### Class Schedule

**Friday, January 29**

9:30  Coffee

10:00-12:30  Session I  
_Tom Lazarus_  
**Before Page One**  
Allison Anders  
**Writing from Experience**

12:30-1:30  Lunch (Chinese)

1:30-4:00  Session II  
_Daniel Petrie_  
**What to Think About Before You Start**  
Cheri Steinkellner  
**Writing the Musical**

**Saturday, January 30**

9:00  Coffee

9:30-12:00  Session III  
_Michael Rhodes_  
**The Producer's POV**  
Glenn Leopold  
**Writing for Animation**

12:00-1:00  Lunch (Italian)

1:00-3:15  Session IV  
_Jane Espenson_  
**Everything I Know About TV Writing**  
Cindy McCreery  
**The Practice of Rewriting**

3:15-3:30  Break

3:30-6:00  Session V  
_Tom Silvestri_  
**Coverage & Development**  
Harrison Reiner  
**Development to Outline Part 1**

**Sunday, January 31**

9:00  Snacks

9:30-12:00  Session VI  
_Harrison Reiner_  
**Development to Outline Part 2**  
Perry Lang  
**Writing Webisodes**

12:00-1:00  Lunch (Indian)

1:00-3:00  Session VII  
_Toni Graphia_  
**Hour-Long TV Drama**  
Prudence Fraser & Robert Sternin  
**Writing for Comics & Graphic Novels**

### Word Farm Bios

**Allison Anders**

Allison Anders is a Los Angeles-based independent filmmaker. In 1995 she was the recipient of a MacArthur "genius grant" and in 2002 she won a George Foster Peabody Award for distinguished achievement and meritorious service for her semi-autobiographical film _Things Behind the Sun_. From the release of her acclaimed first feature, _Border Radio_ (1989; co-written and co-directed with Kurt Voss) through the recent critical and popular success of _Things Behind the Sun_, Anders has established a body of work that is innovative in its visual and sound style and marked by ensemble acting and strong women characters. Her films as writer-director also include _Gas Food Lodging_ (1992), _Mi Vida Loca_ (1993), _Grace of My Heart_ (1996), and _Sugar Town_ (1999; co-directed with Kurt Voss). Anders’ films have premiered at the Cannes International Film Festival and at the prestigious Sundance Film Festival, and retrospective of her work have been held in Thessaloniki, Greece; Sheffield, England; and at the Karlovy Vary Film Festival in the Czech Republic. At UCSB she teaches courses including rock ‘n’ roll films, autobiographic writing, and music supervision.

**Jane Espenson**

Jane Espenson has been a television writer for the last seventeen years. She has been on the writing staff of shows including _Ellen, Gilmore Girls, The O.C._, and _True Blood_, and wrote a freelance episode of _Star Trek: Deep Space Nine_. She is especially proud of her work on _Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Angel_, and _Firefly_, and _Ron Moore’s Battlestar Galactica and Caprica_.

**Toni Graphia**

A native of the South, Toni Graphia attended Louisiana State University for two years as an English major before heading west to the University of California at Santa Barbara, where she graduated with a BA in Communications. She also studied journalism at Santa Barbara City College, and upon graduation, worked as a newspaper reporter and advertising copywriter. Graphia then moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in television. She worked as a researcher on the critically acclaimed Vietnam drama _Close Quarters_, where she received her first break as a writer. She has gone on to write over 50 episodes of quality television drama on shows such as _Chicago Hope, Life Goes On, Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman, Renovo, HBO’s Carnivale_, and _Battlestar Galactica_, which was named by Time Magazine as one of TV’s Top 5 Dramas. She’s also written 16 pilots for various networks including NBC, CBS, FOX, USA and Lifetime. She’s had overall development deals with both Paramount and 20th Century Fox Television. She’s received both a Writer’s Guild nomination and the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award in 2006. Toni is also on the Executive Board and a founding member of the League of Hollywood Women Writers. Career highlights include writing and producing a CBS pilot starring Andie McDowell and directed by Mike Newell, and co-writing an NBC pilot with esteemed author Anne Rice. In addition to her work in television, Graphia has taught writing at USC, UCLA, UCSB and Emerson College. Graphia recently served for two seasons as Co-Executive Producer/Writer of the Fox series _Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles_, based on the popular Terminator movie. She is currently a Co-Executive Producer/Writer on the new NBC medical drama, _Mercy._

