

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRWR-157: Fiction for Children and Youth

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Fall 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In person

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

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

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

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 explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Kari Jones

EMAIL: jonesk@camosun.bc.ca

OFFICE: Paul 328

HOURS: Mon 11:30-1:30 Tues/Thurs 11:30-12:30

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 creative writing course, students will develop skills in writing fiction for children and youth. The elements of plot, characterization, dialogue, setting, point of view, and theme will be studied. Students will prepare a story line, plot treatment and character sketches for a chapter book or young adult novel.

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 a student will be able to:

1. Identify and distinguish literary characteristics specific to children and youth as young readers.
2. Identify a variety of genres of fiction for children and youth including easy readers, early chapter books, juvenile fiction, short stories for children, and youth novels.
3. Practice the writing process appropriate to fiction for children and youth.
4. Produce plots, settings, characters with appropriate language and effective use of figures of speech.
5. Practice appropriate research for giving fiction credibility.
6. Identify the various resources available for writers.
7. Prepare a story for submission for publication.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

CRWR 157 Coursepack

A Boy Named Queen by Sara Cassidy

Both of these are available in the Camosun College bookstore on Lansdowne campus

Where's Burgess by Laurie Elmquist

This is available in the Camosun College library and the public library

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 Sept 5	Introductions What is children's literature? What does it mean to write for children and youth?	Diagnostic due on D2L on September 10
2 Sept 12	Writing in scenes: What is a scene? Elements of scene	
3 Sept 19	Writing in scenes: What is a scene? Elements of scene Part 2	Scene Assignment due on D2L on Sept 24
4 Sept 26	Establishing Shot Ist chapters	
5 Oct 3	Choosing a point of view: whose story is it?	Summary of YA Novel Assignment due Oct 8
6 Oct 10	Dialogue: how do kids speak? Peer Review of Ist chapter	Ist Chapter of a YA Novel due Oct 15

7 Oct 17	TBD Guest Speaker	
8 Oct 24	Dialogue part 2 <i>A Boy Named Queen</i> : elements of a story	Point of View Assignment due on D2L on Oct 29
9 Oct 31	Story structure <i>Where's Burgess?:</i> elements of a story	
10 Nov 7	Story structure part 2 Writing character	
11 Nov 14	Peer Review of Middle Grade MS Writing character part 2	Middle Grade Manuscript due Nov 19
12 Nov 21	Celebration! (time to read to each other) Writing for illustration	
13 Nov 28	Writing for the youngest readers	
14 Dec 5	The publishing stuff	Final Project due Dec 10

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

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Value</i>
Scene Assignment	5%
Point of View Assignment	5%
YA Story Summary	3%
First Chapter of YA Story	25%
Chapter Book Summary (Cover Letter)	3%
Chapter Book	25%
Final Project	20%
Peer Review X 2	14%
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.

- Peer edits (and indeed my edits) are to be given in the spirit of encouraging classmates and helping them believe in themselves as writers. We aim to help each other make our stories the strongest they can be by recognizing that we all have talents, and that writing is hard work.
- In this class, we start with the belief that writing is important, and that creativity is something to be celebrated and nourished. To that end, we will have many opportunities to share writing out loud with the class.
- Because the goal of creative writing classes is to enhance students' ability to write prose, develop stories, and learn techniques for creating strong characters and settings, 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.** Please note: we may decide to play about with a GenAI tool in class. That is not to be understood as permission to use it in your marked assignments.

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.