

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: CRWR-154: Introduction to Fiction

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: winter 2022

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): in person, MW, 10:00-11:20 AM, Young 220

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](#).

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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

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

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

OFFICE: Paul 337

HOURS: MW 8:30-9:45 AM and W 4:00-5:00 PM (just drop by); or by appointment

*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

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In this course, students develop their skills in writing prose fiction, especially short stories. Students examine elements such as characterization, plot, dialogue, setting, point of view, openings and endings, and theme in the development of original stories. Students will prepare to share their work with an audience.

### 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

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Upon completion of this course students 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 storyteller'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.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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*Best Canadian Stories 2020*, ed. Paige Cooper (in Camosun Bookstore)

8.5 X 11 inch paper—bring to class

Access to D2L

## 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.

Stories must be read before the class in which they are to be discussed. You can find links to the first six stories on D2L. Please print the stories and bring to class. The rest of the stories are from *Best Canadian Stories 2020*. What's listed below gives you an idea of the reading involved, and I will also hand out material and post it to D2L. Reading and writing are inextricably linked, so along with writing stories, you will read several. We will discuss in class how the stories work. Class time will be spent in a variety of ways: discussion, both large and small group; lecture; exercises; writing prompts; reading work aloud; individual and group work (play?). I think taking the time to be creative and to appreciate the creativity of others is essential. Any changes to the schedule (and I'm sure there will be some) will be noted on D2L.

January

The basics of story structure—plot, character, point of view, setting

12 "The Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin

17 "The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson

19 "The Cask of Amontillado" by Edgar Allan Poe

24 "Roman Fever" by Edith Wharton

26 “My Flamboyant Grandson” by George Saunders

31 “The Things They Carried” by Tim O’Brien

February

2 peer review of first story (complete draft is due)

7 FIRST STORY DUE and “Hazel & Christopher” by Casey Plett

9 “The Gas Station” by Souvankham Thammavongsa

14 comments on first stories

16 “The Drain” by Lynn Coady

21 No class--Family Day

23 No class—Reading Break

28 “Government Slots” by Omar El Akkad

March

2 peer review of second story (complete draft is due)

7 SECOND STORY DUE and “Phoenix” by Alex Leslie

9 TBA

14 “Common Whipping” by Naben Rthnum

16 comments on second stories

21 “The Last Big Dance” by Conor Kerr

23 “Daughter of Cups” by Kristyn Dunnion

28 “Drago” by Michael Melgaard

30 “If You Start Breathing” by Thea Lim

April

4 peer review of third story (complete draft is due)

6 THIRD STORY DUE and submitting work for publication

11 review for quiz

13 Final Quiz

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

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DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Story one (Jan. 31)	20
Story two (March 2)	25
Story three (April 4)	25
Final quiz (April 13)	15
In-class work (pop quizzes, exercises, peer review, participation, etc. throughout course)	15
	<b>TOTAL</b>
	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

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- 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. Given the current health crisis, I understand that things may get a bit complicated, but let's just try to show up and have good discussions.
- Turn off all devices. Make notes by hand. If you have a compelling reason to have your phone on (perhaps because of a sick child), just let me know at the beginning of the class.
- All work submitted must be your own and must be done for this class (no recycling of stories you have already written).
- Guidelines for stories will be given well in advance of due dates.
- Late work is not accepted. Late work is not accepted. Late work is not 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.
- 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. You are expected to come to class. Again, given the current health crisis, things can change. If so, we will adjust.
- 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.
- 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 <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>

Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</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.

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## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### 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](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto: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.