

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRWR-158: Introduction to Scriptwriting
CLASS SECTION: 001
TERM: Fall 2024
COURSE CREDITS: 3
DELIVERY METHOD(S): in person 11:30 –12:50 (Tuesday in WT 101; Thursday in WT 102)

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here. Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Jeanne Iribarne (most people call me “J.”)
EMAIL: Iribarne@camosun.ca
OFFICE: Paul 335 (office telephone: 250-370-3359)
HOURS: Wednesday and Thursday 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Paul 335; or 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

In this course, students will develop skills in writing scripts for various media (e.g., dramatic production, comics, and film). Students will examine elements such as effective dialogue, characterization, sub-text, plot structure, and staging.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify the role and responsibilities of the scriptwriter.
2. Read, analyze, and discuss various script-based media.
3. Practice scriptwriting and create a variety of short scripts.
4. Write, edit, and evaluate the components (conflict, plot, setting, characters, dialogue) of an effective script.
5. Conduct research to give scripts credibility.
6. Identify the various resources for scriptwriters.
7. Prepare a script according to industry standards for submission for production.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

- Use of a laptop or tablet for workshop classes (required).
- Some cash for occasional printing (required).

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.

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WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
1: Sept 3 to 6	<u>What is a script?</u> Course introductions	beginning five finger exercises
2: Sept 9 to 13	<u>What happens next?</u> The 10-minute form + plot	listen: short plays (a selection) workshop class: ex. 1 and 2
3: Sept 16 to 20	<u>How does dialogue work?</u> The delicate balance of realism	read/watch: <i>Play</i> (by Samuel Beckett)
4: Sept 22 to 26	<u>How do we create “theatre of the mind?”</u> Coordinating speaking and action	workshop class: ex. 3 and 4
5: Sep 29 to Oct 3	<u>How are scripts for visual media developed?</u>	watch: selected short films workshop class: first draft, 10-minute script due
6: Oct 7 to 11	<u>How does a screenplay work?</u> Writing focus: screenplay style and format	watch/read: <i>Grand Budapest Hotel</i> (2013) final draft, 10-minute script due (20%)—Oct 11 by midnight
7: Oct 14 to 18	<u>How do we create subtext?</u>	** scene analyses begin** (see sign up schedule) workshop class: exercises in subtext
8: Oct 21 to 25	<u>How can we incorporate structural innovation?</u> <u>How do we write with time?</u>	watch/read: <i>Inception</i> (2010) workshop class: mise-en-scène exercise (ex. 5)
9: Oct 28 to Nov 1	<u>How do we adapt other works?</u>	workshop class: adaptations, part I
10: Nov 4 to 8	<u>How do we work with ideas?</u>	watch/read: <i>Moonlight</i> (2016) workshop class: adaptations, part II
11: Nov 11 to 15	<u>How do other types of scripts work?</u>	read/watch: <i>Giri/Haji</i> , Episode 1 (2019)

12: Nov 18 to 22	<u>What is a good monologue?</u>	read/watch: <i>The Derry Girls</i> , Season 1, Episode 1 (2018) workshop class: first draft, 15-minute screenplay due
13: Nov 25 to 29	<u>How can I revise my own work?</u> <u>What do I do with my completed script(s)?</u>	workshop class: individual scenes, 15-minute screenplay
14: Dec 2 to 6	Reading and party.	Final draft, 15-minute screenplays due

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 notice 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
10-minute dramatic script	20
15-minute screenplay	25
Exercises (5)	25
Scene analysis (live or video presentation)	5
Discussion Lead on a Film (5)	5
Participation (including workshops, feedback to peers, scintillating and intelligent discussion, etc.)	20
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](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

1. Your happiness and well-being as a student are important to me and are important factors in your success. Please contact me if I can help you navigate through the college system in any way (even if the issue relates to another course).

2. Participation in this course requires a climate of respect and collaboration. This means offering peers constructive feedback, and it means commitment throughout the semester. Naturally, it is much easier to participate if you attend class.
3. Assignments are due on the due date. **I will be asking you to submit your assignments in print AND electronically to the correct dropbox.** It's your responsibility to make certain you have uploaded your file on time, and that it is the correct version in a readable format. If I can't open it or read it, it does not count as having been submitted.

Unless we negotiate otherwise (under exceptional circumstances), late assignments will be accepted for one full week after the initial due date with a penalty of 5% per day, but these assignments will receive no written comments (only a grade). You are welcome to discuss your work with me in detail at any time (before or after the due date).

NOTE: If you have COVID or any other communicable illness, we would all prefer if you did not come in to class, true. And yes, this is a legitimate reason to be late with assignments. However, I expect to hear from you on or before the due date, if this is the case. Please keep track of deadlines, and please keep me in the loop.

4. Please be careful when using other people's words or ideas. Using them without identifying the author constitutes fraud (plagiarism) and can have a lasting impact on this course and your future studies, even if that "author" is not a human being but a machine. See me if you are in any doubt about where to draw the line between your work and someone else's.

While plagiarism in this course may have different boundaries than in an academic course, the onus is still on you to create original work. This also means that you must hand in work created specifically for this class (i.e. not for previous courses or in your previous career as a scriptwriter for Universal Studios). We will talk about the use of AI in scriptwriting as well.

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 camosun.ca/services.

Support Service

Website

Academic Advising

camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising

Support Service	Website
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

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 Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you

are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

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 (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

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 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 Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education.

To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here:
<https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

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.