

Film 460 Thesis Project: Introduction Letter

Hello there,

If you're reading this, thank you very much for taking the time out of your busy day in a year as chaotic as this to look at my thesis project. In a perfect world, I would be showing it to people in an in-person space, but, for obvious reasons, that isn't an option at the moment.

I have mentioned this before in the class meetings and on the discussion forums, but for those who don't know, my initial plan for my thesis project was to make a student film longer than anything I had made before (hypothetically, it would have been around the 30–40-minute range). It would have been about a group of university students who run an Investigation looking for a “lost film”, starring a mysterious character known only as Kung Fu Knight. This film would have been a mix of a realistic and emotional coming-of-age film in a university setting, as well as one that focuses on an obsessive search for a ridiculous lost B-movie. Additionally, I had planned to film this “lost film” over the summer of 2020 with some friends, making use of the fact that I could create an authentic-looking, extremely low-budget movie before starting to work on the real thesis project. Due to the pandemic, I eventually realized that I would not be able to do all of this. So instead, I developed my idea into a longer, more detailed feature-length script, which is what the project is now.

In addition to this script, I have submitted other items to be viewed as well. There is a shorter, more absurd script for the “lost film” I had planned to make, a full collection of storyboard sheets I made for this “lost film”, as well as my original outline and treatment for the thesis script which I made before class started. You can view these in any order you like, just know that the script is the “main” portion of my project.

Something else I wanted to mention is that, in my opinion, the script is “technically” not finished. I had hoped to receive peer feedback once I had finished the fifth draft earlier this semester, then go back to work on it with the intention of fixing a few parts of it before the deadline. Unfortunately, I did not realize that due to everyone’s schedules and the ‘covid fatigue’ that we are all feeling, the people I had sent it to were too busy to look it over. I completely understood this, and since I was unable to revise the script based on their feedback, I decided the only option was to submit the script in its current state – the fifth draft. I mention this because there are still parts of my thesis script that I feel need work. Some scenes and certain lines of dialogue could use some improving, but I did not have enough time to fix them in another draft. I still plan to go back and continue revising the script sometime soon, but maybe keep what I have said in mind when reading it (if you want, you could turn on the comments, and see the progression of what I want to fix in the script. Might make for a fun experience).

All that being said, I will let you get to looking at it. When I started working on my thesis project over a year ago, I was so hopeful that I could make this big film that I could show everyone at the end of our undergrad experience, to celebrate all that I had learned over the last four years. Now, I am writing this hoping that someone will go to the website and look at my project. It’s crazy how things work out sometimes. Overall, I hope you enjoy reading my script, and thank you once again – it really means a lot.

I miss you all.

Sincerely,

Nick