



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of English

CRWR-156-001
Intro to Poetry
Winter 2020

COURSE OUTLINE

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

☐ 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 | Dr. Candace Fertile (call me Candace) |
| (b) Office hours | MW 10-11:30 and by appointment |
| (c) Location | Paul 337 |
| (d) Phone | 250.370.3354 |
| | Alternative: _____ |
| (e) E-mail | fertile@camosun.bc.ca (best way to reach me apart from class) |
| (f) Website | _____ |

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(If any changes are made to this part, then the Approved Course Description must also be changed and sent through the approval process.)

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

1. Write poems that are well-crafted.
2. Identify the writing techniques used in the crafting of a poem.
3. Develop a writing process using journaling, free-association exercises, drafting, work-shopping, revising, and editing/proofing.
4. Vary poetic style purposefully using concrete and abstract language, structure, point of view, syntax, rhythm, sound, image, and metaphor.
5. Use a variety of poetic strategies including the lyric and the narrative.
6. Use a variety of forms including fixed forms, blank verse, and free verse.
7. Read diverse, established poets to identify their poetics.
8. Read their own poetry to an audience of peers.
9. Identify the process and avenues for poetry submission.

3. Required Materials

course pack (in Camosun bookstore)
8.5X11 inch lined paper and blue or black ink pen and/or pencil
funds for printing (or printer)
coffee, chocolate . . .

4. Course Content and Schedule

Classes are a combination of lectures, discussion (small and large group), in-class writing, readings, and peer consultation. Students will need to share their work in both oral and written form. Students will need to read aloud in class, both their own work and that of others.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

~~60% poems (one per week, details to follow)~~

~~10% terminology test (April 1)~~

~~20% pop quizzes and in-class work (attendance matters)~~

~~05% self-analysis (due April 8, details to follow)~~

~~05% participation (attendance matters)~~

Revised:

10% in class and participation (already established as of March 11)

70% poems

15% terminology quiz (You will do this at home and on-line, and yes, you may look things up. I will send you the questions on March 30, and you need to respond by April 3 at noon.)

05% self-assessment (Please do this after you get back all your poems and the quiz. That should happen by April 8. The self-assessment is due by noon on April 14. It's a minimum of 200 words, and the task is to evaluate the progress you have made in the course. You will need to be both general in terms of poetry and specific in terms of your own poems.)

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

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

Distributed or recommended as needed throughout course

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://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

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. |

Further Information

1. Each week I will assign a poem that is due the following Wednesday at the beginning of the class. Drafts of the poems will be discussed in small groups (2-4 students) on Monday. This set-up means that each Monday, you need to come to class with a draft (as finished as you can make it) of the poem due Wednesday. Your first poem is due January 15, so on January 13, you need to bring a draft of it to class. The draft needs to be in hard copy and legible. The poem handed in to me on Wednesday must be typed. The types of poems assigned will vary. Sometimes I will assign a specific form and sometimes a specific topic. Over the term, you will be handing in 11 poems. And you will be doing numerous in-class exercises.

2. One of the best ways to become a better writer (of anything) is to read. The course pack has a wide selection of poems, and we will discuss them in class, looking at the construction of the poems and how they work or what they do. All poetry has a form, whether it is an established form (such as a sonnet or a villanelle) or a form invented by the poet for the particular poem (sometimes called a “nonce” poem). Free verse is not formless. All poems have some principle of arrangement, and the possibilities are vast.

3. I suggest that in addition to the poems in the course pack you try to read other poems. Some of you may be taking an English course with poetry, and you will find the added exposure helpful. Poems are easy to access on line, so you can always find something to read. And reading a poem a day (at least) is a good goal. The more familiar you are with poetry, the better positioned you are to write poems that other people may want to read. Writing poetry is like anything else: it takes practice.

4. Please put away all devices (phones, tablets, etc) in class unless you have permission from me to use a device. Writing by hand has many benefits, one of which is to boost creativity. Handwriting notes also increases learning and retention.

5. If you email me, please put pertinent information in the subject line. If there’s no subject, I tend to delete email. I check email at least once a day during the week, and I try to reply within 24 hours (often much more quickly). On weekends, I may not even look at work email, so plan.

6. Office hours are for students. Please come see me if you would like to discuss your work. If you can’t come during my office hours, let me know, and we can arrange another time. And please come see me if you find yourself getting overwhelmed with work and falling behind. It’s much easier to deal with issues before they become giant black holes of misery. Really.

7. Please do not bring crunchy, noisy, or smelly food to class.
8. Please be on time.
9. Be prepared to work hard and to have fun in this class. The word *poet* comes from a Greek word meaning “to make.” A poet is a maker. Let’s make poems.