

### School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

# ENGL 258-001 Creative Writing: Drama 2 2013

This course offers students a chance to explore and refine their skills and goals in writing for screen. ENGL 258 focuses on developing a student's ability to craft scenarios with workable conflicts, to create character, to use subtext effectively, and to prepare a script for production.

#### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Bronwen Welch
(b)	Office Hours:	Tues and Thurs. 2:30 -4:30 OR Wed. and Fri. 1:15 – 2:15
(c)	Location:	Ewing 218
(d)	Phone:	370-3194
(e)	Email:	WelchB@camosun.bc.ca

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to

- 1. Write scripts that are clear, provocative, and well-crafted.
- Identify and outline key elements of conflict in a clear scenario.
- Write dialogue that reveals character, develops exposition and uses sub-text skillfully.
- Revise their own writing according to articulated standards.
- 2. Critically analyze scripts by professional writers and peers.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of form, structure and style (e.g. plot devices such as inciting incidents, effective use of monologue, rhythm in language, poetic device).
- Conduct and report on research on various staging and directing techniques relevant to scriptwriters.
- Examine and evaluate different media and their impact on the writer (e.g. Improvisation, collaborative arts, television drama, etc.).
- 3. Submit a script for production.
- Identify theatre groups, internship programs and other avenues for production.
- Initiate contacts for realization of the script.
- Write a marketing proposal for a finished script.
- Submit a script for production consideration.

# 3. Required Materials

(a)	Text	Alternative Scriptwriting: Sucessfulling Breaking the Rules
(b)		Supplementary Handouts

# 4. Tentative Course Content and Schedule

<u>Date</u>	What We Will Cover	Major Assignments
Week 1	Course introductions.	
Jan. 8	Beyond Aristotle	
***	***	
Jan. 10	Character	
Week 2		
Jan. 15	Wkshop: character	Assign Monologue
	Monologue	***
***	***	
Jan 17	The Arc of Monologue	
Week 3		
Jan 22	Set-up, Climax and Resolution	Make sure to send your
***		monologue to your
Jan 24	***	group members by
		January 23 by 10 in the
	Workshop: monologues	morning!!
Week 4		
Jan 29	Exposition without Agony	Monologue Due (Jan
***		29)
Jan 31	***	***
	The Ten Minute Film	Assign Ten Minute Film
	"Statuesque" with Bill Nighy	

Week 5		
Feb 5	Narrative and Anti-Narrative	
***		
Feb. 7	It's the Read – Writing Great Film Narrative	
Week 6		Make sure to send First
Feb 12	Dialogue	drafts to your group on
		Feb. 13 <sup>th</sup> by 10 in the
***	***	morning (at the latest)
		***
- 1 44		
Feb 14	Workshop Draft of Ten Minute Film	Assign Film Analysis # 1
Week 7		
Feb 17	Genres I and II	
***	***	
Feb 19	Working Against Genre	Feb 19: Film Analysis #
Week 8		
Feb. 22	Reading Break	
Feb. 24	Catch up day	
Week 9	Vooning House, Script Formats, Stage Directions and	***
Week 9	Keeping House: Script Formats, Stage Directions and	Feb. 28 Ten Minute
Feb 26	Stage Notes  ***	Film due
Feb 26		
***	Genres of Voice	Assign Film Analysis # 2
Feb 28		
Week 10		
March 5	The Non-Linear Film	
***	***	
March 7	Reframing Characters	
Week 11		Ella A a la la 11 2 D
March 12	Working Consciously with Subtext	Film Analysis # 2 Due
***	***	Assign First Draft of
March 14	Character and Action	Short Film

Week 12		
March 19	Screenplay Form	
***	***	
March 21	Adaptations	
Week 13		Make sure to send First
March 26	Agency	drafts to your group on
***		Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup> by 10 am!!!!!
March 28	Wkshop First Draft of Short Fim	
Week 14		
April 2	Wkshop scenes	
***		****
April 4		First draft of short Film
	Character and Tone	due
Week 15		
April 9	Readings	
***		***
April 11	Readings	Final Copy Short Film
		Due April 16 <sup>th</sup>

# 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

First Assignment (monologue)	
Second Assignment (Ten Minute Play)	15%
First draft (Short Film)	20%
Second draft (Short Film)	20%
Movie Reviews (2 x 10%)	20%
Participation	10%

(including workshops and exercises)

# 6. Grading System

(<u>No</u> changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

# **Standard Grading System (GPA)**

A+ = 90-100% B- = 70-72%

Α	= 85-89%	C+	= 65-69%
A-	= 80-84%	С	= 60-64%
B+	= 77-79%	D	= 50-59%
В	= 73-76%	F	= Below 50%

### **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 Description	
ı	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 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	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.

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 is 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 <a href="mailto:camosun.ca">camosun.ca</a>.

### 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!

### **Scripts:**

- 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 three 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.

**Additional Class Rules and Obligations:**