

## **MODULE HANDBOOK**

## for the Master's Program SERIAL STORYTELLING at ifs internationale filmschule köln

Content	Module Description	Page
Module 1	Introduction to Series Creation	5
Module 2	Series Dramaturgy	7
Module 3	Spec Script	9
Module 4	Series Markets	11
Module 5	Media Studies	13
Module 6	Writers' Room	15
Module 7	Research I	17
Module 8	Research II	19
Module 9	Writers' Lab	21
Module 10	Master's Project – Preparation	23
Module 11	Master's Project and Colloquium	25

Module	Introduction to Series Creation				
Type of Module	Compulsory Module				
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits	
	Ideation and Creative Collaboration	5 hours		1 points	
	(Excursion, Seminar)		_		
	Social Responsibility in Storytelling I	10 hours	_	1 points	
	(Excursion, Seminar)		_		
	Series Formats: Genre & Digital Short Form Series	10 hours		1 points	
	(Seminar)	C h	_	4	
	Constructing a Series (Seminar)	5 hours	127,5 hours	1 points	
	Text Formats	5 hours	_	1 points	
	(Seminar)	0 1.04.0		. pointe	
	Web Series Project	95 hours	_	5 points	
	(Project)				
	Pitching	5 hours	_	1 points	
	(Seminar, Exercise)				
Workload/Credits		135 hours	127,5 hours	11 points	
Semester	1				
Duration of Module	One semester				
Frequency Offered	Every two years				
Prerequisites	None				
Qualification Objectives/Learning	Ability to assess material with respect to its series potential				
Outcomes/Skills	Ability to create stories and characters suitable for series projects				
	Increased awareness of pressing issues in modern day society and the responsibility of narrators				
	Knowledge of key models for creative collaboration and writing techniques				
	Ability to actively apply these models and to adjust and expand according to the specific demands of a project				
	Ability to work productively in a team and overcome creative differences				
	Ability to give, assess, and incorporate professional feedback				
	Cross-cultural sensitivity and an increased awareness of issues of diversity both in matters of professional interaction and in story material				
	Advanced knowledge of current standards in series formats and other screenplay conventions				
	Ability to apply these standards in analysis and pra	actice			
Content	Methods of creative collaboration (Theory)				
	Collaborative story development (Practice)				
	Constructive teamwork: areas of responsibility and	problem solving			
	Communication skills and feedback techniques				
	Diversity, social responsibility and aspects of cross	s-cultural commun	ication		
	Ideation techniques and assessment of story mate	rial			
	Screenplay formats				
	Series formats with a special focus on web series				

Module	Series Dramaturgy				
Type of Module	Compulsory Module				
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits	
	Premise & Theme	5 hours	25 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Character Development	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Structure: Sequences, Episodes, Seasons	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar) Scene Writing	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)	10 flours	20 Hours	i points	
	Series Analysis	5 hours	25 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)			•	
	Case Studies I	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
Workload/Credits		50 hours	130 hours	6 points	
Semester	1 and 2				
Duration of Module	Two semesters				
Frequency Offered	Every two years				
Prerequisites	None				
Qualification Objectives/Learning	Advanced knowledge of dramaturgical theories, m	odels and methods	3		
Outcomes/Skills	Advanced practical core equiting skills				
	Advanced practical screenwriting skills				
	Advanced practical dramaturgical skills relating to key aspects of serial storytelling				
	Ability to analyze existing series formats with respect to dramaturgical issues				
	Ability to assess and create multidimensional characters, strong character arcs, and dynamic ensembles				
	Ability to recognize and create sustainable stories and plot structures				
	Ability to create, manage, and orchestrate information strategies to keep the audience engaged				
Content	Recap and In-depth training of screenwriting esser sequence, dialogue, genre)	ntials (premise, the	me, character, pl	ot, structure, scene,	
	Cinematic storytelling				
	Specifics of serial storytelling (characters, character orchestration, beats, act structures, episodes)				
	Procedural vs. serial story structures				
	Dramaturgical models and methods				
	"Mystery management," suspense, and audience e	engagement			
Teaching/Learning	Active learning				
Concept					
Type of Examination	Overall Exam (graded)	i) 40 45			
Exam Credit	Work Samples (Dramaturgical Analysis Spec Script Ser	nes), 10-15 pages			
Requirements	Work Samples and Project Work				

