

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRWR-254-Advanced Fiction

CLASS SECTION:

TERM: 2025W

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): lecture

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

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Candace Fertile (please call me Candace)

EMAIL: [fertile@camosun.ca](mailto:fertile@camosun.ca)

OFFICE: Paul 337

HOURS: W 2:30-3:30; F 10:15-11:15

*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.*

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## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

In this course, students further develop their skills in writing prose fiction. Students will strengthen their ability to structure scenes, build narratives, create characters, experiment with point of view, develop style and voice, and prepare stories for publication.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

C in CRWR 150

C in CRWR 152

C in CRWR 154

C in CRWR 155

C in CRWR 157

CO-REQUISITE(S):

EQUIVALENCIES: ENGL 254

### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

Write fiction that is clear, provocative and well-crafted.

Create characters that are credible, convincing and consistent.

Write plots that have continuity and consistency.

Write dialogue that is related to characterization, action and plot.

Write compelling description that appeals to all senses.

Use literary devices (such as point of view, and figures of speech) effectively.

Conduct appropriate research to give a piece of fiction credibility.

Critically analyze stories by professional writers and peers.

Evaluate the effectiveness of structure, characterization, plot, point of view and style in a range of stories.

Compare a variety of narrative styles and forms, including micro-fiction.

Examine and evaluate the structure and limitations of different publication media (literary magazines, on-line magazines, anthologies, newspapers, etc.).

Submit a story for publication.

Identify appropriate magazines for publication of stories.

Obtain publication guidelines.

Write a cover letter and a brief biography to accompany manuscript submission.

Submit a query to a publisher.

#### REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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*Best Canadian Stories 2025*, selected by Steven W. Beattie, Biblioasis (available in the Camosun Bookstore)

8.5 X 11 inch paper and a pen/pencil (bring to class)

Funds for photocopying

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

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

The schedule may change depending on how quickly we proceed. The course includes lectures, small and large group discussions, in-class writing, and other in-class work. Students must read assigned material before the class on the due date in which the material is to be discussed. Student will participate in peer review; in other words, students will share their work with other students for commentary. Students will also read aloud on occasion (their work or the work of published writers). It's important that you have the material read and bring copies to class. Please consider the schedule to be flexible. I will remind you at the end of each class what to prepare for the next.

January

8 Introduction to course

10 overview of basics

15 Jackson's "The Lottery" and Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado" (links on D2L)

17 Saunders' "My Flamboyant Grandson" (link on D2L)

22 Hemingway's "Hills Like White Elephants" (link on D2L)

24 Young's "Nest" 21-39 *Best Canadian Stories 2025* (BCS)

29 peer review (bring copy of draft of story to class)

31 peer review

February

5 Birbalsingh's "Couple's Therapy" BCS 126-131 Wright's "Making Faces" BCS 227-243

7 Wright's "Making Faces" BCS 227-243

12 Shen's "The Hanged Man" BCS 98-125

14 tba

19 Reading Week—no classes

21 Reading Week—no classes

26 Caetano's "Miigwetch Rex" BCS 80-89

28 Turnbull's "Because We Buy Oat Milk" BCS 90-97

March

5 peer review

7 peer review

12 Khan's "The Paper Birch" BCS 65-79

14 Bailey's "We've Cherished Nothing" BCS 179-194

19 tba

21 Stewart's "Funny Story" BCS 40-46

26 Galway's "Heatstroke" BCS 47-64

28 Goobie's "Dark Rainbow" BCS 147-162

April

2 peer review

4 peer review

9 about submissions

11 Class reading/celebrate!

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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](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams).

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

## EVALUATION OF LEARNING

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DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Story one due February 5	25
Story two due March 12	25
Story three due April 9	25
In-class work, participation, quizzes, peer review	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.

[https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1\\_14.pdf](https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1_14.pdf)

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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Almost anything can be creative, and in this class we explore the creativity of the written word and story. The goal is to practice writing, develop further skills, and have fun. Yes.

Please note that all work handed in for this course must be done for this course. No recycled material is allowed. You must not hand in something you did for another class. And as you are here to explore your own creativity, the use of AI is not allowed.

- You are expected to attend class, arrive on time, and be prepared, having done the required reading. Participation marks cannot be earned if you are absent or you are unprepared.
- Turn off all devices. Make notes by hand. If you have a compelling reason to have your phone on, just let me know why at the beginning of the class.
- At times, the use of devices will be permitted, but until then, keep them off (unless you have arranged to have your device on or you have an accommodation from CAL).
- All work submitted must be your own and must be done for this class (no recycling of work you have already written).
- Guidelines for stories will be given in advance of due dates.
- Late work is not normally accepted.
- The course has no make-up work or extra assignments for extra grades.
- Extensions may be given at my discretion, but must be negotiated before the due date, and they are not guaranteed to be granted. You need a good reason.
- Email is answered usually within 24 hours except for weekends and holidays.
- Put the course name (CRWR 254) in the subject line of email to me.
- Any material that I hand out in class will also be put on D2L (e.g., assignments and extra information), but this course is not designed as an online course. In-person participation is vital.
- I urge you to make friends with other students. Friends are important. They are also a source of help if you need to be absent for any reason. I cannot reproduce missed classes, so it's up to you to get notes from another student.
- The class is a mix of lecture, small group discussion, large group discussion, and writing.
- The course requires that you share your work with other students.
- Your writing may be used to exemplify points I wish to make in class. I will do so anonymously when possible, but you will need to share your work with the class.
- The class does not focus on grammar as it is assumed that you have basic skills. Common problems will be identified and explained.
- Developing your writing requires practice. This course offers you the chance to practice and play with words.

Everyone needs help sometimes. Please see me if you are struggling, and we can try to find a way forward. I want you to succeed. I also want you to have fun.

## SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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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

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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 [camosun.ca/services](https://camosun.ca/services).

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre">camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre</a>
Career Services	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services">camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards">camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services">camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services</a>
International Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/international">camosun.ca/international</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>
Library	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/library">camosun.ca/services/library</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/office-student-support">camosun.ca/services/office-student-support</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson">camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson</a>
Registration	<a href="https://camosun.ca/registration-records/registration">camosun.ca/registration-records/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/its">camosun.ca/services/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills">camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills</a>

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

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### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>  
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

### Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### 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 (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence

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 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 Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education](https://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education).

To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

### 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 <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

### Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

**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.