MA Serial Storytelling

Projects

In this artistic study program, theory and practice go hand in hand. While most seminars also include exercises, there are a number of courses dedicated specifically to project development:

<u>Semester 1</u>

Spec Script 1 – Daily Drama
A fun, one week crash course in fast-paced, industrial story lining and dialogue writing with an expert head writer for international daily drama.

Web Series
A first collaborative story development of a short format series – a process flanked with recap sessions on the fundamentals of storytelling and introductory classes on collaborative writing techniques.

Spec Script 2 – Drama Series
A thorough, 3-months process where an in-depth analysis of an existing series is followed by a one-on-one tutored individual story development phase. The result is a spec (speculative) episode screenplay for the analyzed show. Previous projects received feedback from series makers such as Frank Spotnitz ("Hunted"), Yannick Posse and Sylke Poensgen ("Der Lehrer") and Sebastian Colley and Natalie Thomas ("How to Sell Drugs Online (Fast)").

<u>Semester 2</u>

Writers' Room
An intense, 6-week collaborative process, led by an expert showrunner, focusing on the hierarchically structured writers' room model used in the US TV industry. This project concludes with an industry pitch.

Research Project
This three-month academic project focuses on "Innovation in Serial Storytelling". Here the students explore a topic of their choice, guided by expert media scholars. The Research Project may serve as the theoretical foundation for the practical artistic research that follows in semester 3 or the Master's project.
(For a list of research questions examined see: research topics)

<u>Semester 3</u>

Writers' Lab 1
A two-week group project focusing on writing for other media (e.g. Comics / Transmedia)

Writers' Lab 2
An intense, 6-week collaborative project focusing on creative innovation in serial storytelling, a joint laboratory with partners from the industry (previously e.g. "Innovation in Animated Series" with SuperRTL, or "Innovation in Streaming Series" with TVNOW).

<u>Semester 4</u>

Master's Project
The MA Serial Storytelling concludes with the Master's Project. Guided by expert script consultants, each student develops an original series project, compiles the series bible and writes the pilot screenplay. The project concludes with an oral exam and the Master's program concludes with an industry pitch.

➔ *For loglines, synopses, trailers and filmed pitches of all series projects developed in previous cohorts of the MA Serial Storytelling, see "Alumni".*