



**School of Arts & Science  
Department of English**

**CRWR 157**

**Writing Fiction for Children & Youth**

**Fall, 2012**

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**COURSE OUTLINE**

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**Calendar Description:** In this creative writing course, students will develop skills in writing fiction for children and youth. The elements of plot, characterization, dialogue, setting, point of view, and theme will be studied. Students will prepare a story outline, plot treatment and character sketches for a chapter book or young adult novel.

Ω *Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for your records.*

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**Instructor Information**

- (a) Instructor: Kari Jones
- (b) Office hours: Wednesday before class (or by appointment)
- (c) Location Paul 328
- (d) Phone 250-370-4436
- (e) E-mail jonesk@camosun.bc.ca
- (f) Website www.karijones.ca

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course students will be able to

1. Identify and distinguish literary characteristics specific to children and youth as young readers.
2. Identify a variety of genres of fiction for children and youth including easy readers, early chapter books, juvenile fiction, short stories for children, and youth novels.
3. Practice the writing process appropriate to fiction for children and youth.
4. Produce plots, settings, characters with appropriate language and effective use of figures of speech.
5. Practice appropriate research for giving fiction credibility.
6. Identify the various resources available for writers.
7. Prepare a story for submission for publication.

**Required Materials**

- Notebook for journaling and free writing in (bring to class)
- *The Thief* by Megan Whalen Turner

## Course Hours/Location

Wednesdays, 6:00-9:00

We will be writing in every class, sometimes working on assignments that will be handed in for assessment. It is therefore essential to your grade that you attend and participate in all classes.

## Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

### Assignments:

#### Exercises and homework- 30%

- This includes a query letter, character sketch, plot outline and other short documents of approximately one page each

#### Writing –60%

- 1<sup>st</sup> chapter – submit for editing 2%
- 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter –peer edit –2%
- Mid term –submit revised first and second chapter 26%
- 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter –submit for editing 2%
- Final portfolio –revised 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter, query letter, publisher etc. 28%

#### Editing -10%

- Peer review editing

Late assignments may lose marks at the rate of 5% per day. If there are known circumstances that will hinder you from completing an assignment on time, please speak with me well beforehand.

Students who fail to complete any assignments listed below by the final class date will fail the course. It is up to you to make sure that all of your assignments are handed in.

Please see Class Schedule for due dates of the assignments.

## 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.
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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## 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 on the College web site in the Policy Section.