

Lifewriting Made Easy

An interactive writing course

1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

March 4 and March 11 (seven hours total)
Surrey Museum, 17710 56A Ave., Surrey B.C.

Advance Registration is mandatory. Cost \$75.00
Seven participants are needed in order to run the class.

Instructor: Philip Sherwood, *lifewriters.ca*

Part One – Getting Started

Participants will identify the many benefits and challenges of writing life stories and learn the differences between biography, autobiography, memoir, memoirs, and life stories.

Part Two – The Writing Process

Participants will explore each of the four stages of the writing process as they pertain to lifewriting (Prewriting and planning, writing the first draft, revising, and editing and proofreading) and identify successful strategies for completing each stage.

Part Three – Elements of Good Writing

Participants will identify and discuss several effective creative writing techniques for lifewriting. These include:

- Sensory Detail
- Dialogue
- Context and setting
- Point of view, tone, and voice
- Summary (Tell) and Scene (Show)
- Emotional truth
- Compelling beginnings
- Strong verbs and nouns

Part Four – Thorny Issues

- Participants will identify and discuss sometimes-thorny issues related to:
 - Truth-telling — the nature of truth, whose truth, how much truth
 - Trauma — misery memoirs, do no harm
 - Writing about other people still living

- **An outline will be provided. Please bring a notebook and pen / pencil.**
- **A list of do-it-yourself resources will be provided.**
- **Register by calling 604.501.5100. Program # 4513174**