

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: IST 205 Introduction to Indigenous Social Work

CLASS SECTION: B01

TERM: September 06-December 10, 2023

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): D2L Asynchronistic | On-campus Synchronistic

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

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>. However, if you're at all uncomfortable being on campus, please share your concerns with your Instructor. If needed, alternatives will be discussed.

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*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. However, as an online course, students must log into the course D2L at least once before the end of the first week Sunday by 11:59PM in lieu.*

## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Robert Mahikwa, BSW (UVic), MSW (UVic), PhD Student (UBC)

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

OFFICE: Online / D2L

HOURS: one-hour after each Virtual Classroom session, or by appointment Monday-Friday, please email

*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.*

## TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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*Camosun College serves the communities of southern Vancouver Island and the south Gulf Islands that are located within and on the traditional territories of Lekwungen (Esquimalt and Songhess), Malahat, Pacheedaht, Scia'new, T'Sou-ke, and W̱SÁNEĆ (Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseysum) Peoples.*

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the practice of social work beginning with a critical examination of the ethics, values, and historical development of the profession and its impacts on Indigenous communities. The course will examine the various levels and settings of social work practice, including individual, family and community systems and informal helping with particular emphasis on practice in Indigenous communities. The course accentuates self-reflection, which will help students to examine not only their identities, but also their interest, motivation, and capacity for social work practice.

PREREQUISITE(S): a "C" in ENGL 151, 161, 163, or 164

CO-REQUISITE(S): none EXCLUSION(S): none

RECOMMENDATION(S): completing at least one 100-level IST course and/or IST 206 is recommended.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Required Textbook: *Cyndy Baskin's (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) Strong Helpers' Teachings*

All other required and recommended course materials (readings, videos, website, discussions) will be available on the course D2L located at [www.camosun.ca](http://www.camosun.ca)

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

The following is subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the Instructor.

SCHEDULE	TOPIC	TEXTBOOK / READINGS	CLASS	ASSIGNMENTS
Week #1 Sept 05-10	<u>Module #1:</u> <i>Emergence of Indigenous Social Work</i> <i>content warning</i>	<u>Chapter #1</u> Starting at the Beginning (pg. 1-38) <i>all other assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #1 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	<b>Opening the Circle Introduction Posts (10%)</b> due <u>Sunday by 11:59PM</u>
Week #2 Sept 11-17	<u>Module #2:</u> <i>Working Wholistically: An Indigenous Social Work Approach</i>	Chapter #7 Holistic or Wholistic Approach <i>all other assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #2 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	<b>Sign-up for a Collaborative Group Project (effects group participation marks)</b> due <u>Wednesday by 12:00PM/NOON</u>
Week #3 Sept 18-24	<u>Module #3:</u> <i>Indigenous Social Work Values and Ethics</i>	Chapter #6 From an Ethical Place <i>all other assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #3 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	--

Week #4 Sept 25-Oct 01	<u>Module #4:</u> <i>Indigenous Social Work as Spiritwork</i>	Chapter #9 Spirituality: the Core of Indigenous Worldview <i>all other assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #4 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	<b>Collaborative Group Contract and Project Outline (15%)</b> due by <u>Saturday 11:59PM</u> *shared mark*
Week #5 Oct 02-08	<u>Module #5:</u> <i>Working with Indigenous Elders / Knowledge-Carriers in Social Work</i>	<i>all assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #5 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	--
Week #6 Oct 09-15	<u>Module #6:</u> <i>Work on Collaborative Group Project</i>	--	Virtual Circle #6 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	--
Week #7 Oct 16-22	<u>Module #7:</u> <i>Indigenous Social Work in Practice</i> <i>content warning</i>	<i>all assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #7 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	<b>Collaborative Group Project (25%)</b> due by Sunday <u>11:59PM</u> *shared mark*
Week #8 Oct 23-29	<u>Module #8:</u> <i>Working with Indigenous Substance (Mis/Ab)use, Addiction, Recovery</i> <i>content warning</i>	<i>all assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #8 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	<b>Self- and Peer-Assessed Participation (10%)</b> due by <u>Friday 11:59PM</u>   individual confidential mark
Week #9 Oct 30-Nov 05	<u>Module #9:</u> <i>Working with Indigenous Patients in Health Care</i> <i>content warning</i>	Chapter #10 Mental Health as Connected to the Whole <i>all assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #9 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	--
Week #10 Nov 06-12	<u>Module #10:</u> <i>Working with Indigenous Children and Parent(s)</i> <i>content warning</i>	Chapter #13 Caring for Families, Caring for Children <i>all other assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #10 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	--
Week #11 Nov 13-19	<u>Module #11:</u>	<i>all assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #11 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am	--