**Perry Lang**

Starting to work in film as an actor at 17, Perry Lang has acted in over thirty films and seventy hours of television. His film work includes Sam Fuller’s _The Big Red One_, Steven Spielberg’s _Starsky & Hutch_ as well as _Eight Men Out_ where Perry played one of the indelibly wicked of the 1919 World Series. His Television work as an actor includes _M*A*S*H_, the title character in the Emmy winning television special _Hootie And The Dixie_, and the Emmy-nominated _A Run Of Noie _and numerous guest appearances, including many projects that he has himself either written or directed. As a writer and director, Perry started professionally writing doing Tales From The Darkside in New York. Among a number of studio assignments, he wrote the first film he directed, _Little Vegas_ then rewrote the second, _The Jersey Nine_, which he himself either written or directed. As a writer and director, Perry started professionally writing doing Tales From The Darkside in New York. Among a number of studio assignments, he wrote the first film he directed, _Little Vegas_ then rewrote the second, _The Jersey Nine_. Perry lives with his family in Santa Barbara, California.

**Tom Lazarus**

Tom Lazarus teaches The Master Class in Screenwriting at UCLA Extension, is the author of two books on screenwriting, has written eight features, nine movies of the work and has worked as a Producer/Writer on seven series. He has also directed four features and fifty hours of television.
Awards for their adaptation of the Newbery Honor book *Framed* which reunited Petrie with director Roger Spottiswoode. Petrie's next project as director was the TNT thriller *Dead Silence* starring Pauly Shore, Andy Dick and David Alan Greer. Petrie then directed the ABC pilot *Toy Soldiers*, which starred Tom Hanks. Petrie then wrote and executive produced *Next*, which he also co-wrote. Next, he co-wrote and executive produced *Elephant Wild* and later in 2007 in partnership with Warner Brothers, they hired her again to develop and write *Elephant Wild*—which resulted in Disney purchasing the pitch. Cindy is a graduate of Film Studies from The University of California, Santa Barbara where she won the Corwin Award in screenwriting scholarship. After college she worked at The Montecito Picture Company as an executive assistant to Tom Pollock and prior to the fellowship she worked as a High School substitute teacher and girls High School volleyball coach while pursuing her writing career. After the sale of Powder Puffs Cindy immediately wrote and sold her next feature script, *Rising Star*—a spec script for New Line Cinema with Underground Films and Karan Entertainment as producers. In fall of 2005 Tolland Robbins and Josephson Entertainment approached Cindy with the true story of Maria Pepe, the first girl to play in the Little League majors. Cindy came up with the pitch and sold the pitch to Nickelandore Films. In 2006 National Geographic Films hired Cindy to rewrite *Elephant Wild* and later in 2007 in partnership with Warner Brothers, they hired her again to develop and write *Free Willy: Escape From Pirate Cove* which will be released in March of 2010. Also in 2007 Cindy sold a pitch of a revamped *Ruby Boy* for MGM. In late 2008 Disney Channel hired her to adapt the book, *Rising Star* into a Disney Channel Original movie. Cindy is currently writing a spec script for Radar Pictures and is developing a new spec with Unique Features. She is also currently developing a TV idea with Sherman Alexie, which was her idea that she brought to him. She's been teaching screenwriting at UCSB for the last four summers.

