



Course Syllabus

Course title: Social Justice Today

Class section: CFCS - 250 - X01

Term: 2025W

Course credits: 3

Total hours: 45

Delivery method: In-Person

Territorial Acknowledgement

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

Instructor Details

Name: Asha Rao

Email: raoa@camosun.ca

Instructor Statement

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

Instructor Office Hours

Office:

Hours:

Room # CHW 310 Hours: Thursday 11:30AM-12:30AM and by appointment

Course Description

Course Description:

Students will explore current social issues through a social justice lens. Through experiential learning, evidence-based research, and critical analysis, students will enhance their knowledge of how select social justice issues affect children, youth, individuals, families and communities. Students will engage in community-based social change activities in support of equity, justice and inclusion.

Prerequisites:

All of:

- C in CFCS 210

Pre or Co-requisites:

All of:

- C in CFCS 214
- C in CFCS 231

And, one of:

- COM in CFCS 240
- COM in CSEA 112
- COM in MHA 140

Course Learning Outcomes / Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course the learning will be able to

1. Describe current issues that affect the equity, inclusion and agency of people who experience oppression and marginalization

2. Critically analyze economic, political, cultural, and environmental practices, policies, systems, attitudes and values that promote or hinder a socially just community
3. Engage in advocacy, reciprocity and collective responsibility to contribute to a more sustainable, just, and healthy community
4. Centre the voices, perspectives, and self-determined needs of people with lived experience when engaging in respectful ally work

Course Materials - Required

1. Course Textbook hardcopy available for purchase in Camosun College bookstore:

S. (2017). Advocacy in practice: Creating a culture of social change in the human services. Oxford University Press.

2. Additional readings, media etc. will be available on D2L

Course Schedule, Topics, and Associated Preparation / Activity

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Week or Date Range	Activity or Topic	Assignment and Class Prep Please check D2L for all information regarding readings, media etc. which are required for you to prepare for this class
Week 1 (Jan. 9)	Introduction and Course Overview	
Week 2 (Jan. 16)	Inequality and Social Justice	
Week 3 (Jan.23)	Social Justice and Advocacy	
Week 4 (Jan. 30)	Social Justice and Advocacy Research and Library Support	

Week or Date Range	Activity or Topic	Assignment and Class Prep Please check D2L for all information regarding readings, media etc. which are required for you to prepare for this class
Week 5 (Feb.6)	Social Justice Topic Guest Speaker TBD	Taking Action Project: Part 1 Community Action Plan Due: Feb.5
Week 6 (Feb.13)	Social Justice Topic Guest Speaker TBD	
Week 7 (Feb.20)	Reading Break	
Week 8 (Feb.27)	Social Justice Topic Guest Speaker TBD	Letter to a Politician Assignment Due: Feb.26 Professional Engagement - Part 1 Due: Feb. 27
Week 9 (Mar.6)	Social Justice Topic Guest Speaker TBD	Social Justice Issue Paper Part 1 Draft and Research Outline Due: March 5
Week 10 (Mar.13)	Social Justice Topic Guest Speaker TBD <div></div>	
Week 11 (Mar.20)	Social Justice Topic Guest Speaker TBD Taking Action Project Group Work Time	

Week or Date Range	Activity or Topic	Assignment and Class Prep Please check D2L for all information regarding readings, media etc. which are required for you to prepare for this class
Week 12 (Mar.27)	Community Action In-Class Presentations	Community Action Part 3 Submission Due: March 26
Week 13 (Apr. 3)	Community Action In- Class Presentations	
Week 14 (Apr. 10)	Facilitated Discussions: Social Justice Issue Final Paper Topics	Social Justice Issue Paper Part 2 Final Copy Due: Apr. 6 Professional Engagement Part 2 Due: April 10

Evaluation of Learning: Weighted

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Taking Action Project (Part 1 Plan, Part 2 Action & Part 3 Presentation)	30%
Letter to a Politician Assignment	20%
Social Justice Issue Paper (Part 1 Draft and Research Outline & Part 2 Final Copy)	30%
TOTAL:	100%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Professional Engagement (Part 1 and Part 2)	20%
TOTAL:	100%

NOTE: Students must achieve at least 60% ("C") in each course in this program.

Grade Reviews and Appeals

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the **Grade Review and Appeals policy** for more information.

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

The Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) is part of Camosun's Student Affairs unit. CAL coordinates academic accommodations and provides related programs and services to students with documented disabilities.

Students who require academic accommodations are expected to request and arrange accommodations through CAL in a timely fashion. While we understand that not all accommodation needs are known to students at the beginning of a course, accommodations cannot be provided unless the proper process is followed through CAL and an accommodation letter has been released to the instructor. Students are responsible for providing CAL with the proper documentation prior to the beginning of a course.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required.

Deadlines can be reviewed on the CAL exams page

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

Please consult the CAL webpage for more information:

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is an evolving technology that brings potential benefits but also substantial risks. While GenAI tools have the ability to transform how we work and learn, it is essential for the college community to adapt to these changes in a thoughtful and secure way.

When using GenAI tools, students should ensure proper citation and attribution guidelines are followed. This includes acknowledging AI assistance in reports ,presentations, or any external communications. Clear citation helps build trust, ensures ethical use, and reduces the risk of misinformation or copyright issues.

For citation support visit the college's citation style guide.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/cite>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Visit the following website to learn about AI use in academic settings.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/artificialintelligence/home>

Course Guidelines & Expectations

This is an interactive course that uses a variety of teaching/learning strategies, lectures, discussion, co- operative learning, and guest speakers. Please arrive at class on time and be prepared to participate in discussions and activities. Classes are planned as a continuum for building the skill and knowledge required to meet the competencies for CFCS Graduates.

