

School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ENGL 158

Introduction to Scriptwriting

Fall 2010

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:	Jeanne Iribarne		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mon and Wed 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.; Tues and Thurs 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.		
(D)	Office Flours.	or by appointme	nt	
(c)	Location:	Paul 328		
(d)	Phone:	370-3349	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	Iribarne@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. Identify at a beginner's level, the process of scriptwriting.
- 2. Analyse some sense of how the various media work, and what the screenwriter's role is in the production of a new script.
- 3. Evaluate the importance of conflict for an effective script.
- 4. Practise dialogue with a fair degree of facility, and with due attention to sub-text.
- 5. Practise and hone skills for scriptwriting 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 screenwriter.
- 8. Carry out appropriate research to give scripts credibility.
- 9. Identify the various resources available for scriptwriters.
- 10. Prepare a script for submission for publication following the guidelines of The Playwrights' Union of Canada (PUC) and/or Canadian Film and Television Producers (CFTPA).

3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts
- Course package for English 158
- Please set aside some funds (about \$15) and time for **one** performance outside of class.

(b) Other

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.)

<u>Date</u>	What We Will Cover	<u>Major Assignments</u>
		And Readings
	Course introductions.	
	What makes a play?	Email bio
Week 1		
(Sep 6-10)		
	What happens next?	"Guppies"
	The 10-minute play	"Time Flies"
Week 2		"A Bowl of Soup"
(Sep 13-17)	*Writing focus: beginning character and plot	"Hold for Three"
		Workshop class - what is
		the writer's job?
	How does dialogue work?	
	* Writing focus: dialogue (the delicate balance	21 questions
Week 3	of realism)	
(Sep 20-24)		Lion in the Streets *
	September 21 - fee deadline	
	* Writing focus: dialogue (coordinating	Workshop class – first
Week 4	speaking and action)	draft, 10-minute play
(Sep 27-Oct 1)		
	How are screenplays different from	short films
	stage plays?	
Week 5		10-minute play due
(Oct 4-8)	*Writing focus: recognizing screenplays	
		Workshop class -
	*Writing focus: adaptations	adaptations, part I
Week 6		
(Oct 11-15)	October 11 - Thanksgiving (no classes)	
	October 14 to 23 - Death of a Clown at the Phoenix	Specking Darte *
	How does a screenplay work?	Speaking Parts *

Week 7		Workshop class -
(Oct 18-22)	*Writing focus: screenplay format	adaptations, part II
	*Writing focus: subtext	
	How do we evaluate a script separately	
	from a production?	Death of a Clown *
Week 8		Memento * (available online)
(Oct 25-29)		
	What are some good strategies for	Workshop class – first
	revision?	draft, 10-minute
Week 9		screenplay
(Nov 1-5)	*Writing focus: revision goals	
	How do we plan a longer work?	
Week 10	*Writing focus: scenarios	
(Nov 8-12)	Nov 9 - last day to withdraw without academic penalty	10-minute screenplay due
	How do we work with ideas?	Fargo*
Week 11		The Reader*
(Nov 15-19)	*Writing focus: theme	, , , e , , cade,
Week 12	Are there possibilities for genre	Polygraph *
(Nov 22-26)	crossover?	Workshop class –
		scenarios
	*Writing focus: multimedia and mixed media	
		W. 1.1
Week 13	What do I do with my completed script?	Workshop class: first
(Nov 29-Dec 3)		draft, scenes from the
		longer work
Week 14		
(Dec 6-10)	Reading and party.	Scenes and Scenario due

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

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

10-minute stage script	20%
10-minute screenplay	20%
15-minute stage OR screenplay (scenes +scenario)	20%
In-class writing (unannounced)	20%
Participation	20%

(including workshops, feedback to peers, self-evaluation, exercises, a brief presentation, scintillating and intelligent discussion, etc.)

- (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	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	Incomplete: 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	In progress: 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. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: 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.

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