



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS  
Drama 371: Introduction to Playwriting

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Clem Martini CHD224 <a href="mailto:martini@ucalgary.ca">martini@ucalgary.ca</a> By appointment
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	Tuesday & Thursday 14:00 – 15:50 CHE215
Out of class activities	Selected readings and writing exercises
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	<i>The Blunt Playwright</i> will be employed throughout the semester. It is available for purchase in the University of Calgary bookstore. In addition, a number of plays will either be assigned for reading between classes, or will be read and studied in class. These additional readings will be provided to you.
Prerequisites	Drama 210) <a href="#">223</a> , <a href="#">225</a> and 243)
Supplementary fees	None.
Course description	Directed exercises in writing for the theatre; workshop sessions for developing and reworking material.  In this preliminary playwriting course, concepts pertaining to dramatic writing will be explored within the context of close scrutiny of individual scenes and the One Act form. A central premise of the course is that the best way to understand any form of writing is through the practice of writing it. That being the case, there will be a number of writing assignments given. As a rule, a selection of these assignments will be read aloud in class and receive critique from class members. These assignments should be typed and handed in <i>on time</i> .  The class will cover, through a series of assignments, matters pertaining to playwriting, including dramatic structure, character development and the generation of effective dialogue. Students will be expected to draw upon all of the learning outcomes arrived at through completion of prior assignments, to deliver a final, short, one act play.
Course learning outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: 1. Understand dramatic structure. 2. Understand and reproduce the template for a dramatic work. 3. Better appreciate the various technical skills that are required for playwriting. 4. Generate effective dramatic dialogue. 5. Create a short, one act play.
Course schedule	Details will be provided in the first class
Assessment components	<b>Assignment 1:</b> A scene demonstrating dramatic action and character development. <b>Value:</b> 5% <b>Due Date:</b> Sept. 21 <b>Type:</b> Written Assignment <b>Description:</b> A scene, featuring strong characters, a dramatic build, driven by dramatic action, with a beginning, middle and end. Should be roughly 5 to 6 minutes long, when read aloud.

**Assignment 2:** A scene derived from found dialogue.

**Value:** 10%

**Due Date:** Oct. 3

**Type:** Written Assignment

**Description:** A scene inspired by observed and overheard dialogue. It should - as should all the scenes written for this class - feature a dramatic build, strong dramatic action, and a powerful beginning, middle and end. Should be roughly 5 to 6 minutes long, when read aloud.

**Assignment 3:** A scene derived from memory.

**Value:** 10%

**Due Date:** Oct. 17

**Type:** Written Assignment

**Description:** A scene, inspired by a past remembered experience. It should - as should all the scenes written for this class - feature a dramatic build, strong dramatic action, and a powerful beginning, middle and end. Should be roughly 5 to 6 minutes long, when read aloud.

**Assignment 4:** A rewrite.

**Value:** 15%

**Due Date:** Oct. 26

**Type:** Written Assignment

**Description:** One of the previously assigned scenes should be selected and rewritten. The rewrite should be guided by a specific plan to strengthen and clarify the scene. A written paragraph should be attached describing the purpose of the rewrite.

**Assignment 5:**

**Value:** 5%

**Due Date:** Nov. 7

**Description:** An oral presentation regarding an especially powerful aspect of a play you have read. A 200 word summary will be turned in.

**Assignment 6:** A short, one act play – first draft.

**Value:** 20%

**Due Date:** Nov. 14

**Type:** Written Assignment

**Description:** A play of about 15 to 20 minutes length, (Performance time). Should demonstrate a dramatic build, clear characterizations, conflict, effective dialogue, a powerful beginning, middle and end.

**Final Assignment** A short, one act play – final draft

**Value:** 25%

**Due Date:** Dec. 5

**Description:** A play of about 15 to 20 minutes length, (Performance time). Should demonstrate a dramatic build, clear characterizations, conflict, effective dialogue, a powerful beginning, middle and end. Should correct deficits apparent in the previous draft, and demonstrate improvement.

**Participation**

A further 10% of the total marks will be reserved for participation. Participation includes attendance, engagement in critiques and classroom discussions, ability to listen attentively and respectfully to other opinions and points of view.

