



## COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/engl.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.  
 It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.  
 You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Laurie Elmquist		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday		
(c)	Location:	Paul 332		
(d)	Phone:	370-3355	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	Elmquist@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

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

1. Write stories that are clear, provocative and well-crafted.
  1. Create characters that are credible, convincing and consistent.
  2. Write plots that have continuity and consistency.
  3. Write dialogue that is related to characterization, action and plot.
  4. Write compelling description that appeals to all senses.
  5. Use perspective and point of view effectively.
  6. Use figures of speech effectively.
2. Critically analyze stories by professional writers and peers.
  1. Evaluate the effectiveness of structure, characterization, plot, point of view and style in a range of stories.
  2. Compare a variety of narrative styles and forms, including micro-fiction.
  3. Conduct appropriate research to give a piece of fiction credibility.
  4. Examine and evaluate the structure and limitations of different publication media (literary magazines, on-line magazines, anthologies, newspapers, etc.).
3. Submit a story submission for publication.
  1. Identify appropriate magazines and the stories they publish.
  2. Obtain publication guidelines via print or Internet.
  3. Write a cover letter and a brief biography.
  4. Submit a query for a manuscript to a publisher.

### 3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts: Writing Fiction: A Guide to Narrative Craft 7<sup>th</sup> edition by Jane Burroway and Elizabeth Stuckey-French
- (b) Other: English 254 Course pack, 3-hole spiral notebook, and binder

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

(This section can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

Date	Readings <sup>1</sup> , Assignments, Discussion Topics
<b>Week One</b> Tues. Sept. 8	<p><b>Note:</b> Stories are due on <b>Thursday at midnight</b>. If your story is posted on time you get an automatic 2 marks. I really want to give you these marks but I cannot do it if it is not posted on time. Please check this schedule to see which Thursdays.</p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome to the class</li> </ul> <p><b>Why I Write</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Joan Didion's essay, "Why I Write" 18-22 in your textbook, <i>Writing Fiction</i>.</li> </ul> <p>Freewriting Assignments: images, random elements</p>
Thurs. Sept. 10	<p><b>Getting Started with D2L (Ewing 103 Computer Lab)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online Activities #1-#4</li> </ul> <p><b>What is Fiction?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read Chapter 1, "Whatever Works: The Writing Process" in <i>Writing Fiction</i>, focusing on pages 1-15</li> </ul>
<b>Week Two</b> Tues. Sept. 15	<p><b>Kinds of Fiction—Appendix A</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gabriel García Márquez's "An Old Man with Very Enormous Wings" (course pack)</li> <li>Appendix A in <i>Writing Fiction</i> pages 413-416</li> </ul> <p><b>Story Ideas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freewriting Assignments: stories in your backyard, stories overheard, world events, paintings</li> <li>Read William Carlos Williams' "The Use of Force" 277-279.</li> </ul>
Thurs. Sept. 17	<p><b>What is Theme?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 10, "I Gotta Use Words When I Talk to You" 359-368</li> <li>"What Themes May Come" by John Winston Rainey (class handout)</li> </ul> <p><b>Due:</b> Story #1: Stories Stumbled Upon            Posted by midnight tonight.            Post to <b>Dropbox</b> for me to read and <b>Discussions</b> for your group to read.</p>
<b>Week Three</b> Tues. Sept. 22	<p><b>Class Critique #1: Stories Stumbled Upon</b></p> <p>Today we are discussing the stories written by <b>Group One</b>. Please come to class prepared. Read the stories in advance and jot down a few notes to jog your memory in class. The stories are available on D2L under Discussions: Class Critique #1.</p>
Thurs. Sept. 24	<p><b>Plot: Conflict</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 7, "The Tower and the Net: Story Form, Plot, and Structure" 259-276</li> <li>Exercise: Action!</li> </ul> <p><b>Mechanics:</b> Dialogue and Names</p>

<sup>1</sup> All readings must be done *ahead* of class. Please come to class ready to discuss them.