Percentage of Final Grade	5,0%
Responsible for Module	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann
ecturers	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann, Joy C. Mitchell (tbc), Alkioni Valsari, Eszter Angyalosy, Barbara Machin, Rachel O'Flanagan, tbc (Series Writers and Script Consultants)
reparation (Reading List tc.) and Further nformation	
	Further details on reading lists and additional information will be provided at the beginning of the semester or course.

Module	Spec Script				
Type of Module	Compulsory Module				
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits	
	Spec Script I: Daily Drama	20 hours	40 hours	2 points	
	(Project)				
	Spec Script II: Drama Series: Analysis	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Spec Script II: Drama Series: Story Development I	15 hours	75 hours	3 points	
	(Project)				
	Spec Script II: Drama Series: Story Development II	10 hours	140 hours	5 points	
	(Project)				
Workload/Credits		55 hours	275 hours	11 points	
	4 and 0			pointo	
Semester	1 and 2				
Duration of Module	Two semesters				
Frequency Offered	Every two years				
Prerequisites	None				
Qualification	Knowledge of the specific requirements of industriatelenovela	ally produced serie	s formats such a	s daily drama and	
Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Skills	Ability to independently analyze a given serial concent, and creatively craft an enisode script that remains true				
	to the series' creator's original concept				
	Ability to work in a creative team, led by a showrunner and/or head writer				
Content	Analysis of existing series with a focus on the following	aspects:			
	Series formats and markets				
	Dramaturgy				
	Characters and ensembles, setting, theme, tone, look, genre				
	Outline with the former and the charles are				
	Collaborative forms and techniques				
	<ul> <li>Collaborative forms and techniques</li> <li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li> </ul>				
	Roles and responsibilities in a series team				
	<ul><li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li><li>Series production</li></ul>	ities of an existing	series project		
	<ul> <li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li> <li>Series production</li> <li>Series budgets, financing, distribution</li> </ul>	_		nats	
	<ul> <li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li> <li>Series production</li> <li>Series budgets, financing, distribution</li> <li>Identifying and addressing boundaries and possibil Application of this analysis when developing speculative</li> <li>Active learning, tutored collaborative writing, tutored in</li> </ul>	screenplays for e	xisting serial forn		
Teaching/Learning Concept Type of Examination	<ul> <li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li> <li>Series production</li> <li>Series budgets, financing, distribution</li> <li>Identifying and addressing boundaries and possibilities</li> <li>Application of this analysis when developing speculative</li> </ul>	screenplays for e	xisting serial forn		
Concept Type of Examination	<ul> <li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li> <li>Series production</li> <li>Series budgets, financing, distribution</li> <li>Identifying and addressing boundaries and possibil Application of this analysis when developing speculative Active learning, tutored collaborative writing, tutored in awareness</li> <li>Weighted Exams (graded)</li> <li>Work Samples (Episode Treatment Daily Drama), 5-1</li> </ul>	e screenplays for ex- dividual writing, m 0 pages (30%)	xisting serial forn		
Concept	<ul> <li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li> <li>Series production</li> <li>Series budgets, financing, distribution</li> <li>Identifying and addressing boundaries and possibility Application of this analysis when developing speculative Active learning, tutored collaborative writing, tutored in awareness</li> <li>Weighted Exams (graded)</li> <li>Work Samples (Episode Treatment Daily Drama), 5-12) Work Samples (Episode Screenplay Drama Series), 3-13</li> </ul>	e screenplays for ex- dividual writing, m 0 pages (30%)	xisting serial forn		
Concept  Type of Examination  Exam	<ul> <li>Roles and responsibilities in a series team</li> <li>Series production</li> <li>Series budgets, financing, distribution</li> <li>Identifying and addressing boundaries and possibil Application of this analysis when developing speculative Active learning, tutored collaborative writing, tutored in awareness</li> <li>Weighted Exams (graded)</li> <li>Work Samples (Episode Treatment Daily Drama), 5-1</li> </ul>	e screenplays for ex- dividual writing, m 0 pages (30%)	xisting serial forn		