**Daniel Petrie**

Daniel Petrie, Jr.’s first script sale was the provocative *The Big Easy*, starring Dennis Quaid and Ellen Barkin; his first produced screenplay was the box office hit *Beverly Hills Cop*, starring Eddie Murphy. *Beverly Hills Cop* brought Petrie an Oscar® nomination for Best Original Screenplay. Petrie, who has dual Canadian and U.S. citizenship, branched out into producing with the thriller *To Kill, starring Sidney Poitier and Tom Berenger*, which he also co-wrote; *Next*, *Star Trek: TOS* and *Rising Star*—which starred Tom Hanks. Both films were financed and released by Walt Disney Studios’ Touchstone Pictures division and were directed by Roger Spottiswoode. Petrie’s first starring as a director was the Tri-Star film *Toy Soldiers*, starring Sean Astin, Wil Wheaton, and Louis Gossett, Jr., which he also co-wrote. Back at Disney, Petrie co-wrote and directed *The Army Nuns*, starring Paula Shur, Andy Dick and David Alan Grier. Petrie then directed the ABC pilot *Toy Tales*, starring Barry Pepper, and directed the HBO film *Dual Silence*, starring James Garner and Martin Landau, which became the fifth highest rated HBO Original up to that point in the network’s history. Petrie then served as executive producer of the hit show, *Starting Schwartzmeinger*, Robert Davall and Tony Goldwyn, who were hired by Petrie with director Roger Spottiswoode. Petrie’s next project as director was the TNT film *Fronkel*, starring Rob Lowe and Sam Neill; Petrie also wrote the screenplay, based on a British mini-series by Lynnda La Plante. In 2008, Petrie and co-writers Ann Franckel and Camille Thomason received Christopher Anstey’s nomination for the Newbery Honor book for the Hallmark Hall of Fame film *School for Horses*. The production, starring Sissy Spacek and Alfre Woodard, was also acknowledged by the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences as a recipient of the inaugural Television Academy Honor, honoring “television with a cause.” Currently, Petrie and his partner Buck Dugdale are developing several ﬁlms and television projects for their new venture, Endery Entertainment. Named for Dugdale’s hometown in British Columbia, Dugdale and Petrie created Endery Entertainment to be an independent film company with an old-fashioned emphasis on good storytelling, on the creative side, and total transparency on the ﬁnancial side. In addition, Petrie is working with Kings Road Productions, which made the original *The Big Easy*, on a remake of the film. Petrie is also slated to serve as Executive Producer. Petrie inherits a tradition of volunteer service to the motion picture and television industry from his father, the late director and long time Directors Guild board member Daniel Petrie, Sr., and mother, producer and long time Directors Guild board member Dorothy Petrie. Daniel Petrie, Jr. has a long history of service to the Directors Guild of America west, serving two terms as such president (1997-99 and 2004-2005) and as Vice President (1997-99 and 2005-2007). Petrie also follows in his father’s footsteps by serving on the Board of Trustees of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and, in addition, Petrie is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, serves on the Academy’s Writers Branch Executive Committee as well as the Academy Foundation’s Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting Committee.

**Harrison Reiner**

Producer and Co-Writer of *A Scanner Darkly*, scheduled for a world premiere at the 2009 Santa Barbara International Film Festival, and newly selected to serve as the President of the Board of Advisors for the Santa Barbara Film Festival, to screen the Los Angeles premiere of Harrison Reiner’s *A Scanner Darkly*, scheduled for a world premiere at the 2009 Santa Barbara International Film Festival, and newly selected to serve as the President of the Board of Advisors for the Santa Barbara Film Festival, to screen the Los Angeles premiere of *A Scanner Darkly*, scheduled for a world premiere at the 2009 Santa Barbara International Film Festival.

