



**School of Arts & Science
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**CRWR 158-001
Creative Writing: Drama 1
Winter 2016**

This course offers students with strong writing ability a chance to explore and develop their skills and goals in writing scripts for stage and for screen. Students study and practice such elements as effective dialogue, characterization, sub-text, plot structure, and staging.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Bronwen Welch
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesdays 9:00 – 10:00 am or by appointment
(c)	Location:	Paul 330
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3357
(e)	Email:	WelchB@camosun.bc.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify at a beginner's level, the process of playwriting.
2. Analyse some sense of how the theatre works and what the playwright's role is in the production of a new play.
3. Evaluate the importance of conflict for an effective play.
4. Practise dialogue with a fair degree of facility, and with due attention to sub-text.
5. Practise and hone skills for playwriting 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 playwright.
8. Carry out appropriate research to give plays credibility.
9. Identify the various resources available for playwright

3. Required Materials

(a)	Texts	1. <i>The Blunt Playwright: An Introduction to Playwriting</i> by Clem Martini 2. <i>Screenwriting Step by Step</i> by Wendy Jane Henson
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4. Tentative Course Content and Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>What We Will Cover</u>	<u>Homework</u>
Jan. 11	Course Outline/D2L	Read pages 3-22 of <i>The Blunt Playwright</i> for January 13th
Jan. 13	Structure -- http://celtx.com/index.html Playwriting Read "Guppies"	Read Chapter 2 of <i>The Blunt Playwright</i> for January 18th
Jan. 18	Wkshop: Character/Voice Monologues	
Jan 20	1 Minute Monologue Assigned – discuss D2L Dropbox The Arc of a Monologue Formatting	
Jan 25	Screening of <i>Wit</i>	
Jan 27	Wit – Discussion of Staging	1. Monologue Assignment Due in D2L Dropbox between Jan 27th to Feb. 1 by midnight 2. Read Chapter 4 of <i>The Blunt Playwright</i>
Feb 1	The Ten Minute Play Assigned Groups Assigned The art of dialogue <i>Becket's Play</i>	
Feb 3	Play Readings 156-168 -- <i>The Blunt Playwright</i>	

Feb 8	Dialogue – Limiting Words	Instructor will post grades/comments for monologues
Feb 10	Student Play Readings	<p>1. Draft of Ten Minute Play due in D2L Dropbox between Feb 10th and Feb 14th by 12am.</p> <p>2. Groups feedback of Ten Minute Play must occur during this time.</p> <p>If you do not take part in group feedback you will lose 5% from your graded 1st draft</p>
Feb 15	Film Screening Short Film Assigned	
Feb 17	Workshop (Writing Backwards)	
Feb 22	Format Workshop	<p>1. Read Chap 2 of Screenwriting Step by Step</p> <p>2. Instructor will post grades/comments for drafts of 10 minute plays</p>
Feb 24	Lecture: Character	<p>1. Completed Version of Ten Minute Play Due Between Feb 25th and Feb. 29th by 12am in D2L Dropbox</p>

		2. Read Chapter 1 of Screenwriting Step by Step
Feb 29	Workshop on character	Read Ch 3 Screenwriting Step by Step
March 2	Lecture: Theme	
March 7	Workshops on Theme	Instructor will post grades/comments for completed version of 10 minute plays Read Ch 4 Screenwriting Step by step
March 9	Lecture: Action	
March 14	Workshop on Action	Read Ch. 5 Screenwriting Step by step
March 16	Discussion of Structure Short Workshop	1. Draft of Short Film due in D2L Dropbox between March 16th and March 21st by 12am.

		2. Groups feedback of short film must occur during this time. If you do not take part in group feedback you will lose 5% from your graded draft
March 21	Review and Rewrite Assign Movie Review	
March 23	Screening – <i>The Truman Show</i>	
March 28	Easter Monday – College Closed	
March 30	Workshop on Character	1. Instructor will post grades/comments for draft of short Film
April 4	Screening- <i>Amelie</i>	Movie Review due between April 4th and April 6th by midnight
April 6	Subtext and Visual Metaphor	
April 11	Screening The Triplets of Belleville	Instructor will post grades/comments for film review
April 13	Lecture on Sound	Final Draft of Short Film Due between April 13th and April 16th by midnight

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

First Assignment (monologue)	10%
Second Assignment (Draft of Ten Minute Play)	15%
Completed Ten Minute Play	20%
First draft (Short Film script)	15%
Completed short film script	20%
Film Review	10%
Participation (attendance, workshops, and exercises)	10%

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

A+	= 90-100%	B-	= 70-72%
A	= 85-89%	C+	= 65-69%
A-	= 80-84%	C	= 60-64%
B+	= 77-79%	D	= 50-59%
B	= 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 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 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	<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.

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 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.

Attention!

Scripts:

- Work is due on D2L between the specified dates
- 5% per day (even Saturdays and Sundays) will be deducted for lateness.

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 10% participation mark for this class. It is based on attendance, participation in class, and in-class workshops
- You will have 5% deducted from each first draft of the play and film if you do not participate in D2L group editing.
- 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.
- 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>

