

Course Outline English (ELD) 075 (Section 03): Grammar for Composition 2015 Fall

Instructor: Bruce McCormack Telephone: 370-3454

E-mail: mccormac@camosun.bc.ca

Class Times and Location(s): Tuesday (Fisher 210) – 4:00 to 5:50 p.m.

& Thursday (Fisher 310) – 4:00 to 5:50 p.m.

The Course starts on Thursday, Sept. 17 and ends on Thursday, Nov. 26. 42 hours over 10 ½ weeks, finishing two weeks prior to most courses.)

(10 ½ Weeks / Week 1 = Thursday, Sept. 13 (only 2 hours in the first week) Weeks 2 to 11: 4 hours / week = 40 hours = 42 hours in length)

Office & Office Hours: In Ewing 210 as follows:

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Monday and Wednesday: 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday: 11:00 to 11:30 p.m. Friday: 10:00 to 11:00 by appointment only

Required Texts: A Commonsense Guide to Grammar and Usage by Beason & Lester – 7th Edition (Available in the Fisher Bookstore)

Recommended Reading: Eat, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance to Punctuation by Lynne Truss (available in the English Help Centre – Ewing 202)

Important Note about this Course Outline:

On the following pages, the course is explained in detail. Assignments, marking, and the method of determining final grades are covered. If you do not understand any part of this outline, or if you have any questions, **please ask the instructor** for clarification. The instructor will abide by this course outline and students are expected to read and understand its contents.

Course Description:

This course focuses on grammar for college level writing. Offered in a workshop format, it will help students whose first language is other than English to express analytical and critical thought in clear, grammatically correct sentences. Written and oral assignments will both serve to build and reinforce the student's ability to use English grammar correctly and effectively.



Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion, the successful student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the form and function of English grammatical structures:

- (a) By applying self-monitoring techniques to identify and correct errors during the revision process.
- (b) By demonstrating an accurate application of grammatical rules with minimal assistance from texts or teachers

How to Benefit from English (ELD) 075

There are two approaches to mastering the grammar of English or any other language. The first approach is to understand the grammar and grammatical rules of the language; the second approach is to apply those rules to your use of the language and to learn to recognize errors and error patterns. Consequently, students in this course will do two things: They will study the rules of English grammar and also apply those rules to their own writing. However, research into student writing demonstrates that the second approach is the more important of the two approaches, so we will focus most of our energy on error detection and correction.

Experience has shown us that your success in this course depends primarily on the effort you make. If you do all the assignments, attend all or most of the classes, and actively participate in class activities, it is very likely that you will do well in this course. Moreover, you will not only gain a lot of personal satisfaction and enjoyment from your accomplishment, but also develop much greater confidence in your ability to write grammatically correct English compositions.

Evaluation – Major Quizzes (Midterm & Final):

50% (Week 8 – Oct. 29) + 50% (Week 12 – Nov. 26)

Fall 2015 Schedule

Note: When it comes to grammar, each student has his or her own strengths and weaknesses. With a given grammar point, student A has a clear understanding of how to correctly apply a given grammar point in his or her writing, but student B needs more practice. On another grammar point, the situation is reversed. **Therefore**, students will be encouraged to monitor themselves, i.e. to learn to recognize when they need more practice on a particular grammar point and then to do follow-up work, using the exercises in our textbook as needed.



Week-by-week Textbook References for In-class & Follow-up Work (Tentative)

Reference: 'A Commonsense Guide to Grammar and Usage' (7th Edition) by Beason & Lester.

Week 1: No classes. This course begins in Week 2 of the semester (on Thurs., Sept 17)

Week 2: Thursday, Sept 17 - Understanding and practicing the Four Sentence Types
Interviewing another student and taking notes. Writing a paragraph about the student you have interviewed (using various types of sentences)

Week 3: Tues, Sept 22** - Please bring your textbook from this day on** & Thurs. Sept 24 - How to make the best use of our textbook. Using the ESL Index – page 381 Part One: Basic Grammar and Parts of Speech

Part Two: Unit One: Understanding the Basic Sentence / + Fragments & Run-ons

Week 4: Tues., Sept 29 & Thurs., Oct 1 - Unit Two: Making Subjects and Verbs Agree / Agreement with *There is* and *There was*

Week 5: Tues., Oct 6 & Thurs., Oct 8 - Unit Three: Using Correct Verb Tenses

Oct. 6 – Lesson 6: Present, Past and Tense Shifting

Oct. 8 – The Past and the Perfect Tenses

Week 6: Tues., Oct 13 & Thurs., Oct 15

Unit Four: Understanding Pronouns / Lesson 9 - Vague Pronouns: *This, That* and *It*

Unit Five: Using Commas Correctly
+ Using the Correct Article (handout)