**Michael Rhodes**

Michael Rhodes served as Vice President Creative Affairs for Viacom and Walt Disney Studios. His works include *All in the Family*, *Stir It Up*, *The Saturday Night Show*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Odd Couple II*, and *The Odd Couple III*, among others. He is currently developing and executive producing *Curtis*, starring Jeff Daniels, Caroline Rhea, and Julia Louis-Dreyfus for DreamWorks Television. He is a member of the U.S. Writers Guild of America west, serving two terms each as President (1997-99 and 2004-2005) and as Vice President (1997-99 and 2005-2007). Petrie also follows in his father’s footsteps by serving on the Board of Trustees of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and, in addition, Petrie is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, serves on the Academy’s Writers Branch Executive Committee as well as the Academy Foundation’s Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting Committee.
Word Farm Bios

Alliance Theater, Atlanta 2007, currently playing the London Palladium, opening on Broadway Spring 2011); Mosaic (with Georgia Stitt, opening off-Broadway in April); and Hello! My Baby (with the great composers of the Golden Age of Tin Pan Alley and Georgia Stitt). When not writing for stage and screens, Cheri teaches writing at the University of California; directs local youth productions including Rent (named Best Youth Theater production 2009 by Santa Barbara Independent); A Chorus Line, Anything Goes, Fiddler On The Roof, and Our Town; and created “The Ultimate Write-off” for the Santa Barbara Writers Conference). Cheri and her favorite husband Bill live in Santa Barbara with their three favorite children: Kit, Teddy, and Emma.

Robert Sternin & Prudence Fraser
Best known for their many successes as writer/producers in network television, Rob and Pru’s work has been seen on CBS, NBC, ABC, FOX and the WB. They met in a directing class at Tufts University in 1977, and the rest, as they say, is history. After graduating with degrees in English/Drama, they packed up Pru’s Pinto and headed to California where Rob received an M.F.A. in playwriting from U.C.L.A. and Pru briefly pursued an acting career. She starred in an L.A. production of his play Do You Think This Line Will Get a Laugh, which propelled them into a partnership and marriage that have both lasted 28 years. Sternin & Fraser have written for and produced hundreds of episodes of prime time television and developed or created close to a dozen series. Credits include Alice, Three’s Company, Who’s the Boss?, The Charmings, Married People, Live-In, The Simple Life, Run of the House, and The Nanny, which they co-created and executive produced with series star Fran Drescher. Currently, they are concentrating on the theater, the medium that they find most exciting. Residents of Santa Barbara, California for the past 15 years, Sternin and Fraser recently collaborated with Brill Building songwriter icon Jeff Barry on the stage musical The Girl Who Would Be King, which premiered at the Granada Theater in Santa Barbara and went on to be seen at the Stamford Center for the Arts and Riverside Theater in Vero Beach, Florida. Their current project, Under My Skin, is an outrageous comedy about sex, love and the health care business, scheduled to open on Broadway this fall.

Tom Silvestri
Tom Silvestri graduated from the NYU film school, studied at USC’s Professional Writing Program, and studied acting at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute. He has worked as a musician, music journalist, book club editor, story analyst, story development executive, and screenwriter. He has several movie projects in development and is the founder of Silvestri Storyworks, a story development consulting firm, at www.silvestristoryworks.com.

Student Attendees

| Lina Aldana | Jane Kim |
| Tyler Anthony | Aaron LaRue |
| Fred Buckley | Philippe Lazaro |
| Julie Bushin | Michael Lopez |
| Brittany Carriger | Kira Martins |
| Koriayn Christensen | Connor McGinley |
| Hunter Daniels | Deanna Melin |
| Tracy Fisher | Omar Najam |
| Kyle Fuller | Melissa Perez |
| Juan R. Garcia | Danielle Phan |
| Dylan Grozdanich | Brittany Sandler |
| Dana Hill | Jasmin Toutounchi |
| Elyse Hollander | Brian Wray |
| Mitchell Jankovic | |

Special Thanks

The Film and Media Studies Department
The UCSB Screenwriters’ Co-op
The Office of Student Life
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The Writer’s Guild of America
All of our Guests
The Event Staff
Lauren Zabel
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Lisa Parks
Paul Portuges
Kathy Murray
Dana Welch
Flora Furlong
Keith Boynton
Dierdre O’Shea
Julie Cunningham
Frescos
Spice Avenue
Mandarin Palace