

CAMOSUN COLLEGE - COURSE OUTLINE
ENGLISH 150 (Fall)
COMPOSITION

Instructor: Laurie Elmquist
Office: Paul Building Rm. 332
Office Hours: Wed. and Fri. noon - 1 p.m. (or by appointment)
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Workload: 3 in-class hrs.; 6 hrs. out of class per week; 14 weeks; 3 credits

Texts: Required

- Anderson, Slovic, O'Grady, Literature and the Environment, 1999.
- Norton and Green, Essay Essentials with Readings, 3rd Edition, 2003.
- **English 150 Course Pack** (Sections 14, 15, and 30)

Course Description

This course centres on organizing, and expressing ideas in clear and effective written prose. Instruction and practice in writing college-level expository¹ prose, based on appropriate models, form the core. Finished assignments total 4000 - 4500 words. (Camosun College Calendar, 2004)

Outcomes

Students will:

- **write** expository prose for various purposes and audiences
- develop a mature writing process which may include prewriting, planning, drafting, conferring, revising, and editing/proofing
- select and use rhetorical patterns purposefully
- write correct, clear, cohesive, and effective English
- vary style purposefully through manipulating sentence rhythms, sentence variety, vocabulary, and figurative language

- **read** mature expository and persuasive prose by student and professional writers
- vary their reading approach for different purposes

¹ Expository prose is a written statement about, commentary on, or explanation of a specific subject. Exposition is the act of expounding or setting forth information or a viewpoint.

- analyze expository prose by identifying controlling ideas, supporting ideas, dominant rhetorical pattern, tone and features of style
- summarize expository prose in own words to reflect coherently the original's ideas, organization and tone.
- **research** topics for expository papers
- use a variety of sources which may include personal knowledge, interview, print, and other media
- choose to summarize, paraphrase, or directly quote from sources
- integrate the results of research into expository papers
- document sources fully and ethically, according to specified bibliographic conventions

Evaluation

Each assignment is accompanied by *detailed* instructions in your course pack:

Four Assignments (each worth 5%)	20
Persuasive Essay	15
Literary Essay (1000 words)	15
Grammar (10 mastery tests)	10
PowerPoint Presentation ²	20
Research Essay	20
	100 %

Grading System:

A+ = 95-100%	B- = 70-74%
A = 90-94	C+ = 65-69
A- = 85-89	C = 60-64
B+ = 80-84	D = 50-59
B = 75-79	F = Below 50
	INC = Incomplete

Students' Responsibilities

1. All assignments must be completed for credit in this course. Failure to hand in an assignment (including a grammar mastery test) will result in a failing grade in the course. A late assignment may result in a zero grade, but it must be completed and handed in.
2. Students will be expected to attend class regularly (phoning or relaying a message if unable to be present), complete assigned readings, contribute to class discussions, set personal goals, choose topics they know and care about, request assistance, have drafts and final copies ready on-time, and encourage and assist other students.

² All assignments must be completed in this course. Failure to do the oral presentation will result in a failing grade in the course. No student will be excused from doing a presentation.

3. Attendance will be recorded each class. You cannot learn from the course and participate in class activities if you do not attend. Repeated absences will result in my request that you drop the course.
4. A full draft of the writing assignment must be brought to class on the day designated for peer review. Students who skip a scheduled peer review will automatically receive a deduction of 10%. Peer reviews must be completed **in-class** by **peers**. Format for final papers must follow MLA style, which is fully explained in your text.
5. Hand work in on time (at the beginning of class on the due date). Late submissions must be negotiated and will be penalized 5% per day, counting weekends, up to a maximum of 5 week days, after which they will not be accepted.
6. Plagiarism is the conscious theft of another person's ideas and/or words, presenting them as your own by not acknowledging their true source. Two of the principal goals of the academic experience are to foster original thought and intellectual honesty. Plagiarism is a violation of academic ethics which results in serious penalties. Therefore, it is vital to give credit where credit is due. Use research/reference materials to support your ideas, not replace them, and make sure your documentation is accurate. For College policies regarding plagiarism, see Student Conduct Policy, "Academic Misconduct," in the Camosun Student Calendar.

Instructor's Responsibilities

The instructor will adapt the course appropriately, function as a senior learner, share her own ideas and writing, stimulate and support the learning of others, give every opportunity for success, provide knowledge as needed, facilitate cooperation and community, provide clear instructions and examples for assignments, comment helpfully, return work promptly, and treat students with respect, fairness, and honesty.