<p><b>Week Four</b> Tues. Sept. 29</p>	<p><b>Connection and Disconnection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flannery O'Connor's "Everything That Rises Must Converge" 282-292</li> <li>• Freewriting Assignment: Incongruous Situation, Connection and Disconnection</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p>Thurs. Oct. 1</p>	<p><b>Show Don't Tell</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2, "Seeing Is Believing: Showing and Telling" 25-79</li> </ul> <p><b>Faults to Avoid/Prose Rhythms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 9, "Is and Is Not: Comparison" 336-357</li> <li>• Metaphor</li> </ul> <p><b>Due:</b> Story #2: Plot Posted to by midnight tonight.</p>
<p><b>Week Five</b> Tues. Oct. 6</p>	<p><b>Class Critique #2: Plot</b></p> <p>Today we are discussing the stories written by <b>Group Two</b>. Please come to class prepared. Read the stories in advance and jot down a few notes to jog your memory in class. The stories are available on D2L under Discussions: Class Critique #2.</p>
<p>Thurs. Oct. 8</p>	<p><b>Characterization, Part I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 3, "Building Character: Characterization, Part 1" 80-99</li> <li>• Charles Baxter's "Gryphon" 99-110</li> <li>• Freewriting Exercises #1 - #4</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><b>Week Six</b> Tues. Oct. 13</p>	<p><b>Characterization, Part II</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 4, "The Flesh Made Word" 137-153</li> <li>• Eudora Wealty's "A Visit of Charity" 154-158</li> </ul>
<p>Thurs. Oct. 15</p>	<p><b>Setting I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 5, "Far, Far Away: Fictional Place" 173-187</li> <li>• Tricia Dower's "Passing Through" course pack</li> </ul> <p><b>Due:</b> Story #3: Character Posted by midnight tonight.</p>
<p><b>Week Seven</b> Tues. Oct. 20</p>	<p><b>Class Critique #3: Character</b></p> <p>Today we are discussing the stories written by <b>Group Three</b>. Please come to class prepared. Read the stories in advance and jot down a few notes to jog your memory in class. The stories are available on D2L under Discussions: Class Critique #3.</p>
<p>Thurs. Oct. 22</p>	<p><b>Setting II</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 6, "Long Ago: Fictional Time" 218-231</li> <li>• Tobias Wolff's "Bullet in the Brain" 158-161</li> </ul>
<p><b>Week Eight</b> Tues. Oct. 27</p>	<p><b>Author Reading: Tricia Dower</b></p> <p><b>Due: First Portfolio: 3 finished stories</b></p>
<p>Thurs. Oct. 29</p>	<p><b>Due:</b> One-page response to Author Reading</p> <p><b>Point of View I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 8, "Call Me Ishmael" 296-303</li> <li>• Daniel Orozco's "Orientation" 311-315</li> </ul>

<b>Week Nine</b> Tues. Nov. 3	<b>Point of View II</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raymond Carver's "A Serious Talk" 253-256</li> <li>• Chapter 8 continued (304-311)</li> </ul>
Thurs. Nov. 5	<b>Unreliable Narrator</b> Gish Jen's "Who's Irish" 315-323  <b>Due:</b> Story #4: Setting Posted by midnight tonight.
<b>Week Ten</b> Tues. Nov. 10	<b>Class Critique #4: Setting</b> Today we are discussing the stories written by <b>Group Four</b> . Please come to class prepared. Read the stories in advance and jot down a few notes to jog your memory in class. The stories are available on D2L under Discussions: Class Critique #4.
<b>Week Ten</b> Thurs. Nov. 12	<b>Writers' Confessions 2</b> (film) Z481W75 2006 No. 2  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue discussion about the Unreliable Narrator</li> <li>• Richard Ford's "Rock Springs" 120-134</li> <li>• Unity</li> <li>• Spatial Structure</li> </ul>
<b>Week Eleven</b> Tues. Nov. 17	<b>Author Reading</b>
Thurs. Nov. 19	<b>Structure</b> <b>Due:</b> One-page response to Author Reading  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flashback and other structures to explore Read Sherman Alexie's "This Is What It Means to Say Phoenix, Arizona" 377-385</li> </ul>
<b>Week Twelve</b> Tues. Nov. 24	<b>Revision:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scenes/Summary</li> <li>• Setting/Details</li> <li>• Chapter 11, "Play It Again Sam" 388-397</li> </ul> <b>Discussion: Appropriation of Voice</b>
Thurs. Nov. 26	<b>Revision:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dialogue/Metaphor</li> <li>• John Winston Rainey's "Dialogue as Action" (class handout)</li> </ul> <b>Due:</b> Story #5: Flawed Narrator Posted by midnight tonight.
<b>Week Thirteen</b> Tues. Dec. 1	<b>Class Critique #5: Flawed Narrator</b> Today we are discussing the stories written by <b>Group Five</b> . Please come to class prepared. Read the stories in advance and jot down a few notes to jog your memory in class. The stories are available on D2L under Discussions: Class Critique #5.
Thurs. Dec. 3	<b>Publishing (Ewing 103 –Computer Lab)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing a collection of short stories for submission</li> <li>• Writing a query letter to an agent/publisher</li> <li>• Publishers for short story collections</li> <li>• Writing Groups</li> </ul>

<b>Week Fourteen</b> Tues. Dec. 8	<b>Hand in your 2<sup>nd</sup> portfolio: two finished stories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Class Reading</b></li> </ul>
Thurs. Dec. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Class Reading</b></li> </ul>

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(This section should be directly linked to the Intended Learning Outcomes.)

### (a) Assignments

#### Assignments and Evaluation

First drafts and class reading	15%
Participation in peer editing	15%
Author readings	10%
Midterm portfolio of short stories	30%
Final portfolio of short stories	<u>30%</u>
	100%

### (b) Quizzes

### (c) Exams

### (d) Other (e.g., Attendance, Project, Group Work)

## 6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

### 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	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	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 E-1.5 at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for 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.

<b>IP</b>	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3<sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
<b>CW</b>	<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.

**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](http://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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

[ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED](#)