COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: CMNS-140: Wordcraft for Visual Stories

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: 2022F

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-face

For COVID-19 information please visit https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: LLOYD CHESLEY

EMAIL: chelseyl@camosun.ca

OFFICE: 315B

HOURS: Thursday 4:30 – 5:30 (other times may be arranged by appointment)

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Students will develop the ability to create original visual stories and to work from existing stories. Learners will focus on the creative and editorial skills at the interface of words and graphics required by visual storytellers to produce visual stories in their own stylistic and personal approach.

PREREQUISITE(S):
One of:
• C+ in English 12
• C in Camosun Alternative
CO-REQUISITE(S):

EXCLUSION(S):

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Analyze the type of visual story to be created: plot-driven or character-driven.
2. Develop compelling characters as antagonist and protagonist who create dramatic tension when placed in situations where conflict will ensue.
3. Through a process of scripting, adapting and / or editing as necessary, create and properly format dramatic visual stories in multiple genres for their own comics and for other creators.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

A notebook, either a computer or a pad
Text: Usagi Yojimbo Issue #29

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
1. Sept 6	**LECTURE:** INTRODUCTION to writing and the work of the writer. An introduction to the medium of comics and sequential art. **HOMEWORK** – 2 sentences: Why do I write? What will I write?	
Sept 8	**PRESENTATION** of the answers to the 2 questions with class input and reactions **HOMEWORK:** Conceive the idea for the 1st 8-page story	
2. Sept 13	**LECTURE:** STORY. The universal appeal and meaning of story to readers. The job of telling stories. The writer's goals. Types of stories. Aspects of stories. Tools of story writing. The story writing process. **HOMEWORK:** With all of this in mind write the story outline for the 1st 8-page comic assignment. Keep to the essentials of what happens. This begins the process towards completing the first assignment due Sept 29/22	"The Writer's Room." We will break into groups and discuss each others' work. This Workshop will be a regular feature of most of the Thursday sessions.
Sept 15	**WORKSHOP:** Discuss the 8-page story outline. **HOMEWORK** – refine the story outline for discussion the following Thursday	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
3. Sept 20 Sept 22	**LECTURE:** THE SCRIPT. Plot driven and character driven stories. Description of the basic formats of scripts used in comics: "The Marvel Method" and the "Full Script"; with examples. Elements of a script. **ASSIGNMENT #1 – Due Sep 29/22 for 25%** Write a script in the Marvel Method for the 1st 8-page story. Add an analytical rationale explaining how your story is plot driven or character driven. **HOMEWORK**: Adapt your story outline into beats or events **WORKSHOP:** Review the draft of your Marvel Method script.	
4. Sep 27 Sept 29	**LECTURE:** PLOT & CATHARSIS. Discuss Joseph Campbell **HOMEWORK:** Complete Marvel Method script Assignment **WORKSHOP** **HOMEWORK:** Brainstorm the story for the 2nd 8-page comic.	**SUBMIT SEPT 29**: ASSIGNMENT #1 Marvel Method script for 1st 8-page story for 25%
5. Oct 4 Oct 6	**LECTURE:** STORY STRUCTURE - the strategy of arranging a sequence of events to create an emotional reaction from the reader **READING:** Comic book for discussion: Usagi Yojimbo **ASSIGNMENT #2 Due November 24/22 for 35%** Write Full Script for your 2nd 8-page story **HOMEWORK:** Write the plot outline of the 2ND 8-page story in bullet points **CLASS DISCUSION:** Analyze the assigned Usagi Yojimbo Comic Book	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
6. Oct 11 Oct 13	**LECTURE:** CHARACTER, Part 1. The Protagonist and the Antagonist. How the Protagonist drives the story. How the Antagonist interacts in opposition to create dramatic tension and advance the story. **ASSIGNMENT #3**: Due Oct 27/22 for 10%. Part 1. Write detailed character profiles of the protagonist and antagonist from your 1st 8-page story. Part 2. Short essay - Discuss how dramatic tension is created as the antagonist interacts with the protagonist **HOMEWORK:** Prepare notes for detailed character profiles **WORKSHOP:** Discuss your protagonist & antagonist profiles. Identify contradictions. Query each other: What more do you want to know?	
7. Oct 18 Oct 20	**LECTURE:** CHARACTER, Part 2. Supporting and Reflective. Other characters support both the protagonist and the antagonist in their goals. Reflective characters show different sides of the protagonist and antagonist. **WORKSHOP**: Create a character chart of how your characters support each other in the 1st 8-page story	
8. Oct 25 & Oct27	**WORKSHOPS:** Come prepared to work on the full script for the 2nd 8-page comic. Problem solving in "The Writers' Room"	SUBMIT OCT 27: ASSIGNMENT #3 Character profile of your protagonist for 10%
9. Nov 1 Nov 3	**GUEST LECTURE:** ADAPTATION **ASSIGNMENT #4** - due Nov 17/22 for 10% Adapt one page of a short story as a full script for a comic. Story provided. **WORKSHOP:** Discuss your adaptation.	
10. Nov 8 Nov 10	**LECTURE:** WORLD BUILDING **HOMEWORK:** Write a description of the World of your 2nd 8-page story **WORKSHOP:** Discuss the World of your story	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
11. Nov 15 & 17	**WORKSHOP:** Work on the full script for the 2nd 8-page comic. Problem solving in "The Writers' Room"	**SUBMIT NOV 17** ASSIGNMENT #4 – Adapt one page of a short story as a full script for a comic. Story provided. due for 10%
12. Nov 22 Nov 24	**LECTURE:** DIALOGUE. Uses. How people talk. **HOMEWORK:** Write a one-page script with dialogue of two distinct voices **WORKSHOP:** Discuss draft of dialogue assignment	**SUBMIT NOV 24** ASSIGNMENT #2 Full script for 2nd 8-page comic due for 35%
13. Nov 29 Dec 1	**GUEST LECTURE:** WRITING FOR THE ILLUSTRATOR **ASSIGNMENT #5:** To be presented Dec 6th & 8th for 10% Elevator Pitch for your dream project **HOMEWORK:** Create "Elevator Pitch" **WORKSHOP:** Discuss Elevator Pitch	
14. Dec 6 & 8	**PRESENTATIONS:** Elevator Pitch	**SUBMIT DEC 6** ASSIGNMENT #5. Elevator Pitch for your dream project For 10%