Responsible for Module	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann
Lecturers	Andreas Fuhrmann, tbc (Series Writers and Script Consultants)
Preparation (Reading List etc.) and Further Information	Douglas, Pamela: Writing the TV Drama Series. How to Succeed as a Professional Writer in TV  Eschke, Gunter & Bohne, Rudolf: Bleiben Sie dran! – Dramaturgie von TV-Serien. Konstanz.  Further details on reading lists and additional information will be provided at the beginning of the semester or course.

Module	Series Markets				
Type of Module	Compulsory Module				
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits	
	Series Markets I: Home Markets	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Exercise)				
	Series Markets II: Festivals & Networking	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Lecture, Seminar)				
	Selling Documents I: Individual Projects	15 hours	45 hours	2 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Legal & Business Issues	5 hours	25 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)	45.1	45.1		
	Series Markets III: Festivals	15 hours	15 hours	1 points	
	(Excursion)				
Workload/Credits		55 hours	125 hours	6 points	
Semester	1 and 2				
Duration of Module	Two semesters				
Frequency Offered	Every two years				
Prerequisites	None				
Qualification Objectives/Learning	Advanced knowledge of current serial formats and markets				
Outcomes/Skills					
	Ability to analyze market environment and production realities				
	Ability to asses individual series projects with respect to current market standards				
	Ability to present individual series projects appropriate to market standards				
	Knowledge about key legal aspects relevant to series writers				
Contont	Analysis of various series markets and format	in classes and field to	ne to eorice for	vale and conforces	
Content	<ul> <li>Analysis of various series markets and formats</li> </ul>	in ciasses and field tri	ps to series festiv	rais and conterences	
	Introduction to legal and business issues				
	Selling documents				
	Selling documents				
Teaching/Learning	Active learning, tutored individual writing, learning b	v difference			
Concept  Type of Examination	Overall Exam (graded)	,			
-	Work Samples (Selling Documents: Pitch Paper), 1-	2 nages			
Exam Credit	· · · · ·	z payes			
Requirements	Work Samples, Oral Reports, and Homework				
Percentage of Final Grade	5,0%				
Responsible for Module	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann				
Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann, Eszter Angyalosy, Francoise von Roy (tbc), Julian Wilkins (tbc)	Kirsten Loose, Rach	el O'Flanagan (	tbc), Robert Schaefer	

Module	Media Studies				
Type of Module	Compulsory Module				
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits	
	Storytelling Theory	20 hours	40 hours	2 points	
	(Lecture, Exercise)				
	Series History	10 hours	50 hours	2 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Comparative Media Studies	15 hours	15 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
Workload/Credits		45 hours	105 hours	5 points	
Semester	1 and 2			о рошио	
Duration of Module					
	Two semesters				
Frequency Offered	Every two years				
Prerequisites	None				
Qualification Objectives/Learning	In-depth knowledge of contemporary storytelling theor	у			
Outcomes/Skills	Ability to transfer this knowledge to benefit fiational writing projects				
	Ability to transfer this knowledge to benefit fictional writing projects				
	Enhanced knowledge of media studies relating to serial storytelling				
	Ability to critically reflect on audiovisual media and sorial parration.				
	Ability to critically reflect on audiovisual media and serial narration				
	Ability to categorize and assess series projects in a media theory context				
	Knowledge of series history and the ability to categorize personal projects in this context				
	Tallowindigo of collect flictory and the ability to categoria	Lo porcoriai proj	0010 111 1110 001110		
Content	Academic analysis of series and serial formats				
	History of serial storytelling in various media and culture	res			
	Transmedia				
	VR, games, and interactive forms: influences, convergence storytelling	jences, and imp	lications for inno	vation in serial	
	storytening				
Teaching/Learning	Active learning, application-oriented research				
Concept  Type of Examination	Weighted Exams (graded)				
	1) Oral Reports (Assigned Topics), 30 min (50%)				
Exam Credit	2) Theory Clip (Audiovisual Clip), 90-300 sec (50%)				
Requirements	Oral Reports, Theory Clip, and Homework				
Percentage of Final Grade	4,2%				
Responsible for Module	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann		Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann		

