



# Chris Csont

Grand Blanc, MI - [chris.csont@gmail.com](mailto:chris.csont@gmail.com)



## Professional Experience

**Lecturer I, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI - 2016-present**  
Teaching as a writing specialist for the School of Broadcast and Cinematic Arts. Courses taught include 200-level Introduction to Media Writing, 300-level Electronic Media Copywriting, and 500-level television & serial narrative writing.

**Consulting Screenwriter. Freelance - 2012-present**  
Editing and providing story notes on feature length screenplays for clients. Advising on the development of story ideas from outline to finished script.

**Lecturer, Boston University. Boston, MA - 2012-2015**  
Taught 300-level introductory undergraduate screenwriting classes, focusing on the basics of screenplay formatting, structure, and narrative storytelling. Served on faculty panel to judge student screenplays for the Fleder/Rosenberg short film competition.

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Film Making, Wheaton College. Norton, MA - 2015.**  
Developed an undergraduate screenwriting course, workshoping student scripts and covering the basics of format and dramatic structure. Lectured on topics connecting writing, film theory, and film history.

**Film Development Intern, Davis Entertainment. Los Angeles, CA, Fall 2011.**  
Written and verbal screenplay analysis for properties being evaluated for development as feature films or television shows. Evaluated writing samples under consideration for adaptation of existing properties.

**Alumni & Development Office Assistant, Boston University. 2009-2011.**  
Assisted Development Officers with donor recognition, event planning, and research on prospective donors.

**Narrative Screening Committee, Ann Arbor Film Festival. Ann Arbor, MI - 2008-2009.**  
Viewing film submissions and offering recommendations to festival programmers. Sending constructive feedback to rejected filmmakers after the festival.

**Operations Manager, Ann Arbor Film Festival. Ann Arbor, MI - 2006-2008.**  
Coordinated festival production, including VIP travel, donor tracking, and database management. Wrote copy for press releases, promotional materials, and grant applications. Hired and managed student interns.

## Education

**M.F.A., Screenwriting, Boston University. Boston, MA - 2011**  
Completion of multiple feature film and television scripts. Working with production students to develop and write two short films. Additional courses in pedagogy, film history, and script analysis.

**B.A. (distinction), Film & Video Studies, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI - 2005**  
Writing multiple drafts of two feature film scripts, one of which was filmed as a project for a 400-level undergraduate production class. Courses in film theory, history, and production. Worked as crew and producer for an hour-long pop culture talk show on WOLV-TV.

## Recent Writing Examples, Presentations, and Projects

### Ask Answergirl (Currently In Production)

Writer and Co-Producer for a 13-episode audio drama series produced with funding from the CMU College of the Arts and Media's Collaborative Grant Program. A collaboration between the Theatre and BCA programs featuring work from student actors, writers, and audio production engineers.

### Using Yammer as a Communication Tool at Central Michigan University: A Case Study

Co-presenter on a panel at the 2018 BEA On-Location Houston conference. Discussed use cases for Microsoft's social media-style business platform both as a faculty and classroom communication tool.

### Switching From Final Draft to Highland

User guide for the Quote-Unquote Apps screenwriting software Highland 2.  
<https://quoteunquoteapps.com/highland-2/fd-to-h2-guide>

### Table Read: "Ladies and Gentlemen, Miss Ida Walker"

Audio performance of a feature length Western screenplay, done in collaboration with students from CMU's Theatre program.

<https://thisbuildscharacter.com/ida-walker/>

### A Writer's Guide to Unforgettable Villains

Longform screenwriting post written for John August's *Writer Emergency* site.  
<https://writeremergency.com/2016/endings-new-beginnings>

### Endings are the new beginnings

Longform screenwriting post written for John August's *Writer Emergency* site.  
<https://writeremergency.com/villains>

### How Up Makes You Cry

A shot-by-shot analysis of the Married Life montage from Pixar's *Up*.  
<https://thisbuildscharacter.com/how-up-makes-you-cry/>

## Awards & Accolades

### Script Pipeline Screenwriting Competition, 2018.

Semifinalist (Top 1%) for screenplay "Ladies and Gentlemen, Miss Ida Walker"

### Boston University Writer in Hollywood Mentorship Grant, Fall 2011.

Recipient for Modern Family spec script "Friend Request"

### Nominee, NBC's Viral Video of the Year, 2006

### Finalist, NBC It's Your Show Competition, 2006

Video sketch "Polaroid", co-written with These People Comedy

## Current Course Descriptions

### BCA 211 Writing Intensive - Introduction to Media Writing

Course providing a broad overview of writing for different media formats, including screenwriting, advertising, news writing, and public relations.

### BCA 311 Writing Intensive - Electronic Media Copywriting

Course focused on developing skills for scripting advertisements for radio, television, and online media platforms.

### BCA 506 Writing Intensive - Series Script Writing for Visual Media

Course focused on refining screenwriting skills and developing a pilot episode script for an original television series.

### JRN 205 Writing Intensive - Shaping the Media

Course teaching students about their role in the modern media environment, instructing in core journalistic values, applying the principles of reporting to everyday communication, and developing skills to critically evaluate information presented as news.