<p>Assessment expectations</p>	<p><b><u>Expectations for Writing:</u></b>  Writing is an essential part of this course. Students are expected to proof read their work, and hand in assignments that have been thoughtfully, carefully edited with the intention of attaining clear meaning and a strong, dramatic presentation.</p> <p><b><u>Expectations for Attendance and Participation:</u></b>  As the discussion and workshopping of the materials in this course has relevance to all students of the class, regular attendance, and thoughtful participation in discussions will be considered an essential. Absences and late attendance will have impact upon your participation mark.</p> <p><b><u>Guidelines for Formatting Assignments</u></b>  All dramatic assignments should conform to the templates provided in The Blunt Playwright.</p> <p><b><u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments</u></b>  Assignments should be handed in on time. A title page should be attached to each assignment and should include: the title, the assignment number, the student's name.</p> <p><b><u>Late Assignments</u></b>  Assignments should be handed in on-time. Unless there has been prior permission received for a late assignment, the assignment will receive a ten percent deduction.</p> <p><b><u>Criteria That Must Be Met To Pass</u></b>  In order to pass any assignment, or the course itself, the student must achieve fifty percent or better.</p>																																							
<p>Grading scale</p>	<p>For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in the section F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System of the Undergraduate Calendar for 2017-2018:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="440 1220 1474 1955"> <thead> <tr> <th>Grade</th> <th>Grade Point Value</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A+</td> <td>4.00</td> <td>Outstanding performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>4.00</td> <td>Excellent performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A-</td> <td>3.70</td> <td>Approaching excellent performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+</td> <td>3.30</td> <td>Exceeding good performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>3.00</td> <td>Good performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B-</td> <td>2.70</td> <td>Approaching good performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+</td> <td>2.30</td> <td>Exceeding satisfactory performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>2.00</td> <td>Satisfactory performance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C-</td> <td>1.70</td> <td>Approaching satisfactory performance.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>*D+</td> <td>1.30</td> <td>Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject</td> </tr> <tr> <td>*D</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Grade	Grade Point Value	Description	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance	A	4.00	Excellent performance	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance	B	3.00	Good performance	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.	*D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	*D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.	F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
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Academic accommodation	<p>Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS); SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/access/">ucalgary.ca/access/</a>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf">ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf</a></p>									
Academic integrity, plagiarism	<p>The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are referred to the section on plagiarism in the University Calendar (<a href="http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html">ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html</a>) and are reminded that plagiarism—using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it—is an extremely serious academic offence. 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 Student Success Centre (TFDL 3rd Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.</p>									
SCPA Librarian	<p>Marc Stoeckle, MLIS, BA  Learning &amp; Services Librarian for <i>School of Creative &amp; Performing Arts</i> and <i>School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures &amp; Cultures</i>   Libraries &amp; Cultural Resources, University of Calgary  Ph: 403.220.6777, Email: <a href="mailto:mstoeckle@ucalgary.ca">mstoeckle@ucalgary.ca</a>, Office: TFDL 160D</p>									
Student misconduct	<a href="http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html">ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html</a>									
FOIP	<a href="http://ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip">ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip</a>									
Emergency evacuation	<p>Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. <b>THE PRIMARY ASSEMBLY POINT FOR CRAIGIE HALL IS THE PROFESSIONAL FACULTIES FOOD COURT.</b> For more information, see the University of Calgary’s Emergency Management website: <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints">ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints</a></p>									
Internet and electronic communication device	<p><a href="http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/d21/">elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/d21/</a>  <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/emergency-instructions/uc-emergency-app">ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/emergency-instructions/uc-emergency-app</a></p> <p>The in-class use of computers may be approved by your Instructor. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices should be silenced or turned off upon entering the classroom. If you violate the Instructor’s policy regarding the use of electronic communication devices in the classroom, you may be asked to leave the classroom; repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct. No audio or video recording of any kind is allowed in class without explicit permission of the Instructor.</p>									
Safewalk	220-5333 anytime. <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk">ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk</a>									