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION		WEIGHTING
ASSIGNMENT #1 - 1st 8-page comic script done in the "Marvel Method" format. Analysis of plot or character driven. DUE SEPT 29		25%
ASSIGNMENT #2 – 2ND 8-page comic strip done in the Full Script format. DUE NOV 24		35%

DESCRIPTION		WEIGHTING
ASSIGNMENT #3 - Character profiles of the protagonist & antagonist of your story. DUE OCT 27		10%
ASSIGNMENT #4 –Write a Full Script adaptation of one page of a short story (story provided). DUE NOV 17		10%
ASSIGNMENT 5 – Elevator Pitch for your dream project. Presented to the class. DUE DEC 6		10%
CLASS PARTICIPATION		10%
	TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the Grade Review and Appeals policy for more information.
http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Commitment to your learning is a collaboration between yourself, your instructor, and your peers. Your full participation is expected.

You can expect your instructor to:

• begin classes on time

• be prepared for class each day

• treat every member of the class with respect and dignity

• return evaluated materials in a timely manner

• give assignments and engage in activities that will benefit students' learning

• foster an open and supportive environment in which to learn

Your instructor expects of the learner that you will:

• be on time for every class

• be prepared for class each day

• treat every member of the class with respect and dignity

• submit assignments or other materials when they are due

• take an active part in your own learning

• be supportive and accepting of the views of others

Assignments:

Unless otherwise specified, you are to submit your own work. Any work collaborated on (unless permitted by the course) will be considered in violation of the college's Academic Integrity policy. See Camosun College

(2021) Academic Integrity Policy

Deadlines:

The ability to meet deadlines is emphasized as an important outcome of this course and is essential in the communications industry. Assignment due dates are posted on assignment design briefs and close 11:59pm on the due date. Late assignments are subject to penalty.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit http://camosun.ca/students/.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss

Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started: http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/

Academic Integrity

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines.

Grading Policy

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html) and the Grading Policy at http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.