

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-110: Logic and Critical Thinking

CLASS SECTION: 003

TERM: Winter 2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): All class meetings are in Young 303C.

Lecture Wednesdays and Fridays, 1:30-2:20

Seminar B: Wednesdays, 2:30-3:20; Seminar A: Fridays, 2:30-3:20

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](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Frank Jankunis

EMAIL: jankunisf@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Y319

HOURS: Wednesdays and Fridays 3:30-4:00

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

This course examines logical fallacies and issues such as distinctions between belief and attitude, objective and subjective, truth and validity. Real-life issues will be emphasized. In all cases the key question will be, have I been given good reasons for accepting a belief?

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

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

1. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of arguments effectively.
2. Write and reason with clarity and precision.
3. Detect bias and fallacious reasoning in arguments.
4. Apply basic logical principles to the evaluation of evidence and the conducting of inquiry.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Required textbook: MacDonald, Chris, and Lewis Vaughn. (2023) *The Power of Critical Thinking*. 6th Canadian Edition. Oxford UP.

The required text can be purchased in hard copy or e-copy at the campus bookstore.

Any other required materials will be posted or linked on the course's D2L page.

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

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the Instructor. An up-to-date working copy of the following schedule will be posted on D2L.

Unless otherwise noted, the page numbers provided refer to the textbook.

WEEK/DATES	TOPICS and READINGS	OTHER NOTES
Week 1 Jan. 10 & 12	Introduction to Logic and Critical Thinking <u>Jan. 10</u> Chapter 1, p. 1-10 <u>Jan. 12</u> Remainder of Chapter 1	
Week 2 Jan. 17 & 19	The "Environment" of Critical Thinking and Making Sense of Arguments <u>Jan 17</u> Chapter 2, p. 33-45	

WEEK/DATES	TOPICS and READINGS	OTHER NOTES
	<u>Jan. 19</u> Remainder of Chapter 2 and Chapter 3, p. 62-65	
Week 3 Jan. 24 & 26	Making Sense of Arguments <u>Jan. 24</u> Chapter 3, p. 65-80 <u>Jan. 26</u> Remainder of Chapter 3	
Week 4 Jan. 31 & Feb. 2	Quiz 1 and Reasons for Belief and Doubt <u>Jan. 31</u> Quiz 1 <u>Feb. 2</u> Chapter 4, p. 116-140	
Week 5 Feb. 7 & Feb. 9	Reasons for Belief and Doubt and Faulty Reasoning <u>Feb. 7</u> Remainder of Chapter 4 <u>Feb. 9</u> Chapter 5, p. 165-174	Assignment #1 due Feb. 9
Week 6 Feb. 14 & Feb. 16	Faulty Reasoning <u>Feb. 14</u> Chapter 5, p. 174-180 <u>Feb. 16</u> Remainder of Chapter 5	
Week 7 Reading Week. No class.		
Week 8 Feb. 28 & Mar. 1	Quiz and Categorical Logic <u>Feb. 28</u> Quiz 2 <u>Mar. 1</u> Chapter 6, p. 201-220	
Week 9 Mar. 6 & Mar. 8	Categorical Logic and Propositional Logic <u>Mar. 6</u> Remainder of Chapter 6	

WEEK/DATES	TOPICS and READINGS	OTHER NOTES
	<u>Mar. 8</u> Chapter 7, p, 235-243	
Week 10 Mar. 13 & Mar. 15	Propositional Logic <u>Mar. 13</u> Chapter 7, p. 243-268 <u>Mar. 15</u> Chapter 7, p. 243-268	
Week 11 Mar. 20 & Mar. 22	Quiz 3 and Inductive Reasoning <u>Mar. 20</u> Quiz 3 <u>Mar. 22</u> Chapter 8, p. 269-288	
Week 12 Mar. 27. No class Mar. 29 for Good Friday	Inductive Reasoning <u>Mar. 27</u> Chapter 8, p. 289-295	Assignment #2 due Mar. 27
Week 13 Apr. 3 & Apr. 5	Inductive Reasoning and Explanation <u>Apr. 3</u> Remainder of Chapter 8 <u>Apr. 5</u> Chapter 9, p. 328-357	
Week 14 Apr. 10 & Apr. 12	Explanation <u>Apr. 10</u> Remainder of Chapter 9 & Chapter 10, p. 372-390 <u>Apr. 12</u> TBD	
Final Exam Period	Final Exam scheduled by the College	

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). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Quizzes (3 at 15% each)	45%
Written Assignments (2 at 10% each)	20%
Weekly Seminar Activities	10%
Final Exam	25%
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>

Quizzes

Quizzes will be written in the lecture component of class on the dates specified in the course schedule above. Missed quizzes can be rescheduled only in truly exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances should be communicated to me by email as soon as is practical. Supporting documentation may be required.

Written Assignments

There are two written assignments this semester. For these assignments students will select an argument they find on a “real-life” issue of interest to them, then assess it using the skills and concepts learned in class. Further details and instructions will be distributed on D2L.

Weekly Seminar Activities

After each lecture there will be a seminar meeting. Students are registered for either Seminar A, which meets after lecture on Fridays, or for Seminar B, which meets after lecture on Wednesdays. Students may only attend the seminar in which they are registered unless other arrangements have been made.

Seminar assignments will be completed on paper and handed in at the end of class. **Students should bring their textbook, paper, and a pen or pencil for seminar.** Seminar assignments will require both group work as well as individual work.

Active participation in the completion of the seminar assignment is expected. Students should bring any concerns about their participation in seminar to me as soon as possible.

A seminar grade will be earned each week by the completion of the seminar assignment to expectations. A maximum of one seminar this semester can be missed no questions asked without any impact to your Weekly Seminar Activity grade. This is to account for unpredictable and/or unavoidable absences or events. The remainder of the seminar grades will be weighted equally to arrive at the final grade for Weekly Seminar Activities.

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class meetings and to be engaged with class activities. Absences from class due to medical reasons should be communicated to me by email as soon as is practical. Supporting documentation may be required.

Technology

Technology may aid but must not distract within the classroom learning environment. Students are responsible to acquire any information they miss as a result of missing class.

This course uses D2L. Students should familiarize themselves with D2L and check in to the course website regularly for content, grades, and announcements. Instructor-provided materials and any student content located on the course D2L page should not be distributed or posted elsewhere.

Coursework is intended to be completed individually and without the use of ChatGPT or similar AI technologies.

Writing Expectations

All written coursework is expected to meet academic writing standards. See below or consult with me for resources to help with writing and other learning skills.

Classroom Conduct

We will spend some time developing the norms of our classroom space during the first week. Respectful communication is required at all times.

Late policy

Seminar work cannot be accepted late. Other late coursework will be assessed a deduction unless there are truly extraordinary circumstances.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

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](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. To contact the Office of Student Support: 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.