Module	Writers' Room				
Type of Module	Compulsory Module				
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits	
	Producing	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Character Development II	25 hours	35 hours	2 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Social Responsibility in Storytelling II	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Writers' Room Project	135 hours	135 hours	9 points	
	(Project) Pitch Training	E hours	25 hours	1 nainta	
		5 hours	25 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
Workload/Credits		185 hours	235 hours	14 points	
Semester	2				
Duration of Module	One semester				
Frequency Offered	Every two years				
Prerequisites	None				
Qualification	Ability to identify themes and topics relevant	to pressing issues of cur	rent society		
Objectives/Learning Outcomes/Skills					
	Ability to collaboratively create a series from idea to season outlines and zero draft episodes in a hierarchally structured writer's room setting				
	Ability to identify and apply the adequate collaboration tools for each stage of the collaborative story				
	development process				
	Enhanced understanding of collaborative aspects and roles within a writers' room				
	Enhanced awareness of personal strength and weaknesses in collaborative writing processes				
	Ability to independently structure and lead collaborative writing processes				
	Ability to adapt elements of the writers' room concept presented according to the specific demands of upcoming creative tasks				
	Enhanced knowledge of the production conditions of contemporary series				
	Enhanced knowledge of the skills and responsibilities of a showrunner throughout the story development				
	Advanced presentation skills				
Content	Creating meaningful stories (discussions on	current issues with schol	ars and scientist	s from various fields	
	Character development and orchestration				
	Incorporating aspects of budget and packaging into the story development process				
	The producing side of show running (overview)				
	Collaborative story development in a hiearchially structured writers' room simulation				
	Interdisciplinary concept meetings with departments such as DoP, directing, set design, etc.				
	Testing characters, scenes and dialog in tab	le readings with actors			
	Pitch training and network pitch simulation w				
Teaching/Learning Concept	Active learning, tutored collaborative writing, medifference	eta-cognitive awareness,	meta-affective	awareness, learning by	

Type of Examination	Overall Exam (graded)			
Exam	Vork Samples (Bible and Episode Screenplay), 35-75 pages			
Credit Requirements	Vork Samples and Homework			
Percentage of Final Grade	1,7%			
Responsible for Module	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann			
Lecturers	tbc (Showrunners), Kath Lingenfelter (tbc), Laurie Hutzler (tbc), Marc Lepetit (tbc), Christiane Ruff (tbc)			
Preparation (Reading List etc.) and Further Information	Literature:  Pérez-Gomez, Miguel A.: Previously on. Interdisciplinary Studies on TV Series in the Third Golden Age of Television  Meyers, Lawrence (Ed.): Inside the TV Writers' Room. Practical Advice for Succeeding Television  Kallas, Christina: Inside The Writers' Room. Conversations with American TV Writers  Martin, Brett: Difficult Men. Behind the Scenes of a Creative Revolution. From The Sopranos and The Wire to Mad Men and Breaking Bad			

