sheet template from the book that is readily available online.
http://www.savethecat.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/STC_BeatSheetRev3.pdf

(3) Submit the first 30 pages (minimum) to your instructor with the Title, Genre, Tone, and Logline on the title page. When turning in your work name the film you watched from the list above and why. If there is a film not on this list that influenced you on this script or you think lends itself to your screenplay, write the name of that film not on the list and what it is about that film that is resonating with you with respect to the script you are currently writing.

(4) Also submit a Blake Snyder Beat Sheet of your entire script if you can complete one. Or turn in partial beat sheet with as far as you have gotten.

****Material is due to instructor one week before Class #1!!!**

WEEK #1 – Opening and Characters -

- Instructor and class will introduce themselves: educational background, industry experience.
- Instructor will talk about why he assigned the specific movies for prep.
- Instructor will discuss the importance of fleshed out main character or characters, introduction of characters in screenplay and understanding the evolution of their story throughout the screenplay.
- Instructor will discuss the crucial nature of the FIRST ACT as a whole.
- Instructor will discuss the Blake Snyder Beat sheet and how to use it to outline your script.
- Instructor will give personalized feedback on submitted material and will give personalized assignments to each writer to get everyone on the same page by the start of Week #2.
- Live Q&A!

HOMEWORK: (1) If you haven't already, do the Outline and turn it in. (2) Otherwise, Rewrite your First Act based on feedback. **Due three days before Class #2!!**

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WEEK #2 – Story Structure, Character Evolution Second Act -

- Instructor will talk about the importance of planting the seeds for your third act in your first and second act.
- Instructor will discuss Evolution of Character and story throughout the script and across acts. In particular, how to use the Second Act to escalate the story, build character further and setting up the Third Act.
- Instructor will discuss how to set up your payoffs.
- Instructor will offer personalized feedback on submitted material.
- Live Q&A!

HOMEWORK: Turn in your rewritten First Act & completed Second Act. **Due three days before Class #3!!**

WEEK #3 – Third Acts & Endings -

- Instructor will talk about building into the third act and climax.
- Instructor will discuss the importance of the Third Act, climax and audience satisfaction.
- Instructor will give personalized feedback on submitted material.
- Live Q&A!

HOMEWORK: Complete your full draft and book your consultation.

WEEK #4 – Consultations

Each writer will have a private 20-minute call with the instructor so he can give personalized notes on completed drafts. Calls will be scheduled in the order in which material is received. All calls are to be completed by 12/20.