

	<p>School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT CRWR 154--002 Fiction Writing 1 Mon & Wed. 6:00 p.m.-7:20 p.m. Fisher 302 Fall 2014</p>
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*“Read, read, read. And write every day. Never compare yourself to anyone but yourself.
The question you ask of yourself each evening is: Did I write, did I spend time?
Show up for work every day, like any good citizen.” --Richard Bausch*

Calendar Description

This course offers students with strong writing ability a chance to explore and develop their skills and possible goals in writing prose fiction, especially short stories. Students study such elements as characterization, plot, dialogue, setting, point of view, openings and endings, and theme. *Formerly known as ENGL 154. Note: Students should not take this course if they already have credit for the previously offered ENGL 154.*

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.*

Course Description

Writing for its own sake, developmental exercises, craft-focused readings, and in-class story workshopping are at the heart of this course. To develop as a creative writer involves 1) tapping your creativity and 2) learning technique. These projects involve practice, in both senses. When you practice writing, you perform exercises, acquire skills, and build towards a larger goal, such as creating a successful short story. When you make writing your practice, you write as a daily habit that forms an end in itself. Such process-oriented writing prevents writer's block by releasing a verbal flow and by strengthening your relationship to the page. Both kinds of practice thus form crucial components of this class. A willingness to engage in them is primary; a close second is active participation in discussions and in-class assignments.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Jodi Lundgren		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday 2:30-3:30 p.m.; Thursday 1:30-2:30 p.m. & by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul 235		
(d)	Phone:	250.370.3330		
(e)	Email:	lundgrenj@camosun.ca (best way to reach me)		

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. Analyse, at a beginner's level, the process of writing fiction.
2. Practice the writing process appropriate to fiction.
3. Produce plots, settings, characters and appropriately nuanced language with effective use of figures of speech.
4. Compose a journal for the purpose of experiencing the effectiveness of journal keeping.
5. Practice appropriate research for giving fiction credibility.
6. Identify the various resources available for writers.
7. Prepare a story for submission for publication.

3. Required Materials

- Schoen, Steven. *The Truth About Fiction*.
- Course Pack entitled *Creative Writing 154, Fall 2014, Instructor: Jodi Lundgren*
- A good dictionary and thesaurus.
- You'll need to access D2L (Desire to Learn) and to check it regularly. Get started at <https://online.camosun.ca> From your D2L homepage, go to "My Tools" → "Email" → "Settings" → "Forwarding Options" to arrange for your D2L email to forward to the email address that you check most often. (Otherwise, you may miss stuff!)
- A 8 1/2 X 11 notebook for the morning pages—**bring this to each class for spot checks.**
- Make sure you have access to a stapler for when you hand in your assignments.

4. Class Operation

Each week for the first two months, we will discuss a section from Schoen's *The Truth About Fiction* together with stories from the course pack, generally focusing on one aspect of storytelling. Pop quizzes on the readings will take place. We will sometimes do spontaneous in-class exercises, often in groups. Each Monday by midnight, designated "early birds" will post stories on Camosun's D2L website. (You will know well in advance when it is your turn. There may be days when "everyone's an early bird"; details to follow.)

Before class on Wednesday, all students will read the student writings and write a typed, 1-page response to **one** of the pieces. As well, all students will themselves complete the assignment. In class on Wednesday, we will workshop the student writings. I will collect the written responses at the end of the session (so bring two copies: one for me, and one for the writer).

A note on workshopping:

We will operate on the assumption that it is most useful first to identify what is working well in a piece of writing. To pinpoint where a text excels—where it is distinctive, fresh, engaging or compelling—helps the writer to build on inherent strengths rather than striving to meet externally imposed ideals. In revision, the writer can aim to raise less realized parts of the writing to the level already attained in the strongest passages. This method encourages the development of the student's own voice and channels readers' critical energies in productive directions. In this class, you will learn a lot about collegiality—giving feedback and helping each other become better readers and more imaginative writers. As a side-benefit, you may well find that your tastes as a reader of fiction expand.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

1. Morning pages	10%
2. 3 instructor-marked writing exercises + 1 revision	12%
3. 3 peer-reviewed writing exercises (completion mark)	6%
4. 2 proposals: final story and future story	6%
5. Peer critiques*	13%
6. Quizzes on readings** (best 4 of 5)	8%
7. Midterm test (definitions, techniques)**	10%
8. Mini-presentation (5 min.)	5%
9. Participation in class reading	5%
10. Final story (draft + revision) (12 pages, but no more than 20)	25%

Detailed descriptions of the assignments will be posted on D2L. Also see the "Writing 100 Grading Grid."

*Peer critiques are both an oral and a written assignment. You earn credit by coming to class prepared with a written peer critique and by participating in discussion.

**Quizzes and tests will take place at the beginning of class and cannot be made up without valid documentation (e.g. medical note). I will drop the lowest grade of 5 quizzes. Please use this 'freebie' to accommodate any unavoidable absences.

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. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
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.

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.