



NATIONAL  
FILM AND  
TELEVISION  
SCHOOL

### **Course outline: Certificate in Screenwriting: Finding Your Voice**

There has never been so much demand for film and TV content, but equally there have never been so many screenwriters or courses teaching a ubiquitous approach to narrative structure. How can screenwriters put themselves ahead of the game and grab an audience's attention? Are there lessons we can learn from the world's master screenwriters? Why do some writers continually write about losers in love? Others about the disenfranchisement of the modern male or the guilt-driven protagonist? Is it simply a coincidence that successful screenwriters often write the different versions of the same core story over again? Could it be that the key to their success is that they are writing from a place of emotional truth and it's this that really connects with audiences the world over?

Participants in this new writing course will adopt a variety of methods to discover what makes them tick as a writer, what stories resonate emotionally with them and implement these home truths into working practice. Over the 36-week course they will discover and hone their voices, develop market-ready treatments for a feature film and TV pilot, write at least the first act of a chosen project, and learn some of the skills needed to pitch themselves and their work to industry professionals.

The goal on successful completion of the course is to have at least three projects at various stages of development ready to be presented to the industry.

The participants retain complete copyright on all the work they write on or for the course. The NFTS have no rights whatsoever in their screenwriters work UNLESS it's a script which goes into production at the NFTS, and then the School has a modest share in the copyright in the finished film.