



Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək'wəḡən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here. Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

MHA 125 – Foundations for Practice

Section: BX03 Term: S2021

Course Credits: 2

Delivery Method: Blended

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges, and Camosun College is committed to helping you safely complete your education. Following guidelines from the Provincial Health Officer, WorkSafe BC, and the B.C. Government to ensure the health and wellbeing of students and employees, Camosun College is providing you with every possible protection to keep you safe. Our measures include COVID Training for students and employees, health checks, infection control protocols including sanitization of spaces, PPE and ensuring physical distancing. For details on these precautions please follow this link: <http://camosun.ca/covid19/faq/covid-faqs-students.html> If you're uncomfortable being on campus, please share your concerns with your Instructor. If needed, alternatives will be discussed.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Kristin Ross

EMAIL: ross@online.camosun.ca

OFFICE: CHW 312 - door by north windows

HOURS: as posted and/or arranged

I will endeavor to respond to your emails or phone calls within 24 hours; however, you should NOT expect a response during weekends, evenings, or holidays. Please plan accordingly when communicating with your instructor.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the basic skills, knowledge, attitudes, and values necessary for professional practice in mental health & addition (MHA) services. Students will begin to examine the responsibilities and obligations of the MHA professional.

COURSE DELIVERY – note hrs/wk will be different in schedule due to current situation

ACTIVITY	HOURS / WEEK	# OF WEEKS	ACTIVITY HOURS
On-campus Lecture	Avg. .5	14	7
Online Lecture/Asynchronous	Avg. 1.5	14	21
		TOTAL HOURS	28

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Engage in self-reflection to assess and determine own abilities, values, and beliefs that may influence practice
2. Discuss the demands of the work role that may cause stress and imbalance in one's life
3. Describe personal lifestyle choices that promote health in an holistic manner including physical, social, cultural, emotional, cognitive, environmental, and spiritual elements
4. Identify strategies that contribute to self-care and stress management

REQUIRED MATERIALS – materials not listed here are found in D2L Content

- Adler, R. Procter, R., Towne, N., & J. Rolls (2018/20). *Look: Looking Out Looking In (3rd/4th Canadian ed.)*. Toronto, Ont.: Nelson (MindTap supplement not needed)
- Camosun College (2021). *MHA 125 Coursepack*
- Corey, G., & Corey, M. S. (2016/21). *Becoming a Helper (7th or 8th ed.)*. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole.
- Morrison-Valfre, M. (2017/21). *Foundations of Mental Health Care (6th/7th ed.)*. St. Louis, MO: Mosby, Inc.
- Valentino, L. (2013). *Handle with Care (5th ed.)*. Ont: Nelson Education Ltd.

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

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

This course is a blended delivery (on-campus and online); both aspects are equally valued and developed to enhance student learning. Learning formats in Mental Health & Addiction (MHA) Program courses include discussions, presentations, peer interactions, student-directed research, in-person and video skill development, and critical thinking activities.

Expectations of Learners

Students are to arrive to synchronous online and on-campus classes, as well as asynchronous activities with instructors and peers, ready to contribute their knowledge and insights, having completed preparation expectations to create a positive and effective learning environment.

Because the MHA Program prepares graduates for professional roles in the community, students are expected to demonstrate positive interpersonal behavior in the campus and online environments and in other interactions (e.g., email) with each other and instructors.

Professional behavior demonstrates readiness for practicum and graduate roles. This includes contributing to a respectful atmosphere in all settings. This document includes policies to facilitate professional practice, including punctuality, accountability, effectual interpersonal behaviors (e.g., listening, acknowledging others, and emotional maturity), and demonstration of knowledge, skills, congenial teamwork, and decorum.

Technology

- During synchronous class times, cameras are to be on unless instructor indicates otherwise. Please mute microphones at start of sessions; instructors will guide the use of technology as the class progresses.
- While engaged in learning activities and during class sessions, apps (e.g., WhatsApp, Skype) and webpages other than D2L are to be **closed and phones out-of-sight with alerts and ringers turned off**. The continuous checking and distraction of sounds and screen deter from learning experiences.
In practice, workers who use their phones or connect to digital media for personal use are not present and engaged with their client.
- Students are **not to communicate (or start pages) on social media platforms** due to their exclusionary nature, in addition to other reasons covered in orientation. Demonstration of course outcomes includes group work in discussion forums, so the instructor must be able to assess participation and content.

Participation

Due to the short and intense nature of the MHA program, classes are planned as a continuum for building skills and knowledge required to meet the competencies for working in community mental health & addiction services. Assignments, D2L activities, and class sessions are integrated and necessary for meeting learning outcomes to successfully pass the course.

