

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ENGL-170: Technical & Professional Communication 1

CLASS SECTION: ENGL 170-004

TERM: W2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Lab/Lecture

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](#).

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## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Alena Chercover

EMAIL: [chercovera@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:chercovera@camosun.bc.ca)

OFFICE: LACC 119A

HOURS: Monday 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm - Virtual

Wednesday 1:20 pm to 2:20 pm - LACC 119A

Thursday 2:20 pm to 3:20 pm - LACC 119A

*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 focuses on writing for the workplace, including writing formats, structure, style, and document design with a comprehensive review of grammar, punctuation and usage. Students will write workplace correspondence, short reports, instructions and job-search formats in a clear, concise, purposeful, unambiguous and grammatically correct way.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

### EXCLUSION(S):

Notes: Only one of ENGL 170 or ENGL 175 may be used towards a Camosun College credential.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

1. Write workplace correspondence, reports, and manuals that use correct workplace-writing style, structure, format, and ethical standards.
  - a) Present information appropriately either using the direct (immediate) approach (under normal circumstances) or the indirect approach (for bad news and some persuasive situations).
  - b) Write in a style that meets the informational needs and backgrounds of various audiences.
  - c) Write in a style that exhibits brevity and clarity and avoids language of low- information content.
  - d) Employ numbers, units, equations, and abbreviations correctly in documents.
  - e) Apply ethical standards and requirements (copyright law, plagiarism, sensitive material) to all writing.
  
2. Plan, organize, structure, and write workplace formats for a variety of situations.
  - a) Write workplace correspondence (letters, memos, e-mails) appropriate to audience and situation.
  - b) Write workplace reports appropriate to audience and situation.
  - c) Compose effective job-search documents related to specific job descriptions and situations.
  - d) Write an illustrated user-manual that employs clear instructions, procedures, and graphics that can be followed easily and accurately.
  
3. Design technical documents for high readability and appeal using word-processing software and techniques.
  - a) Articulate idea relationships and relative importance in technical documents by employing short paragraphs, headings, lists, effective spacing, and layout.
  - b) Depict data efficiently in technical documents using charts, graphs, tables, and other graphics.
  
4. Write all technical documents using grammatically correct sentences and paragraphs and using Standard English and spelling.
  - a) Demonstrate mastery of advanced grammar concepts by completing practice exercises.
  - b) Recognize and correct errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation in own writing and writing of others.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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ENGL 170 Course Pack (Available on 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.

Date	Wednesday, 2:30-3:50, CBA 202	Friday, 2:30-3:50, CBA 285
<b>Week 1</b> Jan. 10 & Jan. 12	Introduction to the Course  <b>Due: Diagnostic</b>	Genre and Principles of Technical Writing
<b>Week 2</b> Jan. 17 & Jan. 19	Letter Formats and The Direct Approach  <i>Grammar Block 1</i>	Direct Approach Writing Lab  <i>Grammar Block 2</i>  <b>Meet in CBA 214</b>
<b>Week 3</b> Jan. 24 & Jan. 26	Revision and Proofreading Techniques  <i>Grammar Block 3</i>	The Indirect Approach  <i>Grammar Block 4</i>  <b>Due: Direct Approach Letter (8%)</b>
<b>Week 4</b> Jan. 31 & Feb. 2	Parallelism, Vertical Lists, and Document Design  <i>Grammar Block 5</i>	Indirect Approach Writing Lab  <i>Grammar Block 6</i>  <b>Meet in CBA 214</b>
<b>Week 5</b> Feb. 7 & Feb. 9	The Workplace Memo and Short Report  <i>Grammar Block 7 &amp; 8</i>	Illustrating Workplace Reports  <i>Grammar Block 9</i>  <b>Due: Indirect Approach Letter (9%)</b>
<b>Week 6</b> Feb. 14 & Feb. 16	Grammar Review/In-Class Memo Discussion	<b>Due: In-class Memo #1 (15%)</b>  <b>Meet in CBA 214</b>
<b>Week 7</b> Feb. 21 & Feb. 23	<b>Reading Week</b>	
<b>Week 8</b> Feb. 28 & Mar. 1	<b>Due: Grammar Quiz (8%)</b>	Collaborative Writing and The New Technology Report
<b>Week 9</b> Mar. 6 & Mar. 8	Library Workshop: Locating and Evaluating Sources	Research and Citation  <i>Grammar Block 10</i>
<b>Week 10</b> Mar. 13 & Mar. 15	Research Report Writing Lab  <i>Grammar Block 11</i>	Job Search  <i>Grammar Block 12</i>

