

## **CAMOSUN COLLEGE - COURSE OUTLINE**

### **English 083E - Understanding Academic Lectures: An Interdisciplinary Lecture Series Winter, 2003**

**Instructor:** Elizabeth West

**Office:** Paul 339

**Phone:** 370 - 3358

**Email:** [west@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:west@camosun.bc.ca)

**Office Hours:** Office Hours: Tuesday: 9:30 - 10:20; 1:30 - 2:20 and Wednesday  
9:30 - 10:20; 2:30 - 3:20 or by appointment

**Class Hours:** Monday 9:30-11:20 Fisher 210  
Thursday 9:30 - 10:20 Young 227

**Credit Value:** 2

**In-class workload:** 3 hours per week

**Out-of-class Workload:** 1 hour per week

**Co-requisites:** English 070 or above, or assessment

**Texts:** None

#### **Course Description:**

This interdisciplinary lecture series, from a variety of subject areas, is intended to facilitate non-native speakers' skills in listening, note-taking, summarizing and incorporating information from lectures, and promote successful performance at the college level. Evaluation is based on mid-term and final exercises and on-going progress checks.

#### **Focus and Goals:**

This course focuses on developing the necessary skills to respond successfully to lectures and to use them and their content in higher level academic and professional environments.

Because of its interdisciplinary content, this course will expose students to a variety of lecturers, subjects and lecture modes. Students will be able to see the features that are common across lecture modes and features that are unique to individual delivery styles.

Lectures can be difficult and stressful because students are required to use many skills at once, even when the language is their own. Students need to listen and understand what is being said at the same time they are looking at the teacher and any visual aids that are being used. At the same time they must analyze and

synthesize the content of the lecture, while summarizing and taking notes. This is a very complex task! It is the intent of this course to help students with this difficult but worthwhile undertaking. The pre-lecture and post-lecture activities and exercises designed by the instructor/facilitator will provide students with helpful strategies to make understanding and synthesizing lectures less stressful.

Listening and responding to lectures is an individual task. However, some preparatory and follow-up exercises will be done collaboratively in pairs and in small groups. You may be required to take in public lectures as well as videotaped lectures by acclaimed lecturers on subjects of high interest.

### **Intended Learning Outcomes**

In this course, you will develop necessary skills for understanding, responding to and participating in academic lectures. By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Listen to and accurately comprehend information from classroom presentations:
  - (a) Comprehend natural speech from a variety of presenters, taking into consideration the changes in rate of delivery and a full range of structures.
  - b) Understand a range of vocabulary, idioms, colloquial expressions, and terminology used in academic presentations.
2. Take effective notes from lectures, presentations and videos:
  - (a) Analyze lectures, presentations, and videos.
  - (b) Summarize information from classroom presentations.
  - (c) Identify important points.
  - (d) Make written notes that are clear and useful to learning.
3. Participate in classroom presentations by asking questions, contributing ideas, and being active in discussions.

### **Evaluation:**

The evaluation will be based primarily on the post-lecture exercises, most of which will be done in class. In addition, students may be required to present mini-lectures to illustrate strong and weak points of the lecture mode, as well as to critique a videotaped/or audiotaped lecture.

Assignment	Individual Points	Total points
Responses to pre-lecture exercises and lectures (Note-taking, summarizing, short answers, discussion)	5 points	60%
Midterm Exercise		10 %
Final Exercise		10 %
In-class participation/ Attendance	1 point per class	20%
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>100 %</b>

### College-wide Grading System

A+ = 95-100%  
 A = 90-94  
 A- = 85-89  
 B+ = 80-84  
 B = 75-79

B- = 70-74%  
 C+ = 65-69  
 C = 60-64  
 D = 50-59  
 F = below 50

### \*\*\*Note

At least 80% attendance is required to perform adequately in this course and to ensure satisfactory outcomes.

## **Lecture Dates**

January 13: Language/Literature: Debbie Gascoyne -- *Frankenstein*

January 20: Counselling Iris Thomson-Glen

January 27 Psychology: Gira Bhatt Intelligence Testing Business

February 3: Applied Communications: Lois Fernyhough

February 10: Science -- *Genetically Modified Plants: Pros and Cons* **to be confirmed**

February 17: Law: Josje Andmore -- *Fairness*

February 24: TBA

March 3: History: Paula Eng *The History of Land Claims to 1927*

March 10: Media - *The Power of the Image Makers: Reflections of Mass Media* **to be confirmed**

March 17: First Nations: Janice Simcoe

March 24:

March 31:

April 2: Law - *The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* **to be confirmed**