



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of English

ENGL-130-X02
Academic Writing Strategies
Fall 2019

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/engl.html>

Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Tom Nienhuis
(b) Office hours	THU 11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment
(c) Location	TBD
(d) Phone	Alternative: _____
(e) E-mail	Via D2L Email
(f) Website	_____

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Writing Formats

- write single and multi-paragraph reports for various purposes and audiences
- select and use report formats purposefully (progress, analysis, incident, field, complaint)

Writing Techniques

- write more effectively by employing various stages of the writing process which may include pre-writing, planning, drafting, conferring, revising and editing/ proofreading

Writing Structure

- shape content purposefully using the direct writing approach (summary, background, facts, action or results)

Writing Style

- analyze the informational needs and backgrounds of various audiences and vary style purposefully through manipulating language and vocabulary
- write in a style that exhibits brevity, clarity and plain language

Writing Integrity

- recognize and correct errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation in own writing and writing of others

Reading Strategies

- learn to read using four techniques (skimming, scanning, analysis and interpretation)
- recognize and evaluate different rhetorical modes
- quote, paraphrase and summarize correctly with critical understanding of selected readings
- evaluate argument, support, and evidence for validity, reliability, currency, and objectivity
- distinguish between implicit and explicit messages in technical and professional communications

3. Required Materials

(a) Texts

- ENGL 130 Course pack

(b) Other

- A binder or folder to store handouts
- A good dictionary

4. Course Content and Schedule

Class Meetings:

- TUE 2:00pm – 3:50pm PA 102
- FRI 2:00pm – 3:50pm CBA 287

See the ENGL 130 Schedule for an outline of class topics.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Assignment	Weight	Due Date
Orientation Quiz	1%	Friday, Sep. 6
Diagnostic	C/I	Friday, Sep. 6
Paragraph Assignment	6%	Tuesday, Sep.17
Technical Description	10%	Friday, Sep. 27
Grammar Quiz	12%	Friday, Oct. 4
In-Class Memo	15%	Tuesday, Oct. 22
Summary	10%	Tuesday, Nov. 5
Executive Summary ^C	10%	Tuesday, Nov. 12
Peer Edit x 2	2%	Friday, Nov. 1 & Friday, Nov. 29
Memo Report ^C	15%	Tuesday, Dec. 3
Final Grammar Test	15%	Friday, Dec. 6
Participation	4%	Ongoing

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

English 130 Class Policies

Attendance

- Your attendance and participation are essential to your success in this course. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to know the material I have covered and to complete the assignment due. **Please contact me if you are going to miss or be late to a class.** Failure to do so will result in a reduced Professionalism grade. See the Professionalism rubric for more information.

Electronics

- You must turn off and put away all electronics for the duration of every class, unless I instruct you otherwise. Phones must be out of sight. If you are texting or surfing in class, I will ask you to leave. If you require an electronic device for note-taking purposes, please speak to me to negotiate a usage agreement.

In-Class Assignments

- Students who are absent without medical documentation will receive a zero for any missed work. If you must be absent for some important reason, please make sure to let me know BEFORE the class day in which the in-class writing occurs.
- Students must receive an average of at least 60% on in-class writing to pass the course.

Out of Class Assignments

- Late assignments will only be accepted for one week past the due date, will lose 10%, and will receive a grade only (no comments). If you must hand in something late, submit the work to my office (slide under the door).
- Requests for extensions (up to 5 days) made prior to the assignment due date will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- I do not allow re-writes of any kind. We do not have the time.
- Please provide a print copy of your work unless you are instructed to do otherwise.
- Please do not email assignments to me. If you are asked to submit an assignment electronically, please submit your work to the appropriate D2L drop box.

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. If you don't already have cloud-based file storage, consider using one of the many file storage platforms available.

TIPS for Success in English 130

Be punctual and be prepared

It is important that you have completed all assigned readings before coming to class...on time. Since many of the grammar activities will be assigned as homework, it is important that you complete the work, so that you can actively participate in our discussion during the next class.

Do not procrastinate on your assignments

You will be asked to take a mature, self-directed approach to your learning in this class. Some assignments (like the grammar) will have very little lecture time allotment; you must be self-regulating and self-scheduling. Your assignments, too, will require multiple drafts and possibly consultation with me, the Writing Centre, or the English Language Development Centre. Start work on them early so that you can properly plan, research, and write in enough time to also revise and polish. It is your responsibility to read assignment instructions carefully to make sure you understand exactly what you are being asked to do. If you have questions about an assignment, ask them early in the process; it will save you time in the long run.

Submit assignments with correct formatting and documentation

Small technical details of presentation do matter. Formatting guidelines and citation minutiae may seem finicky, but mastering them is not difficult. Correct formatting and documentation adds credibility to your work by establishing your professionalism.

Make a reliable friend in class

While students who regularly attend class fare much better in the course, I do understand that you may need to miss a class or two (hopefully not more than that). I will be taking attendance and I expect that if you need to miss a class for some reason, you will send me an email informing me of the reason. You are responsible for catching yourself up before returning. The first step is to consult with a friend who has reliable notes and who can provide you with a recap of the lecture. The second step is to consult D2L where I will have posted the day's lecture slides and any materials I provided students in class. Come and see me in my office hours if you need help understanding the material you have missed, but only do this after you have tried to work through it on your own.

Make use of office hours

Your writing strengths and weaknesses are uniquely yours. Come and talk to me if you are having trouble with your grammar units or if you are unsure about any aspect of an assignment. Consultation is also useful after assignments have been graded; the best way to improve for the next assignment is to make sure you understand how to avoid the difficulties in the current assignment. You need not make an appointment if you come during scheduled hours. If those hours do not work for you, email me and we can try to find another time or another way to chat.

Class Policies and Tips for Success adapted from K. Kerins, K. Lemieux

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
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90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.