Students' union and ombudsperson contacts	<p>Student Union: <a href="http://su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/">su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/</a>  Faculty of Arts reps: <a href="mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca">arts1@su.ucalgary.ca</a>; <a href="mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca">arts2@su.ucalgary.ca</a>; <a href="mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca">arts3@su.ucalgary.ca</a>; <a href="mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca">arts4@su.ucalgary.ca</a>  Graduate Student's Association: <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/graduate-students-association-gsa-grad.html">ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/graduate-students-association-gsa-grad.html</a>  Student Ombudsman: <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact">ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact</a></p>
Midterm and final examination scheduling	<p>Final examinations may be scheduled at any time during the <b>examination period (Dec. 11-21 for Fall 2017 term; Apr. 16-26 for Winter 2018 term; June 28-30 for Spring 2018 term; Aug. 17-20 for Summer 2018 term)</b>; students should therefore avoid making prior travel, employment, or other commitments for this period. If a student is unable to write an exam through no fault of his or her own for medical or other valid reasons, documentation must be provided and an opportunity to write the missed exam may be given. Students are encouraged to review all examination policies and procedures: <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final">ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final</a></p>
Deferrals of exams/term work	<p>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. <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final">ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final</a>  <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html">ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html</a>  <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html">ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html</a></p>
SCPA Claim Your Seat Program: Student Guidelines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Claim Your Seat (CYS) program allows all University of Calgary students to attend on-campus School of Creative and Performing Arts (Dance, Drama and Music) events free of charge.</li> <li>2. Depending on the performance, there is a limited number of seats available for CYS. There is not a guarantee that tickets will be available for all CYS patrons for every performance, based on audience size, demand, etc.</li> <li>3. CYS tickets are a privilege. If a student receives a ticket to attend a performance, it is expected that they will respect the value of the admission and attend the performance.</li> <li>4. Process for students: On the date of the performance, from the time the Box Office opens until 15 minutes prior to the performance start time, they arrive to the CYS table next to the Box Office and show their Unicard. If students arrive after 15 minutes prior to the performance start time, they can go to the Box Office and purchase a ticket at the student rate. Students should not go to the Box Office unless they are purchasing a ticket.</li> <li>5. If students have a course requirement to attend a performance for a specific date, access to the tickets will be communicated by the instructor to University Theatre Services prior to the event. The best guarantee for a free ticket is to arrive early, up to 45 minutes prior to the performance start time.</li> <li>6. Respect for the Front of House and theatre staff, performers and fellow patrons is an absolute requirement. Failure to comply with this will lead to being asked to leave the venue and could result in the revoking of CYS privileges.</li> </ol>
Academic standing	<a href="http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html">ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html</a>
Campus security	<p>220-5333. Help phones: located throughout campus, parking lots, and elevators. They connect directly to Campus Security; in case of emergency, press the red button.</p>
Copyright	<p>It is the responsibility of students and professors to ensure that materials they post or distribute to others comply with the Copyright Act and the University's Fair Dealing Guidance for Students. Further copyright information for students is available on the Copyright Office web page (<a href="http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright">library.ucalgary.ca/copyright</a>).</p>
Faculty of Arts program advising and student information resources	<p>For academic advising, visit the Arts Students' Centre (ASC) for answers about course registration, graduation checks, and the 'big picture' on programs and majors. Drop in at SS102, email at <a href="mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca">ascarts@ucalgary.ca</a> or call at 403-220-3580. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <a href="http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate">arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate</a> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.</p> <p>For academic success support, such as writing support, peer support, success seminars, and learning support, visit the Student Success Centre on the third floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL), email them at <a href="mailto:success@ucalgary.ca">success@ucalgary.ca</a> or visit their website at <a href="http://ucalgary.ca/ssc/">ucalgary.ca/ssc/</a> for more information or to book an appointment.</p> <p>For enrolment assistance, including registration (add/drop/swap) changes, paying fees, and navigating your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625], by email</p>

	at <a href="mailto:futurestudents@ucalgary.ca">futurestudents@ucalgary.ca</a> or visit them at the MacKimmie Block 117.
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 U of C, 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.
Undergraduate associations	DUS: Drama Undergraduate Society, CHC 005 <a href="mailto:uofcdus@gmail.com">uofcdus@gmail.com</a> MUS: Music Undergraduate Society, CHF 219 <a href="mailto:undmusic@ucalgary.ca">undmusic@ucalgary.ca</a>