	Working with Indigenous Youth <i>content warning</i>		url is on d2L	
Week #12 Nov 20-26	<u>Module #12:</u> Working with Indigenous Peoples (Inmates) involved in Criminal Justice <i>content warning</i>	Chapter #11 Healing Justice <i>all other assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #12 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	--
Week #13 Nov 27- Dec 03	<u>Module #13:</u> Working with Two-Spirit Peoples <i>content warning</i>	Chapter #12 Proud Two-Spirit Princess Boy <i>all other assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	Virtual Circle #13 [on zoom] Tuesday 9:00-11:00am url is on d2L	<b>Exam Activation Code Request Form (required for activating the exam)</b> due by <u>Friday 11:59PM</u>
Week #14 Dec 04-10	<u>Module #14:</u> Indigenous Social Work Theory, Practice, and Reflection	<i>all assigned course materials will be available on D2L</i>	--	<b>Open Book Exam (30%)</b> due by <u>Saturday 11:59PM</u> *shared mark if applicable*  <b>Closing the Circle Reflection Posts (10%)</b> due by <u>Saturday 11:59PM</u>
<b>LATE ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS WILL NOT BE ACCPECTED FOR MARKING AFTER <u>SUN DEC 10 11:59PM</u></b>				

**Content Warnings:** indicate course content and course materials that students may find mentally, emotionally, physically, and/or spiritually disturbing or triggering. Topics may include (but not limited to) violence and sexual abuse against children, neglect, death/suicide, self-harming behaviours, addictions, trauma, colonial-traumas, inter-generational trauma, mental health issues, and so on. **Students are expected to have a self-care plan in place prior to viewing these topics. Students are expected to contact Camosun's Counselling Centre <https://camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre> for assistance if/where necessary.**

## EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Opening the Circle Introduction Posts	10%
Group Contract & Project Outline	15%
Collaborative Group Project	25%
Self- and Peer-Assessed Group Participation	10%
Open Book Exam	30%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Closing the Circle Reflection Posts	10%
<b>LATE ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS WILL NOT BE ACCPECTED FOR MARKING AFTER <u>SUN DEC 10 11:59PM</u></b>	
<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](#) policy for more information.  
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

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 noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](#). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

### GRADING SCALE AND GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENT EXPECTATIONS

The following standards closely aligns with the University of Victoria grading standards.

A+	90-100%	<b>Exceptional</b> - <i>Uniformly exemplary work that exceeds expectations in every respect; all assignment requirements exceeded; exceptional achievement of assignment objectives; fully meets or exceeds all criteria.</i>
A	85-89%	<b>Outstanding</b> - <i>All assignment requirements fully met or exceeded; outstanding achievement of all assignment objective; fully meets all criteria.</i>
A-	80-84%	<b>Excellent</b> - <i>All assignment requirements fully met; outstanding achievement of most objectives; fully meets most criteria; some minor revisions can be suggested.</i>
B+	77-79%	<b>Very Good</b> - All assignment requirements met; very good achievement of all assignment objectives; no major weaknesses, but flaws are evident in one or more of content, organization, development, or language use.
B	73-76%	<b>Good</b> - All assignment requirements met; good achievement of some objectives; fully meets most criteria of the B paper; some weaknesses in one or more of content, organization, development, or language use.
B-	70-72%	<b>Acceptable</b> - Meets minimum assignment requirements and expectations.
C+	65-69%	<b>Satisfactory</b> - Most assignment requirements met; some achievement of some objectives; major weaknesses in some of the content, organization, development, and language use.
C	60-64%	<b>Minimally Satisfactory</b> - Some assignment requirements met; only minimal achievement of assignment objectives; deficiencies come close to outweighing strengths.
D	50-59%	<b>Marginal</b> - Some assignment requirements met; marginal achievement of assignment objectives; largely unsatisfactory work; parts of the assignment

		may not be fully completed; serious flaws in content, organization, development, and language use.
F	0-49%	<b>Unsatisfactory/Incomplete</b> - Some requirements may be met; less than minimal achievement of assignment objectives.

