

Camosun College Course Syllabus
English 150 - Section 34: English Composition
 Fall 2004

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Office hours: Mon./Wed. 2:00-4:00
Lecture times: Mon./Wed. 4:30-5:50
Lecture location: Paul 109
Credit value: 3

Required Texts:

Garret Baumann, M. *Ideas and Details*. Fifth Edition. Mandatory.
 Niwa-Heinen, M. *Course Pack: English 150 Sections 25/34*. Mandatory.
 Aaron, Jane E and Murray McArthur. *The Little Brown Compact Handbook*. Recommended.
 Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 6th Ed. Recommended.
 A college/university English dictionary. (O.E.D., or Webster's).

Supplementary Supplies:

Two IBM compatible 3 ½ floppy disks, pencils, erasers, a binder, dividers, lined loose-leaf paper and a student computer-account are all necessary; pens and whiteout, however, are optional.

Course Description:

English 150 is a composition course that focuses upon “organizing and expressing ideas in clear and effective written prose” (*Camosun Calendar 2004-2005* 168). It offers students experience in developing the **writing, editing** and **research** skills necessary for college and university level essays. Therefore, course assignments provide students with experience in using a variety of writing styles, such as descriptive, persuasive argumentative and analytical. In addition, opportunities to identify such styles are available through assigned reading materials. Depending on class abilities, scheduled grammar sessions may also be incorporated into the programme.

The primary course-objective is to assist you in developing good written expression, something which involves time, especially time to edit and re-write. Developing a rough draft requires skill; producing a final draft requires skill plus effort. In the class setting, we will engage in the necessary skills through lectures, discussions and group activities - activities including writing revising and peer editing. However, the effort needed to successfully complete a paper will be mainly up to you.

Although producing a collegiate essay, or a research paper is a considerable task, the course will enable you to approach this type of assignment in a step-by-step process, from an idea to a thesis to a finished paper. You may also find that writing becomes a journey in self-awareness wherein you discover your own ideas by reading your own words.¹

¹“I never know what I think about something until I read what I’ve written on it.”

William Faulkner

Assignments: Graded assignments consist of **essays, peer-edit reviews** and **exams**.

A. Essay Assignments: There is one diagnostic essay, two out-of-class graded essays, two exam essays and one quiz. Starred assignments are written in-class.

Assignments and Exams		Grade	Due Date
*In-Class Narrative Essay	(1-1.5 pp.)	Un-graded	Sept. 8
Descriptive Essay	(600 words/3 pp.)	15%	Sept. 29
*Midterm: Persuasive Essay	(600 words/3 pp.)	15%	Oct. 18
*Grammar Quiz		10%	Nov. 3
Research Paper	(2000 words/10 pp.)	30%	Nov. 24
*Final: Comparative Analysis	(800 words/4 p.p.)	20%	Dec. 8

B. Peer-Edit Reviews: There are six peer-edit reviews that are graded in conjunction with their relevant assignments (5/10/6% respectively). Attendance at these reviews is necessary in order to complete the course.

Reviews	Peer-Edit #1	Peer-Edit #2	Due Date
Descriptive Essay	Sept. 22	Sept. 27	Sept. 29
Research Paper	Nov. 17	Nov. 22	Nov. 24
Comparative Analysis	Dec. 1	Dec. 6	Final: Dec. 8

C. Participation: 10%

D. Late Assignments: Late assignments will result in one letter grade lower than that actually achieved. Those handed in two weeks after the due date will not be accepted.

E. Plagiarism: Essays plagiarized in whole, or in part, will receive an F grade.

Attendance:

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the lecture notes and handouts for that class. Moreover, if you miss more than 25% of the classes (more than 7), your work will not be accepted. If you miss a Peer-Edit Review or an exam, you will not be able to “make-up” these sessions. Consequently, you will need written, medical documentation in order to negotiate a possible grade. It is important to note that failure to attend reviews and exams will seriously limit your chances of passing the course.

Grading:

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 = 0-49

Course Objectives:

- Develop an academic writing process that includes planning, organizing, outlining, drafting, revising, editing and proof reading.
- Formulate clear, stimulating, fresh ideas that can be further developed in an essay.
- Express vivid details in written work by using direct quotes, paraphrases, summaries and specific examples.
- Write well-organized essays for various purposes and audiences, each with a specified topic, a relevant thesis, a supporting argument and a reflective conclusion.
- Consciously and deliberately vary stylistic patterns such as voice, tone, figuration and perspective.
- Make critical readings of published texts by both student and professional writers and assess them in terms of logic and style.
- Work cooperatively with peer-groups in developing skills in all the stages of essay writing.
- Give positive, effective and critical feedback to peers in an editing environment.
- Use a variety of research sources such as professional interviews, college and university libraries as well as multimedia and electronic resources.
- Integrate research findings into your papers and document sources fully according to specified conventions such as MLA standards.
- Produce clear, effective prose that demonstrates skills in sentence structure, paragraph organization, transitional expressions, coherent argumentation as well as grammatical mechanics.
- Correct, especially self-correct, errors in mechanics, structure, organization and coherence.

