



‘MAKE A FILM’ CLASS SERIES

Course Outline



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- 1) Beginning Short Scriptwriting Class
- 2) Pre-Production & Practice Film Shoot Class

BEGINNING SHORT SCRIPTWRITING CLASS – w/ Trayce (Four (2) Hour Class Sessions)

***This Lively Interactive Class Emphasizes Filmmaking --
Including Scriptwriting – As A Team Project !***

The Class kicks off with the [Story Sharing Game](#) – a fun, collaborative exercise that helps students connect with each other and draw inspiration from their own life experiences to spark creativity. Beginning writers often start off with complicated plots and twists, overlooking the powerful human side of storytelling. This activity builds team spirit and lays the foundation for crafting authentic, relatable yet complex characters.

Next is an introduction to how to translate a story into Proper Script Format, and why the formatting matters. You'll learn how a Script is a Blueprint – not a finished work – that gives essential information to the creative team who will turn words on a page into a film. **CASE STUDIES:** To vividly illustrate the process of script development, we'll analyze past student scripts that were the basis for actual films.

TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

- Understanding Three Act Story Structure: Beginning, Middle, & End. Don't get lost in a lot of ideas and tricky situations --- know where your story is going & why !
- The importance of motivation, need, conflict, and resolution for crafting a storyline that's engaging and dynamic
- Use Theme and Genre to help guide your story
- How to use props, wardrobe, and setting to advance the story and add distinct flavor to the visual world you create
- Develop detailed Back Stories to create engaging, multi-dimensional, and authentic characters
- Writing realistic dialogue (and why it's not really realistic)
- Benefit of visually listing and diagramming story ideas
- Value of research and pulling from real life

ASSIGNMENT: Craft a compelling story set in a single location with just two to three characters – perfect for a low/no budget short film you can shoot with friends for fun and practice ! You'll write two drafts of your script, receiving in-depth feedback and suggestions from the instructor and bouncing off fellow students in Writer's Room-style brainstorming sessions.

PRE-PRODUCTION & PRACTICE FILM SHOOT CLASS

w/ Trayce & A1 Day1 Productions

(Four (3) Hour Class Sessions + (7) Hour Practice Film Shoot Day)



A Crash Course In The Creative, Technical, & Team Process Of Making A No-Budget Short Film !

When self-taught filmmakers take classes, it's usually in a specific area of interest like scriptwriting or cinematography. Even with on-set experience, you may not fully grasp the roles of different departments or how the various crafts collaborate to create a film. With filmmaking being complex and potentially costly, there's pressure to dive straight into a project aimed at film festivals. This Class offers a chance to slow down, step back, have fun, and truly learn the process, while having the space to ask all your questions. The lessons can inspire and prepare you to do your own film projects with your family, friends, or group !

Assuming the roles of Writer / Director, Trayce develops a new script based on a student story idea from the Beginning Scriptwriting Class. This process demonstrates how to create multi-dimensional characters, complex relationships; a dynamic storyline with surprises and themes; and vivid visuals using available resources.

Actors are recruited and rehearse, while students step into crew roles. In the fourth Class session **A1 Day1 Productions** leads an introduction to camera, lighting, and sound, followed by a camera rehearsal with actors -- then the Practice Film Shoot.

This Class takes place in the actual shooting location ! On typical low/no-budget shoots there is a rush in and out of the location, with only a few key players having actually spent any time in the location prior to the shoot. Instead our crew and cast will be able to fully explore and utilize the space, building familiarity and muscle memory that will ensure a smoother, more creative filming experience.

CASE STUDY: To vividly illustrate the process of from Script to Screen, we'll analyze the film history of 'FOR LIFE', a past 'Make A Film' Class project, reviewing both the shooting script, stories from the set, samples of raw footage, and the completed film.

CLASS TOPICS INCLUDE:

- How To Be Creative With No Budget And The Resources Available To You
- Auditions, Casting, & Directing
- How To Oversee Set, Props, Wardrobe, Make-Up
- Developing A Shot List
- Script Supervising & Time Management On Set
- Problem-Solving On The Fly
- Leadership On Set

EDITING OF FILM: This happens after the Class is over and is done by Trayce and interns. Students will get an opportunity to view raw footage and will receive Editing Notes on the challenges involved with shaping the raw footage into a finished film. .