Class Attendance/Engagement is Required and Includes:

- Regular attendance each week
- Active and respectful participation in classes and in group work and check ins on topics (i.e., staying connected and engaged in class, rather than on a cell phone or other distractions, etc.).
- Adequate preparation for classes (completing the readings, watching media, etc.)
- Cooperation, mutual support, and professionalism in small and large group activities
- Effective and professional interpersonal communication skills with classmates, community members and instructor.
- Respectful, professional, and inclusive behavior toward classmates and instructor.
- Seeking self-awareness, including the impact of your words and actions on others.

CLASS PREPARATION:

- Please check D2L for all information regarding readings, media etc. which are required for you to prepare for this class

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION

- Assignments are due before 11:59pm on the assigned day, unless otherwise specified.

- Written assignments must be submitted in Word document , via D2L. Please note the following:
 1. File titles should include the assignment title.
 2. Written assignments must be double spaced and follow APA guidelines. Pay particular attention to:
 - Title page format,
 - page numbering,
 - Running head,
 - line spacing,
 - font and font size,
 - in-text citations (proper formatting, giving credit where credit is due),
 - references page (proper formatting) and
- Spelling, sentence structure, grammar, and presentation of the material will be taken into consideration when assignments are graded.
- Unless otherwise directed by individual course outlines, assignments must include: APA 7th edition guidelines, a title page, an introduction, a conclusion and a reference list. Please use the Camosun Writing Centre and/or Camosun Library for resources in writing, formatting and referencing.
- All assignments are to be submitted on designated due dates. In some circumstances, students may arrange with the instructor for an extension of an assignment, at least 48 hours before the due date, by email. Marks will be deducted from assignments (5% per day) if prior arrangements have not been made with the instructor.
- All assignments and learning activities must be completed within 24 hours of the last day of instruction and demonstrate knowledge and skill at a grade level of “C” or higher to pass this course. This includes assignments, pre-class assignments and activities, participation in skill development/labs, and presentation attendance/responses, written check ins.

MAKE UP ASSIGNMENTS

- Classes are planned as a continuum for building the skill and knowledge required to meet the competencies for CFCS Diploma. Students are expected to attend all scheduled class activities.
- Attendance is required in order to receive the learning in this class. If you miss a class, it will affect your learning and your grade. If you need to miss a class, you are invited to complete a make-up assignment for each class you miss: You need to have a minimum 10-minute discussion (in person or on the phone) with at least two other students in your class to learn their perspective of the important aspects of the class missed.

- Ensure you identify which students you have spoken to. Complete and submit a 400-600 word paper which describes the key elements of the class, along with your own reflections on the subject. Please submit this paper on D2L before the next class.

*Note: It is the student's responsibility to track the dates missed and to follow up with colleagues about content missed, while they still remember.

School or Departmental Information

Students are required to read and are accountable for the College policies (outlined below) and practicum guidelines as described in the School of Health and Human Services (HHS) and program handbooks.

[CFCS Program Handbook](#)

Clinical and Practice Placements in HHS

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/hhs-programs/practicums>

School of Health and Human Services (HHS)

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-1#top>

HHS Program Handbooks

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-1#program>

Student Responsibility

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

College Policies

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to follow the college's [Academic Integrity policy](#), and be honest and ethical in all aspects of their studies. To help you understand these responsibilities review the online

[Academic Integrity guide](#).

The college's [Academic Integrity policy and supporting documents](#) detail the process for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL). CAL will arrange the appropriate academic accommodations so you can participate in all academic activities. Visit the [CAL website](#) for more information

Academic Progress

The [Academic Progress policy](#) details how the college monitors students' academic progress and what steps are taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the college's academic progress standards.

Acceptable Technology Use

The [Acceptable Technology Use](#) policy outlines how students are expected to use college technology resources, this includes using your own devices on the college's network. The use of the college resources in a way that violates a person's right to study in an environment free of discrimination, harassment or sexual violation is prohibited.

Course Withdrawals Policy

For details about course withdrawal see the [Course Withdrawals policy](#). Be aware of the [deadlines for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refunds](#).

Grading Policy

To learn more about grading see the [Grading Policy](#).

Grade Review and Appeals

The process to request a review of grades is outlined in the [Grade Review and Appeals policy](#).

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

If you have experienced a serious health or personal issue, you may be eligible for a [medical/compassionate withdrawal](#). The [Medical / Compassionate Withdrawal Request form](#) outlines what is required.

Sexual Violence

If you have experienced sexual violence on or off campus, you can get support from the Office of Student Support. The Office of Student Support is a safe and private place to talk about what supports are available and your options for next steps. Visit the [sexual violence support and education site](#) to learn more or email oss@camosun.ca or phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841.

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Review the [Student Misconduct Policy](#) to understand the college's expectations of conduct.

Looking for other policies? See [Camosun College Policies and Directives](#)

Services and Supports

Services are free and available to all students.

Academic Supports	Enrollment Supports
Centre for Accessible Learning	Academic Advising
English, Math and Science Help Centres	Financial Aid and Awards
Library	Registration
Writing Centre & Learning Skills	Tuition and Fees
Health and Wellness	Applied learning
Counseling	Co-operative Education and Career Services
Fitness and Recreation	Makerspace
Office of Student Support	

The [Centre for Indigenous Education Centre and Community Connections](#) provides cultural and academic supports for Indigenous students.

[Camosun International](#) provides supports to international students.

[The Ombudsperson](#) provides an impartial, independent service to ensure students are treated fairly. The service is a safe place for students to voice and clarify concerns and complaints.

If you have a mental health concern, contact Counselling. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Changes to this Syllabus

Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change the course content or schedule. When changes are necessary the instructor will give clear and timely notice.