Participation in D2L and campus settings includes:

- Pre-class preparation completion, including reading materials as indicated in course Schedule
- Arriving to online classes and activities on time with regular attendance; late arrivals and absences are to be communicated to the instructor prior to class start time
- Effective interpersonal communication and engagement skills including active listening, respectful dialogue, attentiveness during presentations, and constructive and appropriate comments in class
- **All** electronic devices out-of-sight and muted unless previously arranged with instructor (see above)

Missed synchronous class time (on-campus or online at scheduled times):

- If a student is absent from all or part of a scheduled class, they are expected to complete learning activities to demonstrate outcomes for missed content (due **before** start of next class). Activities reflect knowledge and skills aligned with the course (e.g., viewing a video, collaborative groupwork). This ensures all learners experience the same content. Instructors must be confident that skills and knowledge meet competencies and learning outcomes for the field (every class is relevant).
- All missed content activities must be submitted for a final grade to be posted on Camlink; delay may impact a student's ability to register in post-requisite courses (e.g., MHA 140).

Repeated absence from class times will be discussed with the student. Successful course completion will be jeopardized if more than 15% of class time is missed (3-credit/45 hr. course = 6.75 hours).

STUDENT EVALUATION

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Content Reflections (Dropbox) & Discussion Posts (Discussion forums)	26%
Values Reflection (Dropbox)	10%
Handle with Care - memo, research & email, slide presentation	20%
Stress & Support	10%
Application & Reflection (A&R) Activities	34%
	TOTAL
	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>

Assignments will be used in class activities following due date; late deductions will apply if not available for use.

Details of assignments will be provided in D2L Content. Directions will include APA writing and format (e.g., headings, spacing, citations); other elements for grading include spelling, grammar, and length adherence. Resources for writing, formatting, and referencing are posted in D2L Content and are available at [Camosun Writing Centre](#) and [Library](#).

Assignments must be submitted in **Word or PDF** format; OpenOffice users can "save as" Microsoft Word (.doc/x) before posting. Students are responsible for maintaining an electronic copy of all submitted work until completion of MHA Program (coursework from one course may be foundational to another). It is strongly encouraged that students use the D2L Locker for work in-progress until uploaded for submission.

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All assignments and learning activities, including for missed class content, must be submitted within 24 hours of the last scheduled class and demonstrate knowledge and skill at a grade level of “C” or higher for consideration toward successful completion of the course. This includes D2L posts, in-class assignments, participation in skill development/labs, and presentation attendance/responses.

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Due Dates

Due dates are thoughtfully determined to maximize the application of concepts for students to demonstrate mastery as well as to provide a foundation to build on further course content (most courses are progressive in nature). Timing of due dates is significant: we want to avoid a student getting behind on assignments and learning activities as it may hinder a strong context for subsequent course concepts. To relate this to human services, those you are supporting may find it challenging to learn new concepts unless foundational knowledge is first attained.

Assignments are to be uploaded **electronically** (including D2L posts and reflections) to the designated area (e.g., Dropbox or Discussion forum) by 10pm on the due date, unless otherwise specified (some assignments will be submitted in hardcopy). This ensures that work is completed as a foundation for content. A copy of the assignment must be available for activities in class the next day.

Late Policy

In fairness to all students, late assignments are deducted 5% per 24-hour period after the first 15 minutes of due time. Students may arrange with the instructor for an extension of an assignment **before** the due date; verifying documentation is required. “Documentation” may take multiple forms (e.g., communication from a counselor/professional, emergency room discharge papers, and dated subpoena). Those with a *Letter of Accommodation* from the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) must have previously identified arrangements, as negotiated with the instructor at least 48 hours before due time. Typically, an extra two calendar days will be granted.

We recognize that there are multiple factors that could impact a students’ ability to complete assignments on time. It is assumed that students work diligently, may forego other enjoyable activities, and employ good time management skills to meet deadlines. Even with the best intentions and strategies, unexpected situations can arise. Instructors hold no judgment of students who make the decision to take a day or two more to complete an assignment. The late deduction is often well-worth gaining extra time to complete the assignment with better learning outcomes and decreased stress.

If a student needs extra time **without** documentation (e.g., *Letter of Accommodation*):

- the deduction is only on the mark obtained, not on the value of the assignment. For example, if the mark achieved is 18/20 and work submitted up to 24 hours late (by due time the next day), the late deduction is .9 (18 x 5%). If two days late, the deduction is 1.8 (18 x 10%).
- students are to send a brief email to the instructor before the class for which the assignment is due, as it may impact an activity that builds on the work. There is no need to explain; instructors know there are many circumstances that effect a student’s ability to complete on time.

We are supporting students to demonstrate competencies to successfully pass a course. If original submission does not achieve a mark of 60%, the student must re-submit to demonstrate knowledge/skill at “C” or higher.

Late deduction marks are applied for days an assignment is initially late, as well as days after the instructor returns an assignment to the student for re-submission. Assignments over 20 days past due do not earn marks (20 days x 5% = 100% deduction) but must be completed and assessed at a 60% knowledge/skill level. The intention is that a student demonstrates passing level knowledge/skill but they are not advantaged over other students who submitted their work on time and exceeded 60%.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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

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/>.

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

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. To contact the Office of Student Support: 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 <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.