

COURSE OUTLINE		
<b>TERM:</b> Fall 2023	<b>COURSE NO:</b> ENGL 296	
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	<b>COURSE TITLE:</b> Creative Writing: Writing for the Stage	
<b>OFFICE:</b> <b>LOCAL:</b> <b>E-MAIL:</b> @capilanou.ca	<b>SECTION NO(S):</b>	<b>CREDITS:</b> 3.0
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>		
<b>COURSE WEBSITE:</b>		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lilwat7úl (Lil'wat), x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Sk̓w̓x̓w̓7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lilwətaʔt/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) people on whose territories our campuses are located.

### **COURSE FORMAT**

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through online or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

### **COURSE PREREQUISITES**

ENG 190; or ENGL 191; or ACTR 100 and ENGL 100

### **CALENDAR DESCRIPTION**

This is an introductory workshop in playwriting, covering fundamentals such as dramatic structure, characterization, and dialogue. Students will develop, edit, and rewrite works through readings and feedback. They will explore a variety of approaches to play creation and dramaturgy, which may include but are not limited to Indigenous, Euro-Western, and feminist practices.

### **COURSE NOTE**

ENGL 296 is an approved Culture and Creative Expression course for Cap Core requirements. For the focus of the course each term, see the "Courses" page on the English Department website.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES**

Specific texts will vary depending on the instructor and term. They may include plays, books on playwriting, or samples of scripts.

### **COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:**

1. Investigate, analyze, and practice principles of playwriting.
2. Develop their work through in-class readings and feedback.

3. Analyze and apply principles of character creation and development.
4. Examine theatrical traditions and the influence of systemic racism, colonization, and heteropatriarchal power structures in shaping stage and screen cultures
5. Explore a variety of approaches to play creation and dramaturgy, including Indigenous, Euro-Western and feminist practices.
6. Identify and assess components of independent show creation, production, and entrepreneurship.
7. Produce a portfolio of writing for the stage and screen.

**Students who complete this Culture and Creative Expression course will be able to do the following:**

1. Engage in creative processes including conception, investigation, execution, and ongoing critical analysis.
2. Identify, analyze, and critique the elements of a form of expression using its specific vocabulary.
3. Explain or demonstrate the connection between various events, ideas, traditions, and belief systems and the modes in which they are artistically or culturally expressed.
4. Interpret diverse forms of creative expression from different perspectives (e.g. artistic, historical, Indigenous, literary, scientific, philosophical).

**COURSE CONTENT**

The content and week-by-week breakdown of the course will vary by term and instructor. The following is an example:

Week 1	Playwriting 101: Plays as Action
Week 2	Character: The Basics (Readings: <i>Two short plays</i> by previous 296 students, "I Hope Your Husband Dies" by Angeles Paz Lapati, and "My Stop" by Dallen Brodowski)
Week 3	Dialogue
Week 4	Plot and Structure
Week 5	Dramaturgy Session: Read-throughs of First Drafts
Week 6	Theme (Readings: <i>Kim's Convenience</i> by Ins Choi)
Week 7	Dramaturgy Practice: Indigenous Dramaturgy (Readings: <a href="https://www.kimsenklipharvey.com/">https://www.kimsenklipharvey.com/</a> Playwright, Indigenous Theorist and Cultural Evolutionist)
Week 8	Dramaturgy Practice: Re-working a script
Week 9	Dramaturgy Practice: Multiple Perspectives ("What is the Rashomon Effect?" <a href="http://Studiobinder.com">Studiobinder.com</a> )
Week 10	Creating Character through Contrast
Week 11	Creating Emotion
Week 12	Practical Aspects of Self-Production, Part 1 (Viewings: <i>Empire of the Son</i> , recorded production)
Week 13	Practical Aspects of Self-Production, Part 2
Weeks 14-15	Final Exam Period, finishing up projects, etc.

## Content Warnings

The readings and lessons in this course are designed to challenge and transform your thinking and to help you develop your capacities for engaging critically and empathetically with the world around you. At times, course materials may contain potentially triggering content for some students. In the interest of creating safer spaces for all members of our university community so that everyone's learning can flourish, instructors and students will aim to provide content notes ahead of time and will encourage everyone to communicate any specific concerns they might have.

Also, please note that questioning our social conditioning, assumptions, or privileges may make us uncomfortable at times, but doing so is a vital part of collective learning and self-growth. While students may feel uncomfortable when engaging with certain course materials or class discussions, they should not be made to feel unsafe. In order to create a supportive classroom environment, it is vital that we all respect each other's privacy, boundaries, and identities.

## EVALUATION PROFILE

Creative Writing Assignments*	50-70%
Reflection Assignments	0-20%
Planning & Marketing Assignments	0-20%
Participation **	<u>10 %</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* To include one graded assignment returned prior to the withdrawal date. No single assignment to be worth more than 35% of the final grade.

\*\* Participation grades are based on the consistency, quality, and frequency of contributions to class discussions. Consistency means attending every class, maintaining a positive and respectful presence in the classroom, and actively contributing to discussions on a regular basis. Quality means demonstrating respect for peers and their contributions, listening attentively during lectures and when other students are speaking; and participating in all activities with an open and inquisitive mind.

## ASSIGNMENTS:

The assignment structure for this course is determined by the instructor in accordance with the learning outcomes outlined above. Please refer to the course syllabus for a more detailed breakdown.

### Creative Writing Assignments

These assignments might include a combination of creative work, such as short plays, scenes, or multiple versions of a scene from different perspectives.

### Reflection Assignments

This course may include a reflection component, such as a Writer's Journal, in which students reflect on specific questions or topics regarding their writing process, or include samples of creative work, such as character-building exercises.

### Planning & Marketing Assignments

This course may include assignments related to professional planning and marketing. If a playwright wants their play to be produced, their best shot is self-producing, and that requires a range of marketing skills we'll explore. We'll explore how to approach self-production, how to connect with theatre companies, and how to generate assets that will help you help publicists help you.

### GRADING PROFILE

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

### Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

### Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

### Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.

Make-up exams, quizzes, and/or labs are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises, although accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

### Attendance

This course is built around an active classroom component. Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities.

### English Usage

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling, and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

### Electronic Devices

Students may use electronic devices during class for note-taking only.

### On-line Communication

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

## UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS

### Tools for Success

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

**Capilano University Security:** download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)

### Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

### Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information: <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

**Academic dishonesty** is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

**Cheating:** Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

**Fraud:** Creation or use of falsified documents.

**Misuse or misrepresentation of sources:** Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing

aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

**Plagiarism:** Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

**Self-Plagiarism:** Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

**Prohibited Conduct:** The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

### **Sexual Violence and Misconduct**

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>).

### **Emergencies**

Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.

## **DEPARTMENT OR PROGRAM OPERATIONAL DETAILS**

### **Equity, Diversity & Inclusivity**

Treating everyone with respect and compassion is a responsibility we all share in creating an inclusive environment that is conducive to learning. Our diverse backgrounds, identities, experiences,

languages and learning styles should not only be respected in the classroom but also celebrated as a source of expanding our understanding of other people and, in turn, our capacity for empathy. Students and instructors are expected to cultivate open-mindedness and remain aware of, and sensitive to, the diversity of identity and experience in our university community.