



COURSE OUTLINE

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

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Bronwen Welch		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00-3:30 (or by appointment)		
(c)	Location:	Ewing 218		
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3194		
(e)	Email:	WelchB@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:	http://camosun.ca/about/research/directory/bronwen-welch.html		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Produce clear and interesting writing that is to be read by a general audience.
2. Practice writing creative non-fiction.
3. Critically analyze the creative nonfiction process.
4. Produce essays and articles that go beyond facts and explore the world in a personal and creative way.
5. Write non-fiction in a style that is as accurate and informative as reportage, yet as personal, provocative, and dramatic as fiction.
6. Evaluate the role of the audience in the development of style and content.
7. Conduct interviews and use electronic tools in order to research various topics.
8. Submit a query for a manuscript to a publisher.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts: Creative Non-Fiction: A Guide to Form, Content, and Style, with Readings
- (b) Other: Supplementary Handouts

4. Course Content and Schedule

Tentative Class Schedule

Each chapter in our text contains Exercises. I encourage you to try some of them at home, just as we will be trying some in class; however, unless specified by me as a formal assignment, the exercises in each chapter are not formal assignments.

Wednesday, Sept. 5: Introduction to class:

What IS Creative Non-Fiction?
Hand out Syllabus

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter One in your text
 - Read Chapter Two in your text

Friday, Sept. 7: Creative Truth and Engaging Voice and Style

First Assignment Handed Out

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter Three
 - Read Chapter Four
 - Read E.B. White's "Once More to the Lake" (handout)

Wednesday, September 12: Finding the Central Question

Where / How to Start?
How personal is too personal?

- Homework
 - Read Chapter Six

- Brainstorm a particular “journey” you made, whether physical, or metaphorical. How did your particular journey answer a question you had.

Friday, Sept. 14: Quests and Journeys and other Archetypes
Class Workshop

- Homework
 - Read Chapter 18
 - Email Draft Material to Group!

Wednesday, September 19: Workshop Date: Bring Your Draft Material

Friday, Sept 21: Assignment One Due
Assignment Two handed out

- Homework
 - Read Chapter Seven

Wednesday, Sept 26: Mysteries and Investigations

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter Nine

Friday Sept 28: Profiles of other Subjects

- Homework
 - Interview a Subject
 - Bring your notes / profile to class

Wednesday, Oct. 3: Profiles and Subjects cont.
Class Workshop

Friday, Oct 5: Class Workshop Cont.

- Homework:
 - Read E.B. White’s “Two Letters” (handout)

Wednesday, Oct. 10 Humour as a way to discover the core of a real issue

- **Homework:**
 - **Email your drafts to your group members!**

Friday, October 12: Workshop Date: Bring Your Draft of Assignment Two

Wednesday, Oct. 17: Assignment Two Due

- Homework
 - Read Chapter 10

Friday, Oct 19: Portraits

Assignment Three Handed Out

Wednesday, Oct. 24: Freewriting
Class Workshop

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter 11

Friday, Oct. 26: Ritual and Codes

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter Twelve
 - Select a “Sign” you wish to decipher

Wednesday, Oct. 31: Free-writing
Class Workshop

- Homework:
 - Email your rough draft to your group members!

Friday, Nov. 2: Workshop Date: Bring Your Draft of Assignment Three

Wednesday, Nov. 7: Dialogue in your Writing
Assignment Three Due

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter Thirteen

Friday, Nov. 9: Dialogue
Space and Form.

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter 13

Wednesday, Nov. 14: Space and Form

Friday, Nov. 16: Class Workshop

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter Fourteen
 - Complete Exercise “Inspirations” on page 339 and bring it to class

Wednesday, Nov. 21: Class Workshop

Friday, Nov. 23: Class Workshop

- Homework:
 - Read Chapter 15 and 16

Wednesday, Nov. 28: Freewrite and Class Workshop

Friday, Nov. 30: Submitting your pieces

- Homework: Ensure your group members have your draft

Wednesday Dec. 5: **LAST FORMAL WORKSOP**

Friday, Dec. 7 **Assignment Four Due**

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Required assignment type	What your instructor will assign	Value
Personal Memory (700 words)	This essay will be a recreation of a memory, utilizing exposition. The intent of this is essay is to re-create the memory as a way to answer an important question.	15%
Workshops	There will be four workshop dates in this class You will be put into a workshop group of three to four people. You MUST email your draft to your group members the day before it is workshopped. You will receive a mark for your rough draft AS LONG AS YOU INCLUDE each marked up draft with GROUP MEMBERS COMMENTS. You MUST attach all the marked up drafts to your finished draft in order to receive the marks.	20%
Participation	As participation is so important in this class, you will have to sign in each class. You will need to show up to 90 percent of classes to get the full 10% participation mark. You have two “Grace Classes” you can miss without forfeiting this 10 % If you miss more than five classes you will forfeit the whole 10%.	10%
Assignment Two (1000 words)	Researching a Mystery	15%
Assignment Three (1000-1500 words)	Two Portraits	20%
Assignment Four (1500-2000 words)	What I am NOT and why	20%

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	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	<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, 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 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
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.

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.

Attention!

Essays:

- Work is due at the **beginning** of class on the dates specified.
- 10% per day (even Saturdays and Sundays) will be deducted for lateness.
- **Nothing** will be accepted after 7 days (including Saturdays and Sundays) past due date.
- You must complete **all assignments** in order to pass this course.

Readings:

- As with any course, it is vitally important that you have completed all assigned readings before coming to each class.
- Since our class time will consist of group discussion, workshops, and exercises, you must also have read the assigned works thoroughly enough to be able to intelligently participate in that class.

Participation and Attendance:

- There is a participation mark for this class. If you miss more than five classes you will forfeit this mark.
- It is quite impossible for you to do well in this course if you do not regularly attend. Class time is your opportunity to clarify your ideas, responses and understanding of the works. Coming to class and participating in discussion will also help you anticipate the test questions and gather material for your essays.
- If you find it necessary to miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed and complete the homework BEFORE the next class. I would also suggest you make a trustworthy friend in the class from whom you can borrow thorough, reliable notes.
- PLEASE NOTE: I DO NOT ALLOW RE-WRITES
- SPECIAL NOTE: Be sure to keep all rough drafts and marked material until the end of term
- 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. 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 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.

Class Rules and Obligations

- Please try to be on time every day
- The "late cushion" is twenty minutes
- Please avoid use of scented products
- Please listen carefully when everyone speaks and do not interrupt
- You may eat snacks in class, but avoid snacks that are loud, smelly, sticky, or crumbly
- If you do not understand directions after a couple of explanations, make an appointment with the instructor to clarify the directions/assignment rather than holding up the class.
- Do not text in class
- Please remember to turn off your cell-phone
- Be respectful of other people's ideas
- Do not talk while others are talking
- Please not bring EITHER peanuts OR strawberries to class