Module	Research I				
Type of Module	Compulsory Module				
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits	
	How to Write an Academic Paper	5 hours	25 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Today's and Future Series Formats I	10 hours	20 hours	1 points	
	(Seminar)				
	Research Project (Part I)	5 hours	145 hours	5 points	
	(Project)				
Workload/Credits		20 hours	190 hours	7 points	
Semester	2				
Duration of Module	One semester				
Frequency Offered	Every two years				
Prerequisites	None				
Qualification Objectives/Learning	Ability to recognize trend-setting developments in the area of serial storytelling				
Outcomes/Skills	Ability to critically reflect an various concets of carial stantalling				
	Ability to critically reflect on various aspects of serial storytelling				
	Advanced knowledge of tools and conventions in application-oriented media theory				
	Ability to critically analyze and place individual creations within a larger creative context				
	Ability to contribute to the application-oriented academic discourse on serial storytelling				
	Ability to fulfill the requirements of application-oriented academic research and writing				
	- Ability to failing the requirements of application	i-onemed academic resc	aron and writing		
Content	Analysis of trend-setting projects within the fit	eld of serial storytelling			
	Innovative strategies of international companies and influential industry representatives				
	Individual application-oriented research on topics with reference to innovative narrative, historical, sociological or production-related aspects of serial storytelling				
	Basic and advanced techniques of application	_	earch		
Teaching/Learning Concept	Active learning, application-oriented research				
Type of Examination	Overall Exam (graded)				
Exam	Term Paper (Research Paper – First Draft), 15-20	pages			
Credit Requirements	Term Paper and Homework				
Percentage of Final	5,8%				
Grade	0,070				

Responsible for Module	rof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann	
Lecturers	rof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann, Prof. Dr. Lisa Gotto (tbc), Dr. Marion Esch (tbc), Dr. Keyvan Sarkhosh (tbc), Su-Jin ong (tbc), tbc (Producers, Broadcasters and Distrubuters)	
Preparation (Reading List etc.) and Further Information		
	Further details on reading lists and additional information will be provided at the beginning of the semester or course.	

Percentage of Final Grade	4,2%		
Responsible for Module	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann		
Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann, Prof. Dr. Lisa Gotto (tbc), Dr. Marion Esch (tbc), Dr. Keyvan Sarkhosh (tbc), tbc (Producers, Broadcasters and Distrubuters)		
Preparation (Reading List etc.) and Further Information	Literature:  Swales, John M.: Academic Writing for Graduate Students: Essential Tasks and Skills (= Michigan Series in English for Academic & Professional Purposes)  Further details on reading lists and additional information will be provided at the beginning of the semester or course.		

Module	Master's Project – Preparation					
Type of Module	Compulsory Module					
Module Components	Type of Course	Contact Time	Self-Study	Credits		
	Case Studies II	10 hours	20 hours	1 points		
	(Seminar)					
	Working in the Industry	10 hours	20 hours	1 points		
	(Seminar)					
	Selling Documents II: Pitch Paper MA Project	5 hours	25 hours	1 points		
	(Seminar)					
	Master's Project I	20 hours	190 hours	7 points		
	(Project)					
Workload/Credits		45 hours	255 hours	10 points		
Semester	3					
Duration of Module	One semester					
Frequency Offered	Every two years					
	<u> </u>					
Prerequisites	None					
Qualification Objectives/Learning	Advanced ability to analyze key components of successful series projects					
Outcomes/Skills	Knowledge of key business aspects when working as writers in the series industry					
	Ability to apply all skills acquired throughout modules 1-9 in developing an original series project					
	Ability to develop an individual creative vision, reflecting on social and sociological implications					
Content	Introduction to business issues					
	Communicating with producers and broadcasters					
	Organizational and legal aspects for freelancers					
	Self-marketing					
	The producing side of showrunning (overview)					
	<ul> <li>Ideation and start of story development for an or</li> </ul>	iginal series project				
Teaching/Learning	Active learning, tutored individual writing, learning by difference, meta-cognitive awareness, meta-affective					
Concept  Type of Examination	awareness					
Type of Examination	Overall Exam (graded)					
Exam Credit	Work Samples (Idea Outline of Master's Project), 3-5 pages					
Requirements	Work Samples and Project Work					
Percentage of Final Grade	8,3%					
Responsible for Module	Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann					

Lecturers	tbc (Series Writers and Screenwriting Teachers), Marie Baracco (tbc), Andrea Etz (tbc), Prof. Dr. Joachim Friedmann, tbc (Script Consultants)
Preparation (Reading List etc.) and Further Information	Literature:  Basin, Ken: The Business of Television  Further details on reading lists and additional information will be provided at the beginning of the semester or course.