



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of English

CRWR-154-D02
Intro to Fiction
Fall 2019

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/crwr.html>

Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Laurie Elmquist		
(b) Office hours	Tues. and Thurs. 10:00 – 11:00		
(c) Location	Paul 332		
(d) Phone	250-370-3355	Alternative:	
(e) E-mail			
(f) Website	elmquist@camosun.ca		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student 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 storywriter'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.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts: On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft by Stephen King

4. Course Content and Schedule

Creative Writing: Fiction I (CRWR 154)

Date	Readings	Discussions/Assignments
<p>Week One</p> <p>Sept. 2 - 8</p>	<p>Getting Started</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nav Bar • Course Outline and Schedule • Introduction to the Course • Shitty First Drafts by Anne Lamott 	<p>Discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • What Works for You? <p>Assignments: Journal #1: Top 10 List of Stories</p>
<p>Week Two</p> <p>Sept. 9 – 15</p>	<p>Situation</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is Fiction? • From Essay to Fiction • You Should Go Over There by Meredith Hambrock • Moment-to-Moment Writing by Robert Olen Butler • The Anecdote Exercise by Robert Olen Butler • What Distinguishes Anecdote from Story? by Jennifer Brown 	<p>Discussions: Response to Meredith Hambrock's story, "You Should Go Over There."</p> <p>Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal #2: Situation • Journal #3: Moment to Moment
<p>Week Three</p> <p>Sept. 16 –</p>	<p>Dialogue</p> <p>Readings:</p>	<p>Assignments: Portfolio Story #1: Situation</p>

22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What Starts a Story? • Freewriting • Dialogue • First Person Point of View • Instructions for Formatting your Stories • Kurt Vonnegut on Structure (video) 	
Week Four Sept. 23 – Sept. 29	Let's Talk Structure (and Online Magazines that You Can Submit to!) Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the original story, Hills Like White Elephants by Ernest Hemingway • Find the online magazine called <i>McSweeney's Internet Tendency</i>, and in the Search box, type in: Hills Like White Elephants from the Girl's Point of View. This story is written by Rachel Klein. You can also try typing in the name Rachel Klein, but she's published several stories so a list will pop up. • The Written Exercise by Robert Olen Butler • Beginnings, Middles and Endings: Animated Story: Canned by Ivan Joy 	Discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to <i>Hills...from the Girl's Point of View</i>. • Post an animated short and briefly identify the beginning, middle and end of the story Assignments: Journal #4: The Written Exercise
Week Five Sept. 30 Oct. 6	Plot Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten Tips for Writing Fiction • Someone to Read Your Story • Plot 	Discussions: Story #2 - Story that contains a Flashback Assignments: Journal #5: Verb Tense
Week Six Oct. 7 – 13	Critiquing You'll find my notes about how to critique stories for other people in your group, as well as notes about how to revise your own story.	Discussions: Critique of Story 2 for each member of your writing group. Assignments: Journal #6: Story Cards (A story beginning with "I am..." and motivated by the story card prompts.)

Week Seven Oct. 14 – 20	Revising Revising 2 stories for the portfolio Please read over the Midterm Portfolio instructions, and evaluation sheet so you know what you are being graded on.	Assignments: Midterm Portfolio consisting of two stories + critiques <u>you received</u> . Plus a letter for your instructor.
Week Eight Oct. 23 – 29	Characters Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Characters, Revealing their Personalities, Beliefs, Mannerisms • A Tiny Feast by Chris Adrian 	Discussions: What is your experience with speculative fiction and is there something in this story you'd love to try yourself? Would you be willing to try your hand at speculative fiction for Story 3, for example? Assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal 7: How is Character Revealed? • Journal 8: Character Questionnaire
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Week Nine Oct. 30 – Nov. 6	Setting Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting • Setting Evokes Mood • "Cinema of the Mind" by Robert Olen Butler 	Assignments: Journal 9: Work/Home
Week Ten	TED Talk - How to Write a Story	Discussions + Assignments

Nov. 4 - 10	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Word of Mouth" by John Gould • High Points • Titles 	Story #3: Person at Work: This story goes in two places, so that you can get feedback from your group and privately from me.
Week Eleven Nov. 11 – 17	Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission Guidelines • Canadian Publishers 	Discussions: Critiquing Story #3
Week Twelve Nov. 18 – 24	Seeking a Publisher Readings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample Cover Letter • Author Bios 	Assignments: Journal 10: Cover Letter
Week Thirteen Nov. 25 – Dec. 1	Revision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes on Revision 	Assignments: Due: Final Portfolio (Our usual deadline is Sunday by midnight but please take an extra day if you need it.)
Week Fourteen Dec. 2 – 8	Goodbyes Post a good bye to others in the class on Discussions. Make sure everything is going well in terms of the Final Portfolio. Have I asked you to submit anything more?	

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Midterm Portfolio	30
Final Portfolio	30
Critiquing	10
Discussion Posts	20
Journal	10

Total 100

6. Grading System

- Standard Grading System (GPA)
- Competency Based Grading System

7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

All materials are posted to D2L except for the textbook.

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/policies.php>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.