<b>Week 11</b> Mar. 20 & Mar. 22	Research Report Writing Lab  <i>Grammar Block 13</i>	The User Manual  <b>Due: New Technology Report (15%)</b>
<b>Week 12</b> Mar. 27 & Mar. 29	User Manual Writing Lab	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>Week 13</b> Apr. 3 & Apr. 5	<b>Due: In-class Memo # 2 (15%)</b>  <b>Due: Resume and Cover Letter Due (Optional)</b>	User Manual Writing Lab  <b>Meet in CBA 214</b>
<b>Week 14</b> Apr. 10 & Apr. 12	Grammar Review	<b>Due: Final Grammar Test (12%)</b>  <b>Due: User Manual (15%)</b>  <b>Meet in CBA 214</b>

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

Assignment	Weight	Due Date
Diagnostic	Complete/Incomplete	Wednesday, Jan. 10
Direct Approach Letter	8%	Friday, Jan. 26
Indirect Approach Letter	9%	Friday, Feb. 9
In-Class Memo 1	30% (or 15% if combined with in-class memo 2)	Friday, Feb. 16
Grammar Quiz 1	8%	Wednesday, Feb. 28
New Technology Report	15%	Friday, Mar. 22
Resume and Cover Letter	Optional	Wednesday, Apr. 3
In-Class Memo 2 (optional)	15%	Wednesday, Apr. 3
Grammar Quiz 2	12%	Friday, Apr. 12
User Manual	15%	Friday, Apr. 12
Professionalism	3%	Ongoing

**NOTE: Students must submit all major assignments to pass this course.**

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>

### You can expect your instructor to

- teach to the course goals
- give clear instructions for assignments and exercises
- advise and support students in their coursework
- treat students with respect
- be available during office hours or, if necessary, arrange an alternative time to meet
- evaluate students fairly, based on criteria provided to students beforehand
- give useful feedback on assignments

### Your instructor will expect you to

- keep up with course material in person and on D2L
- prepare for class by completing readings and assigned work on time
- actively participate in class activities
- ask questions if you need clarification
- submit your own, original work
- use instructor comments and feedback to improve future work
- cooperate with and act respectfully toward other students and the instructor
- communicate with the instructor about problems or concerns as soon as possible

### Additional Expectations

#### Guidelines for preparing and submitting written assignments

All formal written assignments for this course should be typed according to the assignment requirements. All papers should be clearly marked with your name and submitted on time, **as a PDF**, through D2L Assignments.

If you would like to receive in-line feedback on a written assignment, you must also submit a hard copy of your assignment at the beginning of class on the due date.

**Late and Missing Assignments** – Late assignments submitted up to 5 school days past the due date, will lose 10%, and will receive a grade only (no comments). Assignments submitted more than five days late will lose 40%. If you must hand in something late, please communicate with me by email beforehand. Requests for extensions made prior to the assignment due date will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

You must complete all assignments to pass the course.

#### Plagiarism, Cheating, and AI-Based Writing Tools

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Please ensure you submit your own, original work.

Generative AI, like Chat GPT, may NOT be used to compose writing assignments in ENGL 170; our course learning outcomes require individual (human) thought and application through all stages of the writing process. Work that contains hallmarks of AI-generated text may be run through AI detection software (though the results will only be used to support other existing evidence). Since submitting work that is all or partially composed by generative AI is a form of academic misconduct, the related

assignment will receive a grade of zero and may elicit further consequences. Please review Camosun's policies on academic honesty and plagiarism, which you can find here:

<http://camosun.ca/learn/school/arts-science/images/Arts%20and%20Science%20Academic%20Honesty%20Guidelines.pdf>.

**For Your Records** – Be sure to keep all rough drafts, final drafts and graded assignments until the end of term. In the event of a computer failure or a grade discrepancy, these documents will be critical. Always, always back up your files.

**Collaborative Writing** – In this course, you will be asked to co-author one or more documents. Any sort of collaborative effort demands a lot of those involved. Consider your strengths and weaknesses as a team member, and ensure you put in your best effort while accomplishing the tasks laid out for you in the team-based assignments. Every team member is accountable for the finished product.

**In-Class Writing** -- Under normal circumstances, students who cannot pass the cumulative in-class assignments will not pass the course. "Cumulative" here means multiple in-class assignments throughout the semester. Students who are concerned about this course requirement are encouraged to seek guidance and clarification from the instructor as early as possible.

## 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.