

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRWR-154: Introduction to Fiction

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Winter 2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): in person

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Kari Jones

EMAIL: jonesk@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Paul 328

HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30-4:00 in Paul 328 Wednesdays 11:00-12:00 on-line

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.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

In this course, students develop their skills in writing prose fiction, especially short stories. Students examine elements such as characterization, plot, dialogue, setting, point of view, openings and endings, and theme in the development of original stories. Students will prepare to share their work with an audience.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Write stories that are well-crafted.
2. Develop a writing process that involves generating, drafting, workshopping, revising and editing.
3. Create plots, settings, characters, and themes using appropriate points of view and nuanced language.
4. Compose a journal that informs the storyteller's process and finished work.
5. Read and analyze diverse published stories to identify crafting techniques.
6. Incorporate authentic detail to give fiction credibility.

7. Identify and use various resources (such as submission guidelines) available for writers in preparing work for publication.
8. Present their work in a professional manner.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

All readings will be handed out in class. Please bring your laptop, tablet or notebook to class for in-class writing exercises

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

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

Week		Topics and Readings	Assignments Due
1	Jan 9	Introductions	
	Jan 11	Intro to Fiction	
2	Jan 16	The Writing Process (Shitty First Drafts by Anne Lamott)	Diagnostic
	Jan 18	Writing in scenes: What is a scene? Elements of scene Part 1 (A Cat In The Rain by Ernest Hemingway)	
3	Jan 23	Writing in scenes: What is a scene? Elements of scene Part 2	
	Jan 25	Beginnings	Journal #1 (Writing A Scene)
4	Jan 30	Forward Moving Stories (A House On The Plains by E.L. Doctorow)	
	Feb 1	Workshop #1	Story #1 (Due Sunday night on D2L)
5	Feb 6	Dialogue (The Martians Claim Canada by Margaret Atwood)	
	Feb 8	Dialogue	Journal #2 (Using Dialogue)
6	Feb 13	Character (Sticks by George Saunders)	
	Feb 15	Character	Journal #3 (Identifying Character)
7		Reading Break	
8	Feb 27	Workshop #2	Story #2 Due Sunday night on D2L
	Feb 29!	Setting (The Place of Four Winds by Gabriel Mara)	
9	March 5	Setting	Journal #4 (Using Setting)

	March 7	Plot	
10	March 12	Plot	Journal #5 (Enhancing Plot)
	March 14	Voice (The Haunting of Hajji Hotak by Jamil Jan Kochai)	
11	March 19	Voice	Journal #6 (Creating Strong Voices)
	March 21	TBD	
12	March 26	Enhancing Sentences	Story #3 Due Sunday night on D2L
	March 28	Enhancing Sentences	
13	April 3	Enhancing Sentences	Journal #7 (Using beautiful language)
	April 5	Enhancing Sentences	
14	April 9	Celebration and Readings	Journal #8 (Exploring Genre)
	April 11	Celebration and Readings	

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 notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

Short Story X 3	Each work 25%	75%
Journals X 5	Each worth 4%	20%
Peer Review x 2	Each worth 2.5%	5%
Total	100%	

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](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information. <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

- **Please remember that Camosun College**, and our class in particular, aims to create a safe space for all students. We draw on the work of Daniel Heath Justice, who encourages us to tell stories of complexity, hope and possibility, not stories of deficiency. This is a place of healing and of learning. This holds true for people of all races, genders, and abilities.
- **Please attend class whenever possible.** There may be many reasons that it is difficult to come to class. However, it is to your advantage as a student to come as often as possible so that you can contribute to the conversations about the readings and course material. Your unique point of view and understanding of the material is valuable to others. Their ideas are valuable to you. **If you have**

legitimate reasons for not attending class, please contact me as early as possible so that we can discuss how best to proceed.

- **Under normal circumstances, students who cannot pass the cumulative in-class assignments will not pass the course.** “Cumulative” here means multiple in-class assignments throughout the semester. Students who are concerned about this course requirement are encouraged to seek guidance and clarification from the instructor as early as possible.
- **Because CRWR courses** are designed to strengthen the originality of your written expression, all forms of generative artificial intelligence (ChatGPT, Quillbot, etc...) are counter to your own learning and self-interest in our context. For this reason, the use of GenAI tools is prohibited for all assignments. On a related note, write your own papers! Plagiarism or cheating in any form is a serious academic offence that is tracked on your permanent college record.
- **If you cannot complete the assignment on the due date**, you have 1 week grace period to get it in. If you hand your paper in after the official due date, I will read it but not comment on it. After a week, I will no longer accept the assignment, unless we have made alternate arrangements.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills

Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

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

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the “Attendance” section under “Registration Policies and Procedures” (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun’s Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student’s right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun’s Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College’s Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College’s expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

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 courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.