

Advanced Skills for Line Producers

NFTS Scotland 4 day full time course

Updated October 2024

What you'll study

Outline

Day 1

Fundamentals

Who are we?

Who do *they* think we are?

Who do we want them to believe we are?

Whose budget is it anyway?

Who is paying for all this, and why should they trust us?

Steady hands

Report Cards, best intentions, and the road ahead

Day 2 - Morning

Guest speaker: Graeme Douglas

Meaningful health, safety, and risk management at work on and off set.

This session is specifically designed for Line Producers to help you understand how to manage safety protocols effectively, reduce risk, and ensure safe operations on set.

It will cover essential legal, practical, and situational safety measures tailored to the Film and TV industry.

You will:

- Develop an understanding of health and safety legislation relevant to Film and TV production.
- Be able to review risk assessments and implement control measures confidently.
- Know how to manage and communicate safety protocols on set.
- Understand the legal implications of neglecting safety responsibilities.
- Develop emergency response strategies tailored to any production environment.

Day 2 - Afternoon

- Dealing with the studio/execs
 - which lie do you want to tell
 - the bridge between shop floor and owners
- Locking a budget
 - completing the 3D jigsaw
 - wrangling appetite and expectations
 - shooting the script and not the budget

Day 3 – Morning

- Working internationally
 - Hello, I'm here to...
 - Diplomatic drilling – assumptions and disappointments
- Crewing the Production Office
 - Who is driving and who is navigating
 - The shopwindow to Cast, Crew, and Producers

Day 3 – Afternoon

Guest speaker: Alex Dalton **Powerful Communication**

This session identifies the core principles of great communication whether you're working informally with others, planning a presentation or just writing an email.

- What do you want to say? Thinking through the essential points you want to get across
- Understanding and accommodating your audience's needs
- The power of listening

The session will also cover assertive communication and influencing skills, for situations when you need a more persuasive approach.

- Why we shouldn't be afraid to be assertive
- Structuring an argument

How to lead – Developing Teams

How to create an open and supportive culture across your team through a confident approach to feedback. How to approach feedback conversations confidently and use them to help inspire and better understand your teams.

- Why great feedback conversations build strong, high-performing teams
- Why we fear feedback
- Simple feedback models
- Managing difficult conversations

Day 4 - Morning

- Whose schedule is it anyway?
 - No plan survives contact with the enemy
 - Where's the cavalry?
- MMS Outline
 - Tips and tricks for sharper scheduling
 - Any questions – MMS surgery for current users

Day 4 - Afternoon

Guest Speaker: Sarah McCaffrey, Solas Mind Mental Health Awareness and Resilience

This session will discuss the importance of looking after our mental health and staying resilient whilst managing a team

We will explore ways to support positive wellbeing and boost resilience - introducing key information and practical strategies to support self-care and recognise the signs and offer support to people suffering from mental distress in the workplace and in the community.

The session will cover:

- what is mental health
- what influences mental health
- supporting your resilience
- recognising the signs
- listening and supporting
- tips for creating a supportive environment
- Q and A

The session goals will be:

- increased knowledge and empathy in relation to mental health and wellbeing
- ability to identify the key signs and offer support
- greater confidence in dealing with mental health issues
- remove stigma and reduce discrimination
- awareness and understanding of how to support and improve mental health in the workplace

We will finish with a wrap up review of the takeaways from the four days with an opportunity for final questions and observations.