



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of English

CRWR-154-001
Intro to Fiction
2020W

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	Micaela Maftai
(b) Office hours	Wed 10-1, Thurs 11:30-1, or by appointment
(c) Location	Paul 327
(e) E-mail	MaftaiM@camosun.bc.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

- *The Making of a Story* by Alice LaPlante – available at the Camosun bookstore.
- We will be doing lots of writing in class. You should have a notebook or other way of having paper available to write in class – ideally an 8.5 x 11 notebook. This writing will serve as the basis of assessed work. Please always bring this notebook, and something to write with, to class!

4. Course Content and Schedule

Week	Date	Content
1	Jan 7	Intro to course content and schedule
	Jan 9	Exercise/workshop description
2	Jan 14	The Basics pp. 23-37; On Keeping a Notebook pp. 34-38
	Jan 16	Exercise #1
3	Jan 21	The workshop method pp. 544-551
	Jan 23	Workshop #1
4	Jan 28	The Splendid Gift of Not Knowing pp. 57-69, First Drafts pp. 574-578
	Jan 30	Exercise #2

5	Feb 4	Point of View pp. 258-281, "The Swimmer" pp. 330-340
	Feb 6	Workshop #2
6	Feb 11	Plot pp. 375-387, "What Makes a Short Story" pp. 167-178
	Feb 13	Exercise #3
7	Feb 18	READING WEEK
	Feb 20	NO CLASS
8	Feb 25	Character pp. 418-435, "Where Are you Going, Where Have You Been?" pp. 72-87, "No Name Woman" pp. 453-464
	Feb 27	Workshop #3
9	Mar 3	Character II, "Surrounded by Sleep" pp. 441-453
	Mar 5	Exercise #4
10	Mar 10	Showing/Telling pp. 204-227, "Winner Take Nothing" pp.245-257
	Mar 12	Workshop #4
11	Mar 17	"Creative" Nonfiction pp.619-633, "Moonrise" pp. 299-317
	Mar 19	Exercise #5
12	Mar 24	Dialogue, "Hills Like White Elephants" p. 356
	Mar 26	Workshop #5
13	Mar 31	Reliability, pp. 238-318; "Inside the Bunker" pp. 360-374
	April 2	Exercise #6
14	April 7	Workshop #6
	April 9	Final class

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR WORKSHOP SUBMISSIONS

You will submit work to your workshop group members by email. Please CC me on these emails. If you do not submit material, you cannot get full marks for the workshops. For each submission, in the body of your email, please write a 1-2 sentence description of what the piece is about. This gives your readers a chance to be prepared for any potentially sensitive content, and decide how and if to continue reading. This is not a 'teaser' to heighten interest – this is a description of what your readers will encounter.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

In-class exercises – 5 x 6% = 30%

Contribution to 5 workshops – 5 x 5% = 25%

Three stories/pieces of work, max 4,000 words – 3 x 15% = 45%

All work has a final deadline of **Thursday, April 9**. Until that date, **you** decide when you are ready to hand a piece of work in. You can revise as many times as needed, but once you hand it in, you cannot get it back for more revision. I will talk more about scheduling and due dates in class – if you forget, or miss this discussion, please see me to make sure you are aware of when to hand in your work. **I will not accept work after the end of class on April 9.**

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

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

This course presupposes that you are interested in writing, that you are willing to put in time, voluntarily, to get better at writing, and that you believe in the idea that a writer gets better with practice, not by fulfilling the bare minimum of requirements. This course is built on the idea that we're

all in this together, and that the best way to spend these 14 weeks is devoting time, effort and energy to becoming better writers, better readers, better critics and better sources of support for our peers. My suggestions to assist you to succeed are:

- Put in the time. No one can tell you how much time is needed. Put in as much as you can.
- Come see me with questions, concerns, comments, etc. I am a resource and will do my best to help! I'm also pretty good at suggesting other, better or more appropriate sources of support if I know of them.
- Be prepared for class. That means, for workshops, that you've read the material to be discussed, and have formed ideas about it that you are prepared to discuss. For in-class exercises, it means having a clear mind, material to write with, and mental energy for the task. For other classes, it means having read the material and developed ideas and responses about it that you're ready to share.
- **Please do not use your phone in class.** We will spend some time in the early classes establishing some group norms, but this is one I will insist on.

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 SYSTEM <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/policies.php>

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

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.