

High Studies Call for Applications – EICTV Comedy and Dialogue

As every screenwriter knows, it's difficult to write any audio-visual work, but even more difficult to write something that makes people laugh. This has been the challenge to writers since the first works of theater, then film, then television, and, now, the internet.

Experienced screenwriters know that they have two basic tools with which to make people laugh – action and dialogue. EICTV has decided to present a post-graduate course dealing solely with comedic dialogue, from the first Greek plays to the most recent humorous scenes from the internet.

Dates: From May 13 to June 7, 2013

Duration: 4 weeks

Place: The International School of Cinema and Television (EICTV), Cuba.

Registration fees: €2500.00

Number of Participants: Limited to 14

Minimum number of Participants: 7

If the minimum is not achieved, the school retains the right to suspend the course one month before the date of commencement.

Aimed at: Screenwriters, playwrights, communications and audio-visual graduates, and film and television professionals.

Objectives:

To Contribute to audiovisual development in Iberoamerica.

To survey the development of dialogue in comedy from its beginnings to its practice today.

To give screenwriters, directors, and other participants the tools that will enable them to understand and employ the most useful and traditional techniques of making audiences laugh with dialogue.

Increase participants' own senses of humor, give them tools to improve their abilities to express them, and understand the difference between the written word and the spoken word.

Modules.

1. Comedy dialogue in the theater. 30 hours.
2. Comedy dialogue in the scene (emphasis on new media). 30 hours.
3. Comedy dialogue in film. 30 hours.
4. Comedy dialogue in television. 30 hours.

Course director and professor: Paul Chitlik (EEUU)

Professors:

Francisco Lopez Sacha (Cuba)

Oswaldo Doimeadios (Cuba)

The course will consist of four modules, for a total of 120 hours. Each is the prerequisite for the following module.

The class schedule will be: Mornings from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM.
Afternoons from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Some evenings films will be shown.

Contents of modules:

1. Comedy dialogue in the theater.

From May 13 to 17

Professor: Paul Chitlik

What is comedy? What makes you laugh? Why?

Dialogue in comedy through 2500 years in the theater.

The comedy conventions in the theater.

The comedy of social critique.

The comedy of the battle of the sexes.

The comedy of satire.

The comedy of farse.

The comedy of character.

Exercises and homework.

2. Comedy in various short forms.

From May 20 to 24

Professor: Paul Chitlik

Essential elements of characters.

The character's goal and its role.

The fundamental elements of the scene.

How conflict functions in a comedy scene.

Comedy scenes from the internet.

Exercises and homework.

3. Comedy dialogue in the cinema

From May 27 to 31

Professor Francisco Lopez Sacha (Cuba)

The filmsound universe and dialogue in comedy.

Double codification and double contextualization.

The will of exchanges, dialogue competence and conversational strategy in film comedy.

How comedy in dialogue is expressed in world cinema.

What can you do in film that you can't do in theater?

What can you do in theater that you can't do in film?

The different expressions of comedic dialogue according to the genre of the film.

Intellectual dialogue
Gross dialogue
Subtextual dialogue
Dialogue according to the personality
Exercises and homework.

4. Dialogue in television comedy.

From June 3 to 8

Professor: Osvaldo Doimeadios

The necessities of the sitcom.

How humor emerges from character.

How humor emerges from the situation.

New frontiers in sitcom dialogue.

Exercises and homework.

Requirements:

Graduate of a film school or BA from an accredited university or equivalent work in the audio-visual industry.

Send, via email, a CV or resume with both personal and professional information.

General Information:

Seminars, room and board are included in the tuition. Students will receive free medical care other than specialized care, as well as emergency services if needed.

All who enter the country must carry with them medical insurance recognized in Cuba or acquire it at port of entry. This medical insurance will cover hospitalization and specialized care. Further details about travelers' insurance can be found on the website www.asistur.cu.

The school maintains sports facilities, including a pool and weight room, and provides transport to the city on weekends. There are 24/7 café services, as well as an on campus convenience store, laundry, international telephone, and email. Interested students must apply to Orietta Roque, coordinator of Higher Studies orietta@eictv.org.cu or altos.estudios@eictv.co.cu

The school maintains the right to select the candidates for this course and to substitute a professor in case of conflicts.

Paul Chitlik (EEUU) Screenwriter/producer/director Paul Chitlik has written for all the major networks and studios. He was story editor for "The New Twilight Zone," and staff writer for Showtime's "Brothers." He was coordinating producer for "Real Stories of the Highway Patrol" and "U.S. Customs Classified," starring Stephen Cannell, directing episodes of both. He wrote and produced the first network movie in DV, "Alien Abduction," for UPN. He wrote, produced, and directed "Ringling Brothers Revealed" for Travel Channel. He has written features for Rysler Entertainment, NuImage, Promark, and others. He received a WGA award nomination for his work on "The Twilight Zone," a GLAAD Media Award nomination, and won a Genesis Award for a Showtime movie. He has taught screenwriting at UCLA; Loyola Marymount University, where he is currently a Clinical Professor; ESCAC (the film school of the University of Barcelona); and EICTV, in Havana, Cuba. He has consulted for Ibermedia, the Spanish language consortium; the Chilean development fund; the Australian Writers Guild; Film West in Western Australia; Film Australia; and various production companies in the US and abroad. He began teaching residential workshops in 2008. They've been held in Italy, Spain, the U.S., France and will be in Greece in 2012.

Francisco Lopez Sacha (Cuba) Professor of Art, writer and essayist. He has a BA in Theater and Cinema. Finalist of the Casa de las Americas Prize in 1984, the same year he won an award for one of his stories in the San Martin Prize of the Ateneo of Buenos Aires. He has also won numerous other domestic and international awards. He taught at the School of Art of Havana and EICTV. He was director of the magazine Revista Letras Cubanas.

Oswaldo Doimeadiós (Cuba) He studied acting at Cuba's national university of the arts and as a student founded the comedy group Sala-Manca, with which he began working after graduating in 1987. Since then, he has built a versatile career in theater and television as one of the best-known actors on the island. People refer to him by his comedic characters, such as Margot, Feliciano and Pipo Pérez, and are familiar with the poignant monologues he has performed onstage in the last decade as part of the Teatro El Público theater company, directed by Carlos Díaz.