Week 7: Tues., Oct 20 & Thurs., Oct 22: Unit 5: Using Commas Correctly

Week 8: Tues., Oct 27 & Thurs., Oct 29: Unit Seven: Using Other Punctuation and Capitalizing Words

MIDTERM - QUIZ - (in the second class of the week - Oct 29)

and Unit 8: Writing Clear Sentences - Parallelism

Week 9: Tues., Nov 3 & Thurs., Nov 5: Unit 8: Writing Clear Sentences -

Parallelism / Dangling Modifiers

Unit 9: Documenting Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism / Lesson 28:

Using Direct Quotations and Paraphrases

Week 10: Tues. Nov 10 & Thurs., Nov 12:

Unit 9: Documenting Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism

Lesson 29: Citing Sources Correctly

Week 11: Tues., Nov 17 & Thurs., Nov 19:

Unit 10: A Commonsense Writing Guide

Week 12: Tues., Nov 24: Unit 10: A Commonsense Writing Guide continued

+ Review (Question / Answer) Troubleshooting Key Grammar Issues in Essay Writing Thursday, Nov 26: FINAL QUIZ (in the second class of the week)

Thursday, December 10: Final course grades will be posted on Camlink by this date.



Important Information about Grades:

Evaluation / Grading:

Evaluation / Grading.			
Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point
90-100	A+	Superior level of achievement	9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+	High level of achievement	6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+	Satisfactory level of achievement	3
60-64	С	Sufficient level of achievement to proceed to next level o study	2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisit	
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved	0
	I	Work is not complete, but instructor has granted an extension. Mark will become an "F" unless the work is completed within six weeks	

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- **1.** Except in cases of verified illness or other legitimate reasons, <u>all tests must be completed on the test date</u>.
- 2. There are no make-up tests in ELD 075 except in the case of <u>verifiable</u> medical issues or other circumstances which the instructor accepts. If you are sick, please telephone or email the instructor <u>before the class</u> or relay a message through a friend or classmate regarding your absence. That said, make-up tests <u>will only take place at the end of the semester</u> for students who have with one or two exceptions demonstrated a commitment to the course in terms of attendance, speaking English in class and a regular pattern of meeting deadlines.



3. Without consistent attendance, you will likely not do well in this course. Our experience has shown us that most of our students who receive a B, B+, A -, A or A + in the course have attended all or almost all of the classes. In other words, there is direct correlation (link) between attendance and good grades.

The ELD Department has an **Academic Progress and Attendance Policy** designed to enhance a learner's likelihood of success. Students should become familiar with the content of this policy. It has been printed on the last two pages of this course outline. It contains information regarding the importance of <u>attendance</u>.

- **4.** Students who have completed all major assignments and whose total mark for the term is between 50 59% will be awarded a "D" Grade (Pass). This is a passing grade; however, it is not a prerequisite for students planning on continuing into University Transfer courses or Technology / Business courses. A "C" grade is the minimum prerequisite for higher level courses.
- **5.** In cases where the total mark is below 50%, students will receive an "F" grade. Students who drop out of the course <u>without officially withdrawing at Registration</u> will receive an "F" grade.
- **6. ALL major tests** must be completed to fulfill the requirements of this course and receive a passing grade.
- 7. Students may not use recording devices in the classroom without the prior permission of the instructor. However, the instructor's permission is not required when the use of a recording device is sanctioned by the College's Resource Centre for Students with Disabilities in order to accommodate a student's disability and when the instructor has been provided with an instructor notification letter which specifies the use of a recording device. Recordings made in the classroom are for the student's personal use only, and distribution of recorded material is prohibited.
- 8. Electronic devices (electronic dictionaries, smart phones, etc.) CANNOT be used during tests or other in-class assignments without the permission of the instructor. The instructor may request that all smart phones be placed at the front of the class while a test is being written as well as when it is determined that they will be a distraction.
- **9. Plagiarism:** All assignments must be written entirely by you. Work that is <u>copied</u> from another source, <u>done in whole</u> or <u>in part</u> by another person, or <u>fixed and edited</u> by another person is plagiarism theft of another person's ideas / effort / writing. To avoid plagiarism, don't get a "tutor" to edit your work and don't "borrow" material from the



Internet. Be aware that your instructor will be familiar with your style and level of writing from your in-class work and knows how to use the Internet, too. A first instance of plagiarized work will result in a reduced or zero grade for the assignment. A recurrence of plagiarism will likely result in a failing grade for the course. This policy follows the Camosun College Calendar – Student Conduct section.

Important Dates:

September 17 (Thursday) to November 26 (Thursday) – <u>our course dates</u> **Final letter grades will be posted on Camlink** by Thursday, December 10th.