

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ENGL-151: Academic Writing Strategies  
CLASS SECTION: RH 40  
TERM: Fall 2023  
COURSE CREDITS: 3  
DELIVERY METHOD(S): In-person

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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](#).

## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Thomas Stuart  
EMAIL: [stuartt@camosun.ca](mailto:stuartt@camosun.ca)  
OFFICE: Office hours via Zoom (arranged by appointment)  
[Zoom link: https://camosun-ca.zoom.us/j/61389164610](https://camosun-ca.zoom.us/j/61389164610)  
[Meeting ID: 613 8916 4610](#)

*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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This course provides core critical thinking, reading, research and writing skills transferable to academic disciplines. Students practice various forms of academic writing, including summary, critical analysis, and written research. Analysis of textual rhetoric, discourse, and style, along with academic essay-writing, develops self-awareness of methods of inquiry, critique, and reflection.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative
- B in ENGL 170

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

### EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

1. Form critical responses to ideas.

- Distinguish between fact and opinion.
- Analyse and articulate the reasoning behind an argument.
- Demonstrate a critical examination of ideas through close reading, inquiry, divergent thinking, evaluation of evidence and interpretation, as well as an understanding of rhetoric, reason, logic and word usage.
- Produce writing under exam conditions, as well as outside class.
- Differentiate academic and non-academic writing.

2. Write in an academic style common to multiple disciplines.

- Approach writing as an active exploration of multiple perspectives on a topic.
- Compose effective summaries.
- Select and use rhetorical patterns purposefully.
- Employ a comprehensive writing process, which includes prewriting, focusing, planning, multiple drafting, conferring, revising and editing/proofing.
- Develop an argument with a controlling thesis; write unified, coherent paragraphs, including effective introductions, transitions and conclusions in correct, clear, effective English.
- Develop effective, focused research questions.
- Demonstrate control, clarity and cohesion in the development and organization of ideas.
- Vary style purposefully for planned rhetorical strategies.
- Write for specific results.
- Critique his/her own and others' writing.

3. Read and analyze complex texts from various academic disciplines.

- Vary reading approaches for different purposes, such as personal response, persuasion, and criticism.
- Participate and engage in a dynamic, stimulating exchange of ideas based upon close textual readings.
- Discuss and debate text using terminology appropriate to the discipline and context of those texts.
- Analyze textual readings, which may include visual texts, by identifying controlling ideas, supporting details, dominant rhetorical pattern, subtext, tone and stylistic features.
- Summarize readings to reflect coherently the original's ideas, purpose, organization, and tone.
- Critically read your own and others' writing.

4. Demonstrate information literacy skills.

- Determine the nature and extent of the information needed.
- Know and use what information resources are available, in different formats.
- Use print and electronic resources effectively and efficiently.
- Evaluate sources for authority, relevance, reliability, currency and other criteria.
- Incorporate and integrate research through correct use of summary, paraphrase and quotation.
- Document sources fully and ethically, according to specified bibliographic conventions.

5. Develop self-awareness as an academic writer and contributor.

- Articulate one’s position in a critical debate of ideas.
- Reflect on one’s own writing for continuous improvement.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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**Please note:** There is no textbook for this course. Instead, readings will be provided as PDFs and links on D2L. Please be sure to check each week on the D2L site to access the correct readings.

All assigned readings in this course can be found in the course’s D2L site. They are all available through the Camosun Library website or taken from online textbooks and resources known as Open Educational Resources (OERs). OER materials are freely available for download or to read via web browser. Readings will be organized by module.

Most of the assigned readings will be chapters or sections from the following OER textbooks:

- *Technical Writing Essentials*  
<https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/technicalwriting/>
- *Writing for Success*  
<https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/front-matter/publisher-information/>
- *Why Write: A Guide for Students in Canada*  
<https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/>

Scheduled readings can be found in each week’s module on D2L, as well as in the course schedule below.

## 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.

WEEK	TOPIC	NOTES
<u>Week 1:</u> Sep 7	What is Academic Writing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 2 of <i>Why Write?</i>, “Writing Projects” (<a href="https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/1-1-learning-goals/">https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/1-1-learning-goals/</a>)</li> </ul>	
<u>Week 2:</u> Sep 12 & 14	What is Academic Writing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joan Didion, “On Keeping a Notebook” (<a href="https://accessinghigherground.org/handouts2013/HTCTU%20Alt%20Format%20Manuals/Processing%20PDF%20Sample%20Files/00%20On%20Keeping%20a%20Notebook.pdf">https://accessinghigherground.org/handouts2013/HTCTU%20Alt%20Format%20Manuals/Processing%20PDF%20Sample%20Files/00%20On%20Keeping%20a%20Notebook.pdf</a>)</li> </ul>	<b>Personal Essay (Fri, Sep 15)</b>

