

	<p><i>School of Arts & Science</i> ENGLISH DEPARTMENT</p> <p>ENGL 158-section 01 Creative Writing: Playwriting 2007F</p>
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COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/learn/calendar/index.html#ENGL>

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Bronwen Welch		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mondays 4 to 5 or by appointment Mondays 3-4 by email		
(c)	Location:	Paul 328		
(d)	Phone:	370-3342		
(e)	Email:	WelchB@Camosun.bc.ca		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify at a beginner's level, the process of playwriting.
2. Analyse some sense of how the theatre works and what the playwright's role is in the production of a new play.
3. Evaluate the importance of conflict for an effective play.
4. Practise dialogue with a fair degree of facility, and with due attention to sub-text.
5. Practise and hone skills for playwriting through a comprehensive set of exercises, such as monologues, various short statements about what is happening with the characters.
6. Evaluate and produce plots, settings, characters and appropriately nuanced language with effective use of figures of speech.
7. Practise effective journal keeping, to understand its importance for the playwright.
8. Carry out appropriate research to give plays credibility.
9. Identify the various resources available for playwrights.
10. Prepare a play for submission for publication following the guidelines of The Playwrights' Union of Canada (PUC).

3. Required Materials

(a)	Texts	<i>The Blunt Playwright: An Introduction to Playwriting</i> Ed. Clem Martini. Playwrights Canada Press: Toronto, 2006.
(b)		English 158 course-pack Supplementary handouts
(c)		One Ticket to EITHER “Enchanted April” (at the Belfry Theatre) or “Lionel” (at the Phoenix Theatre)

4. Course Content and Schedule

<p>ENGLISH 158</p> <p>Creative Writing: Playwriting</p> <p><i>TENTATIVE TERM SCHEDULE</i></p>
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Date	What We Will Cover	Assignments and Readings
January 7	Course introduction What makes a play? Dramatic Structure Radio Drama Assign Dialogue Exercise Assign 10 minute Radio Play	Read <i>Principals of Radio Drama</i> (handout) Read 23-39 in <i>Blunt Playwright</i>
January 14	Hand in Dialogue Exercise Kim O’Hare visits class Radio Drama cont. The Narrator in Radio drama	Read handout on <i>How to Write Radio Drama cues</i> Rough draft of Radio Drama Due Next Class!

January 21	Workshop Radio Plays	Hand in one copy of Radio Drama to me and distribute one copy to each of your actors.
January 28 th	Desire and Conflict in Drama Hand in Dialogue Exercise Workshop Dialogue exercises	Refine Radio Play Write a “pitch” for your play read “Hum” In <i>The Blunt Playwright</i> (156) and “Helen at Risk” (163) (<i>Blunt</i>) Read pages 69-84 in
February 4 th	“Pitching” your idea to Applied Communications students Beginnings Universal Themes in Drama Assign Monologue Assignment	Hand in Final Copy of Radio Play to Me read “Here We Are” (coursepack) read “Tender Offer” (course pack)
February 11	Dialogue—what does it do, anyway? Subtext	Read 87-112 in <i>Blunt</i> Read “Shape of a Girl” (coursepack)
February 18.	Monologues “Shape of a Girl” Workshop Monologues	

February 25	Assign One Act Play Monologue Assignment Due	Read Forward[s] to <i>My Dinner with Andre</i> (handout) Read 103 -112 in <i>Blunt</i>
March 3	My Dinner with Andre Setting Endings	
March 10	Hand in Draft of One Act Play Workshops scenes from One Act Play	Read "On Tidy Endings" Read "Play" (course pack) Read 115-153 in <i>Blunt</i>
March 17	"On Tidy Endings" "Play" More About Subtext Comedy	Read "Master Harold and the Boys"(coursepack) Read "Wit" (coursepack)
March 24	Easter Monday no Class	
March 31	Hand in Review of EITHER "Enchanted April" OR "Lionel" "Master Harold and the Boys" "Wit" Symbolism	
April 7	Hand in Final Copy of One Act Play "Wit"	

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a)	Assignments	Assignment 1 (first draft – 5-10 minute radio play) 10% Assignment 2 (second draft – 5-10 minute radio play) 15% Assignment 3 (first draft – One-Act Play) 15% Assignment 4 (second draft – One-Act Play) 25%
(b)		Review of either “Enchanted April” (at the Belfry Theatre) or “Lionel” (at the Phoenix Theatre) (5%)
(c)		Dialogue exercise (5%) Monologue Assignment (5%)
(d)	Other (eg, Attendance, class work, in- class writing, Group Work)	Participation 20% (including attendance, workshops, writing exercises, etc.)

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Credit is granted but grade cannot transfer	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at camosun.ca

or information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

Attention!

- ❖ All due dates are **firm**. Late assignments will not receive comments and will lose **10% per day** unless accompanied by a documented medical excuse.

- ❖ I do not accept work via email nor do I accept work pushed under my door. I will not grade work that I receive in this manner.
- ❖ **Plagiarism** (presenting the ideas or words of others as your own) is a serious academic offence. In this class, the **minimum** penalty for plagiarism is a grade of zero on the relevant assignment. In addition, I will report plagiarized assignments to the appropriate authorities. Please refer to the attached handout on plagiarism to familiarize yourself with both the definitions of plagiarism and the consequences for plagiarism at Camosun College. In addition, students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the college's policy on academic conduct. You can find that policy in the Camosun College Calendar or on line at the following location: <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/ombuds/student-conduct.pdf>
- ❖ You must keep a photocopy or disk copy of everything you hand in to me in case one of your assignments is misplaced, stolen, or damaged. You must also keep all returned work, and produce it when asked to do so.
- ❖ You are responsible for information, verbal or written, given in class. Please keep track of all handouts and assigned readings, and note that neither unexcused absence from class during the discussion of tasks and assignments nor inattention to classroom activities, verbal explanations, or handouts exempts you from meeting deadlines or preparing for class.
- ❖ Participation means contributing to discussions in a genuine and meaningful way. Obviously, you can't participate if you aren't here. Your participation mark is determined not only by your consistent attendance but also by your active contribution in group-workshops as well as in-class discussions.

Grading

- A Range (80 - 100%) Superior level of achievement
- Exceptional insight into material or topic
 - Detailed, significant discussion
 - Effective organization
 - Fluent, error-free expression
- B Range (70-79%) High level of achievement
- Competent treatment of material or topic but less originality or perception than an "A" paper
 - Full discussion but not as detailed or specific as "A" level
 - Sound organization and attention to grammar
- C+ (65 – 69%) Satisfactory level of achievement
- Content reasonably well-organized
 - Clear but somewhat mechanical organization

- May have good content but also may include serious mechanical errors

C (60 – 64%) Sufficient level of achievement to proceed to next level

- Content is adequately supported
- Mechanical but generally coherent organization
- Several serious mechanical errors

D (50 – 59%) Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted

- Limited or misleading content with inadequate or inappropriate support
- Incomplete or confusing organization
- Frequent errors which confuse or mislead the reader

F (Below 50%) Minimum level not achieved.

- Inadequate or inaccurate content
- Incoherent organization
- So many errors that the reader cannot understand the paper adequately