

Excerpts from student evaluations  
Suree Towfighnia, The Evergreen State College  
2017-2018

Suree created a strong classroom community. She did this by checking in with her students about our personal goals, as well as setting clear expectations that could be negotiated to suit both student and teacher needs. Suree worked hard to inspire each one of us, to make us feel at home, and to teach us what it means to develop our writing for film/video. Suree gave wonderful feedback and made class a place where students want to return to. She's the kind of professor who gives her all to better serve her students, and her hard work is highly appreciated.

Sara J.

Developing Non-fiction and Fiction Short Videos, summer session

Suree arranged a fluid string of lessons to briefly cover the evolution of an idea into film. Her experience provided strong examples of how the process typically operates, and how to learn and improve by participating and collaborating. Each of her lessons broke down the complex process of pre-production into easily digestible segments, making the entire process much more approachable for beginners. I would strongly recommend this class to anyone interested in learning the fundamentals for writing and producing narratives for film.

David A.

Developing Non-fiction and Fiction Short Videos, summer session

Suree is an amazing teacher! She was charismatic and had a wonderful sense of humor while she taught, managing to explain everything about the course material in a way that was easily understandable. With her film experience, she was able to give everyone real-life insights and advice whenever a question came up. I felt the class unfolded in a natural and comfortable way. Suree has made this short but intense course one of my favorite so far at Evergreen and should be considered a vital part of the community here.

Oscar K.

Developing Non-fiction and Fiction Short Videos, summer session

This was my introduction to video production and field skills and Suree made it very accessible as well as challenging, the pace of the class was swift but manageable, Suree is very approachable, knowledgeable, and has the skills of being able to pass that knowledge along, as well as being able to hold us accountable for our learning. It was clear what was expected of us. It was wonderful to be in a class with so many different skill levels and get glimpses of what I'll be able to one day accomplish. Suree has ignited my interest in creating films, and changed the way I see them as well as how I view the people involved with making them-so much respect. Life changing is an understatement for how this class has been for me and Suree is a huge part of that.

Forest E.

Video Production Field Skills: Intensive, summer session

Suree Towfighnia was obviously adept at film making and throughout the technical lessons, she threw out numerous nuggets of wisdom which allowed me to develop a fuller and more accurate picture of what it takes to make a film. She was able to strike a tricky balance of high expectations while still reminding the students that we were just learning and mistakes are inevitable, especially at this stage. Specifically, during critique of both rushes and the final project, she gave remarks that were direct and gave tips on how to build upon our existing skills without tearing our work to pieces. Her ability to remain pleasant and maintain a lighthearted atmosphere within a high-stress classroom was remarkable and made it so that, even on our most difficult days, I had memories of laughing and left the class smiling. Thanks to Suree, despite the steep learning curve involved in video production, I feel comfortable going back to practice again and again, even if it feels difficult. I can find the fun embedded in the process.

Kelly J.

Video Production Field Skills: Intensive, summer session