WEEK	TOPIC	NOTES
Week 3: Sep 19 & 21	Writing in a Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNC Writing Center, “Summary – Using It Wisely” (<a href="https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/summary-using-it-wisely/">https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/summary-using-it-wisely/</a>)</li> <li>U of Toronto University College Writing Centre, “Using Quotations” (<a href="https://www.uc.utoronto.ca/quotations">https://www.uc.utoronto.ca/quotations</a>)</li> </ul>	
Week 4: Sep 26 & 28	Writing in a Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teju Cole, “Google’s Macchia” (<a href="https://thenewinquiry.com/blog/googles-macchia/">https://thenewinquiry.com/blog/googles-macchia/</a>)</li> </ul>	
Week 5: Oct 3 & 5	Research and Curiosity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 4.3 of <i>Why Write?</i>, “Why Do You Learn to Research?” (<a href="https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/4-3-why-do-you-learn-to-research/">https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/4-3-why-do-you-learn-to-research/</a>)</li> </ul>	<b>Research Consultation Summary (Fri, Oct 6)</b>
Week 6: Oct 10 & 12	Research and Curiosity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 5.2 of <i>Technical Writing Essentials</i>, “Finding and Evaluating Research Sources” (<a href="https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/technicalwriting/chapter/findingevaluating/">https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/technicalwriting/chapter/findingevaluating/</a>)</li> </ul>	
Week 7: Oct 17 & 19	Research and Curiosity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 4.5 of <i>Why Write?</i>, “Quick Guide to Undergraduate Research for an Assignment” (<a href="https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/4-5-quick-guide-to-undergraduate-research-for-an-assignment/">https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/4-5-quick-guide-to-undergraduate-research-for-an-assignment/</a>)</li> </ul>	<b>Mid-Term Test (Thu, Oct 19)</b>
Week 8: Oct 24 & 26	Developing an Idea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 9.1 of <i>Writing for Success</i>, “Developing a Strong, Clear Thesis Statement” (<a href="https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/9-1-developing-a-strong-clear-thesis-statement/">https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/9-1-developing-a-strong-clear-thesis-statement/</a>)</li> </ul>	
Week 9: Oct 31 & Nov 2	Developing an Idea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 8.1 of <i>Writing for Success</i>, “Applying Prewriting Models” (<a href="https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/8-1-apply-prewriting-models/">https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/8-1-apply-prewriting-models/</a>)</li> </ul>	
Week 10: Nov 7 & 9	Writing Persuasively <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 9.3 of <i>Writing for Success</i>, “Organizing Your Writing” (<a href="https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/9-3-organizing-your-writing/">https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/9-3-organizing-your-writing/</a>)</li> </ul>	<b>Thesis Statement and Outline (Fri, Nov 17)</b>
Week 11: Nov 14 & 16	Writing Persuasively <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 3.5 of <i>Why Write?</i>, “Everything’s Persuasion” (<a href="https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/3-5-everythings-persuasion/">https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/whywriteguide/chapter/3-5-everythings-persuasion/</a>)</li> <li>Chapter 10.9 of <i>Writing for Success</i>, “The Purpose of Persuasive Writing” (<a href="https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/10-9-persuasion/">https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/10-9-persuasion/</a>)</li> <li>Kisautaq Leona Okakok, “Serving the Purpose of Education” (handout on D2L)</li> </ul>	
Week 12: Nov 21 & 23	Revising and Editing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 8.4 of <i>Writing for Success</i>, “Revising and Editing” (<a href="https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/8-4-revising-and-editing/">https://open.lib.umn.edu/writingforsuccess/chapter/8-4-revising-and-editing/</a>)</li> </ul>	<b>Draft Writing and Peer Review (Fri, Nov 24)</b>
Week 13: Nov 28 & 30	Revising and Editing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Revising and Wrapping Up” (handout on D2L)</li> </ul>	<b>Final Paper Due (Fri, Dec 1)</b>

WEEK	TOPIC	NOTES
Week 14: Dec 5 & 7	Review and Writing Support	

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
Participation	10%
Personal Essay (due Fri, Sep 15)	5%
Research Consultation and Summary (due Fri, Oct 6)	10%
Mid-Term Test (in-class Thu, Oct 19)	20%
Thesis Statement and Outline (due Fri, Nov 17)	15%
Draft Writing and Peer Review (due Fri, Nov 24)	15%
Final Research Paper (due Fri, Dec 1)	25%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

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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## 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.

### 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.