UVU UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY™

DAGV 3470 Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: https://catalog.uvu.edu/

Semester: *Spring*   **Year:** *2025*
Course Prefix: *DAGV*   **Course and Section #: 002**
Course Title: *Animation Story Development*   **Credits:** *3*

Course Description

This course focuses on short, themed script development for animated and interactive titles. Students will explore key scriptwriting concepts, including idea initiation, research, outlining, and rewriting. Weekly writing assignments will emphasize structure and the execution of creative goals. The course culminates in the presentation of a completed animatic. As a Writing Enriched (WE) course, students will engage in rigorous writing practices with regular feedback to enhance their skills.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- **Discipline Core Requirement in Program**
- **Writing Enriched (WE)**

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: *Clayton Lantz*

Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. *Develop and structure short scripts suitable for animation or interactive media.*
2. *Research and outline thematic story concepts effectively.*
3. *Analyze and critique writing for structure, clarity, and creativity.*
4. *Present a polished animatic that visualizes the written script.*
5. *Demonstrate advanced writing techniques and revision skills through a writing-enriched approach.*

Course Materials and Texts

- **Required Texts:**
  - *The Art of Dramatic Writing* by Lajos Egri

- *Story: Substance, Structure, Style, and the Principles of Screenwriting* by Robert McKee
- **Supplementary Resources:**
  - Instructor-provided articles, case studies, and sample scripts.

Course Requirements

Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

- **Weekly Writing Assignments:** Short scripts and exercises emphasizing structure and creativity (40%).
- **Midterm Submission:** A complete script draft with detailed feedback for revisions (20%).
- **Final Animatic:** A polished animatic visualizing the script (30%).
- **Participation:** Active engagement in critiques, peer reviews, and class discussions (10%).

Late Policy

- Assignments are subject to a 10% late penalty per day, with a cut-off at one week after the due date.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Week

Weeks 1-2: Introduction to Story Development

- Week 1: Overview of storytelling principles and generating ideas.
- Week 2: Research methods for building thematic and compelling stories.

Weeks 3-5: Outlining and Writing Fundamentals

- Week 3: Structuring short scripts and developing character arcs.
- Week 4: Writing the first draft: Scene breakdowns and dialogue.
- Week 5: Peer critiques and initial revisions.

Weeks 6-8: Refining the Script

- Week 6: Advanced techniques for rewriting and polishing.
- Week 7: Midterm script submission and feedback session.
- Week 8: Integrating feedback into second drafts.

Weeks 9-11: Visualizing the Story

- Week 9: Introduction to animatics and visual storytelling.
- Week 10: Developing key story moments into visual sequences.
- Week 11: Peer review and refinement of animatic drafts.

Weeks 12-14: Final Animatic and Presentation

- Week 12: Final adjustments and polishing.
- Week 13: Submission of the final animatic.
- Week 14: Presentation and critique of completed projects.

Weekly Deliverables

- **Week 3:** Submission of a script outline.
- **Week 7:** Midterm script draft.
- **Week 11:** Draft animatic for peer review.
- **Week 14:** Final animatic and reflective report.

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI
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Using Remote Testing Software
☐ This course does not use remote testing software.

☐ This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities
Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](accessibilityservices@uvu.edu) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity
At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions

of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their rights and responsibilities. In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in UVU Policy 541: *Student Code of Conduct*.

Equity and Title IX
Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation
UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.
To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a specially dedicated space for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.