



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

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FACULTY OF ARTS: SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS-DRAMA
Drama 205 – Story
Winter 2014

Instructor: Sherryl Melnyk, PhD(c)
Course Location: Murray Fraser Hall 162
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Office Hours: By appointment
Dates: 2014/01/08 - 2014/04/14
Times: Wednesdays 14:00 - 16:30

Teaching Assistant: Leon Schwesinger
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Office: 403.220.2839
Office Hours: By appointment

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this class and students from every discipline are welcome.

Required Text: *The Story Factor: Inspiration, Influence, and Persuasion Through the Art of Storytelling* by Annette Simmons published by Basic Books in 2006. Available at the University of Calgary bookstore.

Course Overview: An exploration of the elements of story present in the arts and beyond. Story is an exciting, creative, dynamic and universal form of human expression with the potential to engage and inspire students from across departments and disciplines.

Course Description: Stories form a foundational component of culture. Evidence shows that every society creates an identity through some type and form of narrative practice. Both individually and collectively, our humanity is built upon storytelling. This course interrogates the ways and means by which we come to know ourselves as a people and as a community through the art of story. We will interrogate the practice of storytelling as a device that both informs and shapes us individually and collectively. This course considers story as an act of expression conveyed used through a variety of disciplines such as music, drama, dance, and

the visual arts.

Warning: We will explore a diverse plethora of stories. Some of these narratives will be engaging, enlightening and delightful in nature but some will be disturbing, violent or sexually explicit. We will have candid and open discussions about all of these topics. Interrogating the full width and breadth of story is an integral component of the course design. Please note that these sensitive topics can be instructive and useful but also difficult and challenging.

Notes: A non-major course for students in all faculties. Not available as a course in the Field of Drama. *Attendance at selected arts events is mandatory.* Students are responsible for the purchase of tickets. Affordability and accessibility will influence the selection of events. Discounted ticket pricing and/or alternative zero-cost events will be arranged whenever possible. This course was formerly Fine Arts 205.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. define the core elements of story
2. analyze and evaluate the relevance and importance of various types of stories
3. use the application of story as an act of influence in their own lives and careers
4. effectively express course material in an oral and/or written form
5. comprehend the texts and authors studied
6. appreciate the value of self-reflection in the learning process

Course Assignments:

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| 1. Midterm exam | - Feb 26 | 10% |
| 2. Attend <i>Measure for Measure</i>
Arts' event response paper | - Mar 5 | 20% |
| 3. Creative project or essay | - April 2 | 40% |
| 4. Attend one of the plays presented in the <i>Taking Flight Festival</i>
Arts' event response paper | - April 9 | 20% |
| 5. Final Quiz | - April 9 | 10% |

Students **must** complete all the assignments and exams to receive credit for this course. Please do NOT email me your assignments as I have a great deal of difficulty opening them and I don't have the resources to print them. All assignments must be handed in during class time. Late assignments will be deducted 10% per day. All assignments need to be typed with your full name and student number on the first page.

Missed Assignments: Documented illness or family emergency are acceptable reasons for late written work or an inability to make scheduled presentations. In the case of a missed oral presentation or class participation assignment, the instructor would appreciate advance notification if possible. Documented means a fully explanatory note from an appropriate authority such as a physician or counselor. Late written assignments with no documented excuse will be accepted with the penalty of ten percent deducted from the final mark for the assignment for each business day or portion thereof past the deadline.

Recording: Recording of any kind during class time is forbidden unless the student has a documented need for recording lectures.

Grading Scheme: All assignments are graded on a numerical scale. The following are the letter grade equivalents:

A+...	95-100
A . . .	93-94
A- . .	86-92
B+ . .	80-85
B . . .	75-79
B- . .	70-74
C+ . .	65-69
C . . .	60-64
C- . .	55-59
D+ . .	50-54
D . . .	45-49
F . . .	0-44

Examinations: If your course has a Registrar scheduled exam: the final exam timetable is posted in your Student Centre at MyUofC. Make sure you check the correct course name, number and lecture section. Deferrals are not granted for exams missed due to misread days/times. Bring to the exam photo ID, HB pencils, pens, an eraser and allowable aids. You will be asked to leave books, coats, purses, and backpacks at the front of the room. Clear the exam room immediately and quietly after your session has ended. Students will not be allowed to leave the exam area during the first 30 minutes and the last 15 minutes of the exam.

Plagiarism: Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. For details see the University of Calgary Calendar. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (TFDL 3rd Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Academic Accommodation: It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, you must register with the Accessibility Centre (MacEwan Student Centre room 293). Your academic accommodation letters should be provided to your instructor no later than fourteen days after the commencement of this course. Students who have not registered with the Accessibility Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. (The centre with students with learning, developmental challenges, and physical disabilities). <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access>

Academic Standing: Students should familiarize themselves with the sections of the University Calendar that deal with Academic Standing, including grading, unsatisfactory standing, examinations, and deferrals as well as the sections on Reappraisals and Appeals and Student Misconduct. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html>

Advising: Each faculty has its own team of advisors. The advisors are eager to help you answer questions, select courses and manage your progress through your program. Please make sure you touch base with your advisors at least once a year.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

1. Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS 102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

2. For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

3. For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Course Outlines for Transfer Credit: It is possible that you will be asked for copies of this outline for credit transfers to other institutions or for proof of work done. It is the student's responsibility to keep these outlines and provide them to employers or other universities when requested. Please ensure that outlines of all the courses you take are kept in a safe place for your future reference. Departments/Programs do not guarantee that they will provide copies.

Letter of Permission: If you wish to study at another institution while registered at the UofC, you must have a letter of permission. You can submit your request through your Student Centre at MyUofC. Students must have the Letter of Permission before they take the course at another school. Failure to prepare may result in no credit awarded and could result in suspension from the faculty.

Campus Security: 220-5333. Help phones are located throughout campus, parking lots, and elevators. They connect directly to Campus Security; in case of emergency, press the

red button.

Safewalk: Call 220-5333 anytime. Safewalk is a student run volunteer service that is designed to promote campus safety and awareness and to walk people safely to their cars or housing. Safewalks are done in Male/Female pairs anywhere on campus (including McMahon, residence rooms, the LRT and bus stops).

Emergency Evacuation: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Deferral of Exams/Term Work: It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examinations for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with your advisor if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

FOIP: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>