

# Style = Voice

[Scott Myers](#)

Style goes beyond mere “scene description.” My one-week online class focuses on expressing your voice on the page. It begins Monday, October 18.



“Oh, dear typewriter... how may I use my words to express my unique writer’s voice? I’m waiting for an answer... waiting... still waiting...”

Start with this question: Who tells your story? Obviously, when you sit down to create a screenplay, you *write* the story. But when a manager, producer, agent, or studio executive reads your script, who *tells* your story to them?

It is someone who remains largely invisible, but whose

presence is felt from FADE IN to FADE OUT. Someone about whom many screenwriters have little knowledge and yet traffic in that unseen world every time they write a scene. Someone who can make a screenplay a great read — or something less.

Let's call it *Narrative Voice*.

Narrative Voice is not a narrator per se. You will never see it with its own side of dialogue. In fact, you will never name it in your screenplay. But Narrative Voice *is* there. And it is a critical aspect of your script's success.

What is Narrative Voice?

Narrative Voice is the *storytelling sensibility* you bring to your screenplay through your *writing style*. Think of Narrative Voice as your script's **invisible character**. Although silent, it is present in every scene, every line, every word you write. As you develop and sharpen each visible character in your screenplay, you also need to figure out who your Narrative Voice is, what your Narrative Voice sounds like, and how your Narrative Voice will play an active role in the telling of your story.



THE  
WRITER'S  
VOICE

In [Core IV: Style](#), a 1-week online class I will teach starting on **Monday, October 18**, you will learn about:

- The ins and outs of Narrative Voice
- Elements of screenplay style
- Psychological writing (Perspective, Proximity, Perception)
- Imagematic writing (Verbs, Descriptors, Poetics)
- Action writing (Lines, Paragraphs, Direction)

And much more. The course consists of four components:

- Lectures: There are six lectures written by me, each posting Monday through Saturday.
- Writing Exercises: These optional exercises offer you the opportunity to test out your own writing style, plus the chance to workshop and receive feedback on one of your own loglines.
- Teleconference: We will have a Skype teleconference call to discuss course material.
- Forums: The online course site has forums where you may post questions / comments.

Our study scripts: *Wall-E, The Hangover, The Dark Knight, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, The Last Boy Scout, Ferris Bueller's Day Off, Chinatown, The Matrix, Black Swan, Legally Blonde, American Beauty, Little Miss Sunshine, Basic Instinct, Unforgiven, True Grit, The King's Speech, and Winter's Bone.*

For those of you who have not taken an online class, the

interface is extremely easy. Plus, online classes can be an amazing experience. Most of the activities you can do on your own time — download and read lectures, review and respond to forum discussions, upload loglines and track comments. In addition, I've been teaching online for over a decade and it never ceases to amaze me how much of a community emerges in such an environment.

I only teach my Core classes **once a year** and the 2021 cycle begins next month. **Everything you need to know about screenwriting theory** in this unique curriculum based on eight principles: **Plot, Concept, Character, Style, Dialogue, Scene, Theme, Time.**

**CORE I: PLOT** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Plot = Structure* and explores the inner workings of the Screenplay Universe: Plotline and Themeline. Start date: **Available for study.**

**CORE II: CONCEPT** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Concept = Hook* and examines multiple strategies to generate, develop and assess story ideas. Start date: **Available for study.**

**CORE III: CHARACTER** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Character = Function* and delves into archetypes: Protagonist, Nemesis, Attractor, Mentor, and Trickster. Start date: **Available for study.**

**CORE IV: STYLE** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Style = Voice* and surfaces keys to developing

a distinctive writer's personality on the page. Start date: **October 18.**

**CORE V: DIALOGUE** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Dialogue = Purpose* and probes a variety of ways to write effective, entertaining dialogue. Start date: **November 1.**

**CORE VI: SCENE** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Scene = Point* and provides six essential questions to ask when crafting and writing any scene. Start date: **November 15.**

**CORE VII: THEME** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Theme = Meaning* and gives writers a concrete take on theme which can elevate the depth of any story. Start date: **November 29.**

**CORE VIII: TIME** — A one-week class which begins with the principle *Time = Present* and studies Present, Present-Past, Present-Future and time management in writing. Start date: **December 13.**

These eight Core classes represent **decades of my work** on the front lines of the entertainment business as a writer and producer, and engaging the craft as a teacher as well, over time pulling together a **coherent, comprehensive, and cohesive approach to screenwriting theory.**

This is **not** about secret systems or magic formulas, rather the Core content presents a story-crafting process that

**starts with characters, works with characters, and ends with characters.** That process of engaging you with your story universe through your characters and getting you in touch with these living, breathing individuals informs every step of your creative process, leading you to story structure, themes, conflict, subplots, and all the rest. As I say, **Character Driven Screenwriting.**

I provide feedback and am actively involved in our online chats. That includes a 90-minute teleconference for each Core class.

**This cycle, I am offering a special sale price. Normally the Core classes are \$95 each. In 2021, each is on sale for \$79!**

A popular option is the [Core Package](#) which gives you **exclusive access to the content in all eight Craft classes** which you can **go through on your own time** and at your own pace, plus **automatic enrollment** in each 1-week online course — all for **nearly 50% off the normal price** of each individual class. If you sign up now, you can have immediate access to all of the Core content.

Check out the [Core Package](#) to ground yourself in a proven, professional approach to screenwriting theory and practice.

*“Joining Scott’s class is one of the best decisions anyone could make when deciding to embark on the journey of writing a screenplay. His passion for*



*teaching and screenwriting could not be more inspirational. I couldn't wish for a better teacher and mentor!" — Theodora von Auersperg*

*"Your unique lectures helped me think about character in new ways, and will inevitably change the way I approach new ideas and outlines. And I'm blown away and impressed at the level of personal feedback/communication from you. I don't know how you do it — androids couldn't manage their time more efficiently than you." — Bob Corsi*

*"When I found out about Scott Myers' Screenwriting Master Class, I signed up for the first module, to test the waters, but before the week was out, I'd signed up for the rest [The Core Package]. Wish I'd known about it all those years ago! Value for money, solid understandable notes, a teacher who's been there and done it, plus swapping ideas with fellow writers — it doesn't get any more real." — Philip Brewster*

I have gotten to know dozens of professional script readers throughout the years and I can let you in on this little secret: A writer's voice as exhibited in screenplay style goes a long way toward winning them over and getting you favorable script coverage.

For information on *Core IV: Style*, which begins **October 18**, go [here](#).

For The Core Package, go [here](#).

I look forward to the opportunity to work with you!

**P.S.: I wrote a book! It's entitled: [The Protagonist's Journey: An Introduction to Character-Driven Screenwriting and Storytelling](#). It will be published by [Palgrave Macmillan](#), one of the world's leading publishers of academic books in the field of humanities. Currently, Amazon ranks it as the #1 New Release in the category of Film & Television. Check out the [incredible endorsements](#) for *The Protagonist's Journey* by professional screenwriters, novelists, and academics. The book is scheduled to be released in December, but you can [pre-order it now](#).**