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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### Week #1 “No Show” Attendance Requirements

Students are expected to log into the course D2L by Sunday 11:59PM week #1 to avoid being automatically unenrolled from the course. This is especially applicable if there is the course is full and has a waitlist.

### Assignment Outlines, Instructors, and Rubrics

All assignment outlines, instructions, and marking rubrics will be posted on the course D2L, and will be available to Students at all times during the course, from start to finish. Students are expected to read and follow all aspects of these documents when preparing and submitting their assignments.

### Submitting Assignments

Students are expected to submit all assignment on-time, using the appropriate online assignment dropbox on D2L. Assignments are also expected to be in a Microsoft Word document format unless otherwise indicated on D2L. Google documents or links will not be accepted for marking. No external links to assignments will not be accepted for marking unless otherwise indicated on D2L. Moreover, late assignments will be subject to *Late Penalties* unless otherwise indicated on D2L.

### Technical Issues

If a student is having technical issues at any point in the course, the student is expected to contact the appropriate technical support services right away to resolve the issues. If the technical issue involves D2L, the student is expected to contact the D2L Technical Support team directly ([desupport@camosun.ca](mailto:desupport@camosun.ca)).

If the technical issue impedes the student's ability to submit their assignment on-time for any reason, it is the student's responsibility to email a copy of their assignment to their instructor, and then contact the appropriate technical support service team to resolve their situation. To avoid late penalties, assignments must be emailed prior to the assignment due date. Assignments will be considered 'submitted' based on the email's date/time-stamp.

### Late Penalties

Unless otherwise stated in the course outline or D2L, the overall mark of an assignment which is submitted after its due dates will receive a -5% late penalty for each day the assignment is late; up to a maximum of 10-days. Assignments submitted after this point will not be accepted for marking. Furthermore, all assignments submitted after the final Sunday of the course will not be accepted for marking.

### Requests for Assignment Extensions

All *requests for extensions* must be submitted **at least 48-hours** prior to the assignment due date.

Requests for extension must be emailed to the instructor, and must include a brief rationale for the request, in addition to a preferred extended date and time (typically, no longer than 48-hours after the due date).

Students are limited to one assignment extension per semester. If an extension is granted, but the Student submits their assignment prior to the due date, the opportunity to make a future request remains available.

For assignments which are peer-to-peer-based (such as an online forum or discussion forum), a request for extension will not be granted given the time-sensitive and dialogue nature of these assignments.

If an extension is granted, it is the student's responsibility to adhere to the extended due date. If in the event an extended assignment is submitted late, the extended due date will be void and the assignment will be marked as though no extension was previously granted. Late penalties will apply.

If a Student is working in a pair or a small group for a particular assignment, a request for extension is unlikely to be approved given the peer-to-peer supportive nature assumed within a collaborative group work environment. However, if a Student is granted an extension for an assignment but then the Student later pairs up with at least one other person in the class to complete the assignment, the granted assignment extension is void unless otherwise approved by the Instructor.

### **Requests for Bonus/Extra Credit Assignments**

*In situations where a submitted assignment achieves a failing grade, a request to complete a bonus assignment may be sent to the Instructor; however, bonus assignments are typically only awarded to students who are at risk of failing of the course due to unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances.*

### **Requests for Course Extensions**

With regards to "I" letter grade requests (in harmony with e-1.5 and e-1.5.1), these requests are rare, and are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and often in consultation or collaboration with Academic Advising or other Camosun-employed academic success person/team, etc. At a minimum, these requests will only be considered if the Student has completed at least 70% of the course assignments. Note, these types of requests will only apply to unsubmitted assignments that do not involve peer-to-peer dialogue or collaboration, and whose expired due dates have not exceeded 10-days.

## **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/>.

Support Service	Website
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

### 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](http://camosun.ca/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.