



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of English

CRWR-152-D01
Intro to Creative Nonfiction
Fall 2020

COURSE OUTLINE

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

□ Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

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|-----------------|---------------------|
| a) Instructor | Laurie Elmquist |
| b) Office hours | Online |
| c) Location | Paul 332 |
| d) Phone | 3355 |
| e) Email | Elmquist@camosun.ca |

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

1. Produce clear and interesting writing for a general audience.
2. Produce creative non-fiction writing at a beginner level.
3. Critically analyze the creative nonfiction process.
4. Produce essays and articles that explore the world in a personal and creative way.
5. Read, analyze, and discuss published works of creative nonfiction
6. Evaluate the role of the audience in the development of style and content.
7. Conduct interviews and use electronic tools in order to explore various topics.
8. Submit a query for a manuscript to a publisher.

3. Required Materials

- (a) You Can't Make This Stuff Up by Lee Gutkind
- (b) Journal (any kind of notebook to be used for in writing).

4. Course Content and Schedule

Schedule Fall 2020

Creative Writing: Intro to Creative Nonfiction (CRWR 152)

Date	Readings, Assignments, Discussion Topics
<p>Week One</p> <p>Tues. Sept. 8 -- Sun. Sept. 13</p>	<p>Your deadline is always Sunday by midnight. Journals 1-6 go in Assignments. Most of the other assignments go on the Discussion Board.</p> <p>The textbook for this course is <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind.</p> <p>What is Creative Nonfiction?</p> <p>Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction: How to Read this Book (textbook -- pp. xv- xviii) • What is Creative Nonfiction?: The Birth of the Godfather (pp. 3-4) • The Definition Debate (pp. 5-8) <p>Why Are Scenes Important?</p> <p>Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Building Blocks (pp. 105-106) • The Yellow (Highlighting) Test (pp. 107-108) • A Memorable and Famous Scene (pp. 109-113) <p>Week One Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1 Discussions: Student Intro • 1.2 Discussions: Annie Dillard

<p>Week Two</p> <p>Mon. Sept. 14 --</p> <p>Sun. Sept. 20</p>	<p>The Writer's Persona</p> <p>Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fastest Growing Genre pp. 9-13 • The Creative Nonfiction Pendulum: From Personal to Public pp. 55-60 • To Highlight or Not to Highlight: That is the Question, pp. 114 - 123 <p>Week Two Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.1 Journal #1: So I grew up in...
<p>Week Three</p> <p>Mon. Sept. 21</p> <p>--</p> <p>Sun. Sept. 27</p>	<p>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</p> <p>Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth etc. pp. 14-43 <p>Week Three Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.1 Journal #2: Conflict • 3.2: Discussions: Truth
<p>Week Four</p> <p>Mon. Sept. 28 --</p> <p>Sun. Oct. 4</p>	<p>Due: Essay 1- Memoir</p> <p>Vivid Details</p> <p>Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <p>Intimate Details pp. 124-134</p>
<p>Week Five</p> <p>Mon. Oct. 5 -</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Big Public Story</p> <p>Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public or "Big Idea," pp. 61 - 64

<p>Sun. Oct. 11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widening the Pendulum's Swing pp. 65 - 68 • The Creative Nonfiction Way of Life pp. 69 - 77 <p>Week Five Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.1 Journal #3: COVID-19 • 5.2 Discussion Post: Pandemic
<p>Week Six</p> <p>Mon Oct. 12 --</p> <p>Sun. Oct. 18</p>	<p>Critique</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Roxane Gay: <i>Remember, No One Is Coming To Save Us</i></p> <p>Week Six Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.1 Discussion Post: Roxane Gay • 6.2 Journal#4: Racism
<p>Week Seven</p> <p>Mon. Oct. 19 --</p> <p>Sun. Oct. 25</p>	<p>Due: Essay #2</p> <p>Creative Nonfiction Dance (story+ information)</p> <p>Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Creative Nonfiction Dance pp. 135 -139 • Now Let's Dance pp. 140- 151 • <i>Yellow Taxi</i> by Eve Joseph, pp. 169 - 182 • Reflection pp. 183 - 185
<p>Week Eight</p> <p>Mon. Oct. 26 --</p>	<p>Critique</p> <p>Week Eight Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.1 Critique your group members' Essay #3: Cultural Criticism

Sun. Nov. 1	
Week Nine Mon. Nov. 2 -- Sun. Nov. 8	Due: The Midterm Portfolio Revision
Week Ten Mon. Nov. 9 -- Sun. Nov. 15	Personal Essay Dina Nayeri's essay, <i>A Literal Hell Constructed for Children</i> Readings from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passion and Practice, pp. 47 - 48 • The Rope Test, pp.48 - 51 • Fall Down Nine Times, pp. 51 - 54 Week Ten Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.1 Discussion Post: Dina Nayeri • 10.2 Journal #5: Family Member
Week Eleven Mon. Nov. 16 -- Sun. Nov. 22	Segmented Structure Reading: Tim Bascom's Picturing the Personal Essay: A Visual Guide (link) Week Eleven: Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.1 Discussion: Metaphor (Discussions Post) • 11.2 Journal #6: Two Segments

<p>Week Twelve</p> <p>Mon. Nov. 23 --</p> <p>Sun. Nov. 29</p>	<p>Due: Essay #3</p> <p>Recreation/Style</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>from <i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Lee Gutkind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation, p. 129-134 • The Shocking Truth of the New York Times, pp. 201 -203 <p>Kurt Vonnegut <i>How to Write with Style</i> (online)</p>
<p>Week Thirteen</p> <p>Mon. Nov. 30</p> <p>--</p> <p>Sun. Dec. 6</p>	<p>Critique</p> <p>Week Thirteen: Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13.1 Critique your group members' personal essay (Essay #3)
<p>Week Fourteen</p> <p>Mon. Dec. 7 --</p> <p>Fri. Dec. 13</p>	<p>Due: Final Portfolio Sunday, Dec. 15 at midnight</p> <p>Publication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A time to catch your breath, send out your work to publishers. • Congratulations on all the work you've done this term. • Three full-length CNF articles is more than most people write in a year, let alone 14 weeks

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Assignments

*First Versions	6
Discussion Responses	12
Journals	12
Peer Critique	10
Midterm Portfolio	30
Final Portfolio	30
	100

*First versions are the best version of a story that you can submit for peer critique. They are not first drafts.

6. Grading System

- Standard Grading System (GPA)
- Competency Based Grading System

7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. 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		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. 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 <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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 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.