

“English Composition”
ENGLISH 150 sections 18 & 20
Fall 2004

Instructor: Kristine Kerins
Office: Paul 330
Phone: 370-3357
Email: kerins@camosun.bc.ca

NOTE: an email will likely receive a quicker response than a phone message, but hotmail accounts are unreliable; arrange for a Camosun account if possible

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 11:30 to 12:45 am (or by appointment)

Course Credit Value: 3
Course Prerequisites: C+ in English 12; or English C in 082 and 084;
or by assessment
- A basic ability with grammar, punctuation and spelling is also expected and will be factored into assignment grades.

Course Description:

This course centers on generating, organizing and expressing ideas in clear and effective written prose. Instruction and practice in writing college-level expository prose, based on appropriate models, form the core. Finished assignments total 4000-4500 words.

Core Learning Objectives:

WRITING

- * develop a mature writing process, which includes pre-writing, outlining, drafting, peer editing, revising and proofing
- * shape thoughts and ideas into unified, coherent paragraphs and essays
- * select and use rhetorical patterns to serve various purposes and audiences
- * use language precisely, effectively and grammatically
- * vary writing style through sentence variety, vocabulary and figurative language

READING

- * read mature expository and persuasive prose by student & professional writers
- * analyze prose by identifying controlling ideas, supporting ideas, dominant rhetorical patterns, tone and style
- * summarize prose (to reflect original idea, organization, tone) in different words

RESEARCHING

- * use a variety of sources (print, non-print, informal, interview) in expository paper
- * chose to summarize, paraphrase, or directly quote from sources
- * integrate the borrowed information smoothly & effectively into the paper

* document sources fully, ethically and according to bibliographic conventions

Required Texts:

- Course Pack for English 150 (Kerins)* [Approx. \$30.00]
- A good dictionary (Oxford, Webster's ...)
- A good thesaurus (Roget's, Random House ...)

Optional (but highly recommended) Texts:

- Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual*. 4th edition [Approx. \$25.00]

ASSIGNMENTS

	Approx. Length	Value	Due Date
In-class Outline	(300 words)	5%	Wed, Sep 29
Completed Essay	(600 - 750 words)	10%	Wed, Oct 13
In-class Compare/Contrast Essay (750 words)		15%	Mon, Oct 25
Argument/Persuasive Essay (750 - 1000 words)		20%	Wed, Nov 17
Research Essay (1500 -1700 words)		30%	Wed, Dec 8
Grammar Quizzes		3X5%=15%	(see schedule)
In-class work		5%	

ABOUT ESSAYS AND ASSIGNMENTS ...**Missed In-Class Essays and Assignments:**

- Unless you can prove a medical emergency (with a doctor's note), all in-class assignments must be completed in the intended class. A missed assignment without a note will result in a grade of zero.
- If you already know that you are going to be unable to attend on the date an assignment is scheduled, please come and see me ASAP. If your absence is justifiable, we will schedule a re-write as close to the set date as possible.
- Missed in-class group work cannot be made up at another date.

Late Assignments:

- Assignments are due at the start of class on the date specified.
- 10% per day (including weekends days) will be deducted for lateness.
- If you intend to hand something in late, it must be given to me personally, signed and dated by some other English instructor and slipped under my office door, or taken to the Arts and Science office (Fisher 104A) where they will time and date stamp it. Unsigned/unstamped essays will NOT be accepted.
- No assignments will be accepted 5 days or more past the due date.
- Requests for extensions will be considered under special circumstances, but only if the request is made in advance of the due date.

Attendance, Readings, Homework, and Participation:

To do well in English 150, you must regularly attend the class. If, however, you do find it necessary to miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed, to collect any handouts, and to receive any extra homework instructions BEFORE the next class. I'd thus suggest you make a trustworthy friend in the class with whom you can exchange phone numbers and from whom you can borrow thorough, reliable notes.

As with any course, it is also vitally important that you have completed all assigned readings and homework before coming to each class. (Reading assignments are provided on the schedule.) Further, since much of our class time will consist of group work, you must come prepared to actively and intelligently participate with others.