Significant Dates:

Last day to withdraw without fee payments	Sept. 21.
Thanksgiving holiday	Mon. Oct 11.
Last day to withdraw without a failing grade	Nov 9.
Last class in Engl. 150	Dec 8.
Last day of classes for the fall semester	Dec. 11
Exam periods	Dec. 13-18 / Dec. 20-21

Assignment Due Dates:

1. In Class Narrative Essay	Wed. Sept. 8
2. Peer-Edits for Descriptive Essay	Wed. Sept. 22 / Mon. Sept.27
3. Descriptive Essay Due	Wed. Sept. 29
4. Midterm: In-Class Persuasive Essay	Mon. Oct. 18
5. Grammar Quiz	Wed. Nov 3
6. Peer-Edits for Research Paper	Wed. Nov. 17 / Mon. Nov. 22
7. Research Paper Due	Wed. Nov. 24
8. Peer-Edits for Comparative Analysis	Wed. Dec. 1 / Mon. Dec. 6
9. Final: In-Class Comparative Analysis	Wed. Dec 8

Semester Schedule:

The following schedule is tentative and therefore subject to change.
As noted below, class **preparation** includes readings from the text, *Ideas and Details* as well as readings from the Course Pack.

Dates:	In-class Topics	Preparation
Week 1-Sept 8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to the course 2. Diagnostic Essay 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read syllabus. 2. Read Course Pack Section One.
Week 2-Sept 13/15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formulating ideas/designing topics/ planning details 2. Brainstorm 'Research' topics 3. Refine topics 4. Brainstorm concrete objects to describe 5. Sentence/paragraph structures 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read Text chapters 1/2/3. 2. Diagram a viewed TV commercial. 3. Read Course Pack-Section Two pp. 9-13.
Week 3-Sept. 20/22	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chosen 'Research' topics 2. Descriptive Essay 3. Thesis & structure 4. Outlining 5. Transitionals/broad references 6. Peer-Edit Review #1: Sept 22 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text pp. 87/88 & ch. 5. 2. Research Paper topic. 3. Choose an object. 4. Course Pack-Section Two pp. 14-15/22-25 & Section Three pp.44-52. 5. Descriptive Essay 1st draft.
Week 4-Sept. 27/29	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Writing process-coherence, clarity and style 2. Peer-Edit Review #2: Sept 27 3. Incorrect sentence structures 4. 'Research' sources-campus library 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text ch. 4/8. 2. Descriptive Essay-2nd draft. 3. Descriptive Essay due: Sept 29. 4. Course Pack-Section Two pp. 16-21.
Week 5-Oct. 4/6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Persuasive writing 2. Refining the thesis & argument 2. Figuration, tone, voice, perspective 3. Interpret assigned reading 4. In-class paragraph: unmarked 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text ch. 9/10. 2. Read Course Pack-Section Three pp. 54-65 & Section Four pp. 66-85.

Semester Schedule

Dates	In-Class Topics	Preparation
Week 6-Oct.13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Persuasive writing 2. Rhetoric 3. Fallacies in logic 3. Reading audience 4. Class discussion-Swift & Woolf 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text ch. 12 pp. 238-254. 2. Course Pack-Section Four pp.85-97.
Week 7-Oct 18/20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Midterm: Oct 18-Persuasive Essay. 2. 'Research' Paper: topic/narrow/thesis 2. Bibliography vs. Works Cited 3. Documentation: MLA / APA 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finish text ch. 12. 2. Text ch. 14 pp. 303-332. 3. Course Pack-Section Two pp. 26-29.
Wk 8-Oct. 25/27	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integration of 'Research' sources 2. Quotation/paraphrase/summary 3. Drafting 'Research Paper' 4. Punctuation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text ch. 14 pp.324-333. 2. Course Pack-Section Two pp. 26-29 & 41-42. 3. Course Pack-Section Six.
Wk 9-Nov. 1/3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parallel structure 2. Review-sentence types 3. Grammar workshop 4. In-class paragraphs: peer-edit 5. Grammar Quiz: Nov. 3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text ch. 16. 2. Course Pack: read all of Section Two.
Wk 10-Nov. 8/10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Literary analysis in general 2. Short story analysis in particular 3. Discussion: short story presentations 4. Research Paper workshop: revision. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course Pack-Section Five. pp. 98-118. 2. Text ch. 7. 3. Text ch. 14 333-348.
Wk 11-Nov. 15/17	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short story presentations 2. Requirements-'Research' final draft 3. Peer-Edit Review #3: Nov. 17 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text ch. 15 pp.404-409. 2. Course Pack-Section Five. pp. 120-170. 3. 'Research' Paper-1st draft.
Wk 12-Nov. 22/24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peer-Edit Review #4: Nov. 22 2. Comparative Analysis assignment-topic/thesis/outline. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Text ch. 6 & 13. 2. 'Research' Paper-2nd draft. 3. Research Paper: Nov. 24.

Semester Schedule

Dates	In-Class Topics	Preparation
Wk 13-Nov. 29/Dec. 1	1. Short story presentations 2. Class discussion: comparisons. 3. Peer-Edit Review #5: Dec. 1	1. Text ch. 15 pp.420-326. 2. Comparative Analysis- 1 st draft.
Wk 14-Dec. 6/8	1. Peer-Edit Review #6: Dec. 6 2. Final: Dec. 8- Comparative Analysis	1. Comparative Analysis 2 nd draft.

If you have any questions, please ask.

Good luck!