

## School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT CRWR 158

# Introduction to Scriptwriting Fall 2016

#### **COURSE OUTLINE**

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

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.

#### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Jeanne Iribarne (call me "J")		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday 3:30 to 4:30; Tuesday and Thursday 12 to 1		
(D)	Office Flours.	or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul 335		
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3359	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	Iribarne@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:	See course website on D2L		

#### 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 students will be able to:

- 1. Identify the role and responsibilities of the scriptwriter.
- 2. Read, analyze, and discuss various script-based media.
- 3. Practice scriptwriting and create a variety of short scripts.
- 4. Write, edit, and evaluate the components (conflict, plot, setting, characters, dialogue) of an effective script.
- 5. Conduct research to give scripts credibility.
- 6. Identify the various resources for scriptwriters.
- $7.\ Prepare\ a\ script\ according\ to\ industry\ standards\ for\ submission\ for\ production.$

#### 3. Required Materials

- Course package for English 158
- Some cash to see a live production at The Belfry Theatre
- Access to a laptop or tablet for workshop classes (recommended but not required)

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

(This section can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

<u>Date</u>	What We Will Cover	Major Assignments And Readings
Week 1 (Sept 6 to 9)	What is a script? Course introductions	beginning five finger exercises  read: McKee's Story
Week 2 (Sept 12 to 16)	What happens next? The 10-minute play	short plays (a selection)
		Workshop class: Plots and characters due (ex. 1 and 2)
Week 3 (Sept 19 to 23)	How does dialogue work?  The delicate balance of realism	read: Martini's "Commonly Made Mistakes"
	The Last Wife at the Belfry: Sept 20 to Oct 16	
Week 4 (Sept 26 to Sept 30)	How do we create theatre of the mind?  Coordinating speaking and action	read: <i>Play</i> (by Samuel Beckett)  Workshop class: Dialogues i.t.d. + monologues due (ex. 3 and 4)
Week 5 (Oct 3 to 7)	How does a screenplay work? Writing focus: reading screenplays	short films (viewing in class)  Workshop class: first draft, 10-minute play due
Week 6 (Oct 10 to 14)	How are scripts for visual media developed?  Thanksgiving—Oct 10 (no class)	live production discussion and analysis (ex. 6):  The Last Wife
Week 7 (Oct 17 to 21)	Quiz.	read: "Are Screenplays Literature?" final draft, 10-minute play due  Midterm quiz (10%)
Week 8 (Oct 24 to 28)	How do we create subtext?	watch: <i>Juno</i> Scene analyses begin (5%)

Week 9 (Oct 31 to Nov 4)	How can we deal with structural innovation?	watch: <i>Memento</i>
		Workshop class:
		mise-en-scène due (ex. 5)
Week 10 (Nov 7 to 11)	How do we plan a longer work?	watch: Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind
(INOV / to II)	Synopses, storyboards, scenarios, treatments,	read: "How to make a scene"
	scenes.	Workshop class:
	last day to withdraw—Nov 8 Remembrance Day—Nov 11	adaptations, part I
Week 11 (Nov 14 to 18)	How do we work with ideas?	watch: In Bruges
		Workshop class: adaptations, part II
Week 12 (Nov 21 to 25)	What are some possibilities for genre	watch: Scott Pilgrim vs the World
	crossover?	Workshop class:
		first draft,
		10-minute screenplay
Week 13 (Nov 28 to Dec 2)	What do I do with my completed script(s)?	Workshop class:
(Nov 28 to Dec 2)	What are some good strategies for revision?	first draft,
		10-minute screenplaysingle scenes
Week 14	Quiz: script analysis	Final quiz (10%)
(Dec 5 to 9)	Reading and party.	10-minute screenplay due (25%) on December
		12 to Paul 335

### Notes on the syllabus:

- 1. Since every group of writers and readers is unique, the syllabus is **bound** to change.
- 2. Assignment details will be discussed in class several weeks before the deadline and can be found in the coursepack.
- 3. If you cannot make it to class, the work and assignments you miss are your responsibility. In other words, please do not ask me *what* you missed ("did I miss anything?"), but by all means please do ask me questions *about* what you missed ("I notice that you covered mise-en-scène while I was away, and I was wondering...").

10-minute stage script	25%
10-minute screenplay	25%
Exercises (5+1)	15%
Scene analysis (presentation)	5%
Content quizzes (midterm and final, 10% each)	20%
Participation	10%

(including workshops, feedback to peers, scintillating and intelligent discussion, etc.)

#### 6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

#### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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	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, 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 <sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with p deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from 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.

#### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED

# **Important Course Policies**

- 1. Participation in this course requires a climate of respect and collaboration. This means offering peers constructive feedback, and it means commitment in class. For this reason, I will ask that you not use electronic devices during discussions and workshops except when relevant to our work. Also, obviously, you can't participate in class if you aren't here.
- 2. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date.

Exercises will not be accepted late.

Unless we negotiate otherwise, late major assignments will be accepted for one full week after the initial due date with a penalty of 10% per day, but these assignments will receive no written comments (only a grade). After one week, late assignments will not be accepted at all. Please keep track of deadlines. You are welcome to discuss your work with me at any time during office hours.

IMPORTANT NOTE: for reasons of bookkeeping and general sanity, I cannot accept assignments electronically (i.e. by email or through D2L).

- 3. If you miss in-class work such as a presentation or a quiz, you will receive a zero (unless you can prove a medical emergency).
- 4. Please be careful when using other people's words or ideas. Using them without identifying the author constitutes fraud (plagiarism) and can have a lasting impact on this course and your future studies. See me if you are in any doubt about where to draw the line between your work and someone else's.

While plagiarism in this course may have different boundaries than in an academic course, the onus is still on you to create original work. This also means that you must hand in work created specifically for this class (i.e. not for previous courses).