

February 7, 2020

Dear MFA Screenwriters,

We're gearing up for what I hope will be a productive and exciting Spring quarter, which includes TV comedy/dramedy pilot classes with Greg Malins and Kit Steinkellner; TV drama pilot classes with Pam Veasey, Connie Burge, and Jill Goldsmith; 434s with Jim Strain, Pat Verducci, Tim Kirkman, and Linda Voorhees; and a section of 434B- Rewrite with Tyger Williams. Neil Landau will co-run our Cannes workshop this Spring with French faculty.

Electives we will offer in Spring are Running the Drama Room (taught by Lizzy Weiss) and Running the Comedy Room (taught by David Zuckerman); we will also offer our professionalization class, The Business of Making Your Art, which provides useful information about what awaits you upon graduation in the professional world (taught by John Strauss). This class will feature an in-depth component designed to help you with pitching your material, be they TV or features. The Running the Room electives are open, by priority, to 2nd-year TV track students, with next priority given to 1st-year declared TV track students, space permitting. Please note that if you have not taken any TV pilot workshops, these classes are not open to you. The Business of Making Your Art is open, by priority, to graduating 2nd-year students and to others as space permits (enrollment for this class is capped at 15). **Please note: if you have already taken this class in a former iteration, you may not repeat it.**

Remember that all faculty is subject to availability—people sometimes do have to drop out as schedules change, but if that becomes necessary, we will have someone equally accomplished to step in.

It's now time to ask all of you for your class preferences for Spring.

A gentle reminder—depending on your track, many of you eventually work with most of our TV or feature faculty. Our students are expected to be available for the classes they need when those classes are offered. Internships are expected to be arranged around your class schedules; not the other way around. Except in extraordinary circumstances requests for placement in particular sections of a class or with particular teachers are not honored.

All 1st-year students are required to take at least one 434 in this academic year. If you are a 1st-year student who did not take a 434 in Winter quarter, you will be placed in a 434 in Spring—so please note this as your “first choice” workshop on the enrollment request form.

434B-Rewrite classes are open only to students who have previously taken at least one 434. Scripts in the 434Bs must have been written in a 434; no adaptations allowed. Priority is given to graduating 2nd-year feature track students, then to 2nd-year students in general, and space permitting to 1st-year students who have taken a 434 in Winter and wish to rewrite that script in Spring.

Another gentle reminder that concurrent enrollment in more than one writing workshop per quarter is by petition and is not guaranteed.

Finally, I'll bang the drum one more time for getting a jump on enrollment in required CMS classes. Enrollment for these classes has been historically tricky, and though that is being addressed on a departmental level, we can't guarantee that this will become easier as the year goes on.

Please commit your requests in email, in the order asked, and send to me, with CCs to our Student Administrative Assistants, Regina Kim and Aidan West.

Please answer all questions fully. This helps greatly to streamline the building of rosters!

If you a Cannes workshop participant, many congratulations—and no need to fill out this form. We know where you will be and what you'll be doing. ☺

Your Name

TV or Feature Track

List ALL previous SCR advanced writing workshops taken and instructors, by quarter (do not list 283A, 431, 430).

Your preferred advanced writing workshop in Spring 2020 (283B, 284B, 434, 437, 434B). If you are not able to be placed in that workshop, what is your second choice?

Do you wish to take two writing workshops in Spring 2020? If so, what are they, and please do answer this question and the previous question separately.

Do you wish to take the Business of Making Your Art? This class is a 4-unit class.

Do you wish to take a Running the Room class? If so, indicated if you'd like to take Drama or Comedy. It is not possible to take both. This class is a 4-unit class.

Do you have a TA assignment in Winter? If so, what is the schedule for that class and

your discussion section? Please contact Lorri Shundich for that information if you have a TA assignment in our department. If you have a TA assignment in another department at UCLA, please provide us with that information.

Please provide your answers no later than February 17 at 5PM. If we do not hear from you by then, you will be placed in a writing workshop by the faculty.

Rosters will be prepared shortly thereafter, with time to make adjustments, if necessary.

I hope your Winter quarters are rewarding and that all goes well for you.

Warmly,
Phyllis