King Arthur Video Project

**Introduction**:

For your final project for the unit/semester, you will create an original story which meets the requirements of the King Arthur legends. You and your group must write, film, edit, and advertise your original short film. This project will take several days to complete, require effort from all group members, and result in a quality, finished product. Lack of effort will be immediately noticeable and result in a failing grade.

**Elements**:

1. The Pitch -15 points
2. The Screenplay- 15 points
3. The Film- 100 points
4. The Poster – 15 points
5. The Rationale- 10 points

**Total- 155 Points**

**Explanation:**

Each group will consist of five members. As a group, you are responsible for completing all five major tasks. The work should be divided evenly. At the conclusion of the project, each group member will be asked to submit a report detailing their contribution of their classmates.

This project will require work outside of class. It is your responsibility to arrange schedules around work, after- school activities, etc.

Due Dates:

Step 1: The Pitch

**Instructions**: Prepare a justification for the creation for your short film to a studio. You goal is to get funding for your movie and the project approved. This process will culminate in the creation of a detailed PowerPoint slideshow or other visual aids. As a group, you will sell your film’s concept in a mini-presentation. The focus is on the plot, ideas, and main scenes.

**Requirements**:

1. Present a brief plot summary of your short film. (Roughly 2-3 paragraphs in length or one page) This should justify the film’s funding by connecting it to at least three existing legends. Why will your story be powerful for the audience?
2. Explain all characters and actors needed for the project. Which characters will be interesting? Why? This can be a bulleted list with explanations in complete sentences.
3. Type up your anticipated materials needed. This includes costumes, props, and locations. Remember, you are actually filming this so confine your needs to reality. Explain why these locations are needed in your story
4. “Story Board”- Walkthrough three of your key scenes visually. This can be hand-drawn or using images/video clips. Regardless, it must be organized and professional.

Use the chart below to begin brainstorming ideas:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Characters |  |
| Setting |  |
| Basic Plot |  |
| Necessary Props |  |
| Key Scenes |  |

Step 2: ScreenPlay

The screenplay is the first product required. Here you will design your story. The screenplay must meet the following requirements:

1. Contains all elements of a Romantic Hero Tale (Quest, Hero, Disguise, Physical Journey, Religious Allusions, Magic, Lessons/Morals, Codes of Chivalry).
2. At least five characters (Students may play more than one role)
3. Contains all plot elements (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, conclusion). Narration is encouraged to fill gaps between scenes.
4. At least ten minutes in length (roughly 10-15 double spaced pages)
5. Originality- Feel free to reuse existing Arthurian or fictional characters, but the story must be new. No “cloning” an existing story

The Final product will be typed, double-spaced and follow all typical rules of MLA

15pts.. Due

**Checklist**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ At least five characters

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ All Plot Pyrmaid elements

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Character Quest

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Physical Journey

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Use of Magic or Religion

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Use of Disguise

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Final Goal or Treasure

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Obvious Lesson

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Appropriate Length

Step 3: Filming

**Instructions**: Using your elements from Steps 1 and 2, create your short film. The final product must be at least ten minutes long and be organized, engaging and professional.

**Requirements**:

1. All group members must in some way be involved in the filming. Not everyone needs an equal share of lines, but make sure everyone is on screen at some point. Using only two “actors” for all roles unacceptable.
2. Costumes and props should be as realistic as possible. Wearing a sign that says “I am King Arthur” is not an acceptable attempt at a costume.
3. The film should be edited including opening credits, closing credits, animations between scenes and voice narration (where appropriate). Not everyone is a video expert, but everyone is capable of these basic tasks.
4. The film will contain music either in the background, or during opening credits.
5. Feel free to incorporate existing film clips, images, and other media in order to enhance your film. These can be highly effective if done correctly.

(Note: It is understood that not everyone has a camera/smart phone/video editing software. Solutions are available for groups in need of these materials. It will be much easier if you can solve the problem as a group, but I am happy to help. Lack of technology is not an excuse.)

**Video Requirements Breakdown**:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20 Points- Meets all technical requirements (music, narration, credits, etc)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 Points- All students involved in either directing, acting, or background

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 Points- Use of Costumes

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20 Points- Professional Quality Product

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10 Points- Length (at least 10 minutes)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/30 Points- Meets all requirements of the Arthurian Legend/Romantic Tale

Step 4: Advertising

**Instructions**: Create a poster for your film. The poster will be a single page with credits, title, and images about your movie. The poster can be made on the computer or by hand but must ultimately be physically submitted. The poster will hang with the others during the film presentations.

The poster must be colorful, organized, and sell the film. Students may also create a trailer in lieu of a poster. Apps like iMovie can create these easily from your existing footage.

Worth:\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 Points

Step 5: Rationale

**Introduction**: Each Group will create a three-page write up about the film creation process. Here, you will evaluate your plot, characters, plot, etc. and explain how your story functions as a Romantic Hero’s Tale.

**Requirements**:

1. Typed, Double Spaced, 12 pt. font
2. Connects the characters, plot, and ideas with existing Arthurian Legends
3. Justifies artistic choices (costumes, setting, editing)
4. Write-up of each group members contribution to the project
5. Review of the final project. What were the successes? What was lacking?

The Write-Up is written formally, however it can incorporate first-person language (i.e. “We the group….”)

Worth:\_\_\_\_/10 Pts.

Cheat Sheet/Rubrics

**Step 1: The Pitch- 15 Points**

-Two Paragraph Plot Summaries

-Anticipated Characters, Materials, Locations

-Storyboard (PowerPoint or Hand drawn)

-No Grammar/Spelling Errors

-Justifies “funding” for the film by connecting it to existing Arthurian stories

**Score:**

**Step 2: The ScreenPlay- 15 Points**

**-**Contains all Plot elements

-Contains all elements of Arthurian legends

-Ten minutes in length with at least five characters

-Based on existing Arthurian elements without “cloning”

-No spelling/grammar errors. Professionally constructed script

**Score:**

**Step 3: The Film- 100 Points**

-Use at least one background song

-Use of credits, narration, subtitles

-Quality audio/visual. Professional care and consideration

-All Students involved, 10 minutes in length

- Use of Costumes, Setting, and Production Value

**Score:**

**Step 4: Advertising- 15 points**

-Creation of at least one Poster or Movie Trailer

-Includes title, credits, rating, release date, and propaganda techniques

-Colorful with images from the film (real or drawn)

-Can be created by hand or on the computer

-Professional quality

**Score:**

**Step 5: Rationale- 10 points**

-At least three pages total

-Includes rationale of all artistic choices

-Follows proper MLA rules/style

-Includes individual contributions by all group members

-Explains connection to Arthurian Legends

**Score:**

**Final Comments:**