

	School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ENGL 151-D35 Strategies for Academic Writing Fall 2012
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COURSE OUTLINE

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

Calendar Description: This course provides core critical thinking, reading, research and writing skills transferable to academic disciplines. Students practice various forms of academic writing, including summary, critical analysis, and written research. Analysis of textual rhetoric, discourse, and style, along with academic essay-writing, develops students' self-awareness of methods of inquiry, critique, and reflection.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Brenda Proctor		
(b)	Office Hours:	Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30pm		
(c)	Location:	Paul 337		
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3354	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	proctorb@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:	http://online.camosun.ca		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

Form critical responses to ideas.

- Distinguish between fact and opinion.
- Analyse and articulate the reasoning behind an argument.
- Demonstrate a critical examination of ideas through close reading, inquiry, divergent thinking, evaluation of evidence and interpretation, as well as an understanding of rhetoric, reason, logic and word usage.
- Produce writing under exam conditions, as well as outside class.
- Differentiate high school and academic writing.

Write in an academic style common to multiple disciplines.

- Approach writing as an active exploration of multiple perspectives on a topic.
- Compose effective summaries.
- Select and use rhetorical patterns purposefully.
- Employ a comprehensive writing process, which includes prewriting, focusing, planning, multiple drafting, conferring, revising and editing/proofing.
- Develop an argument with a controlling thesis; write unified, coherent paragraphs, including effective introductions, transitions and conclusions in correct, clear, effective English.
- Develop effective, focused research questions.
- Demonstrate control, clarity and cohesion in the development and organisation of ideas.
- Vary style purposefully for planned rhetorical strategies.
- Write individually and collaboratively for specific results.
- Critique his/her own and others' writing.

Read and analyse complex texts from various academic disciplines.

- Vary reading approaches for different purposes, such as personal response, persuasion, and criticism.
- Participate and engage in a dynamic, stimulating exchange of ideas based upon close textual readings.

- Discuss and debate text using terminology appropriate to the discipline and context of those texts.
- Analyze textual readings, including visual texts, by identifying controlling ideas, supporting details, dominant rhetorical pattern, subtext, tone and stylistic features.
- Summarize readings to reflect coherently the original's ideas, purpose, organization, and tone.
- Critically read your own and others' writing.

Research and develop information media and literacy skills.

- Use a wide variety of appropriate research sources.
- Paraphrase and summarize texts to reflect accurate and coherently the original's ideas, organisation and tone.
- Use print and electronic library resources to locate sources.
- Assess and evaluate a variety of online media sources.
- Evaluate sources for authority, relevance, reliability, usefulness and other criteria.
- Incorporate and integrate research through correct use of summary, paraphrase and quotation writing skills.
- Document sources fully and ethically, according to specified bibliographic conventions.

Develop self-awareness as an academic writer and contributor.

- Articulate one's position in a critical debate of ideas.
- Reflect on one's own writing for continuous improvement.
- Express interest in an academic pursuit of one or more disciplines.

Required Materials

- (a) Text: Ackley, Blank and Hume. *Perspectives on Contemporary Issues*, 2008.
 (b) Access to the Desire2Learn Course Website: <http://online.camosun.ca>

4. Course Content and Schedule

see schedule

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(This section should be directly linked to the Intended Learning Outcomes.)

Required assignment type	What your instructor will assign	Value
Discussion forum assignments and participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly, assignments vary 	10%
Blog: short writing assignments	Assignments of these types to be posted in blog: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summary • response • short rhetorical analysis • comments on the blogs of others 	20%
Rhetorical analysis (suggested length: 750 words)	A rhetorical analysis of one text or a comparative analysis of two or more texts	10%
Research proposal	Research essay proposal	10%
Essay/research paper (suggested length: 1250 words)	An essay or research paper that requires multiple sources	25%
Final exam	An essay or research paper that requires multiple sources On campus or through distance during exam week	25%

6. Assignments

All assignments are due in the dropbox on the dates and times specified.

Please submit assignments in a word file beginning with your last name (for example: proctorbmidterm.doc or proctorbmidterm.docx). In the top, left corner of your document, please include your name, your student number, the name of the assignment, the date and my name.

I do not normally grant extensions. If you have an exceptional circumstance, please speak to me at least 24 hours BEFORE the deadline.

Late assignments will be deducted 5% for every day late and will not receive comments unless you have provided documentation (such as a note from a doctor).

Be sure to keep all rough drafts and marked material until the end of term.

9. Participation

Please help maintain a respectful online atmosphere in which everyone feels comfortable sharing and debating ideas.

7. Electronic Devices

Cell phones, laptops, ipods and other electronic devices are not permitted in the classroom during exams.

8. Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability that impacts your ability to participate academically, I would like to hear from you so I can do my best to accommodate your learning needs.

9. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+	Exceptional (A+), outstanding (A), and excellent (A-) performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students, these grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectations, and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.	9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+	Very good (B+), good (B), and solid (B-) performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students, these grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or an excellent grasp in one area balanced with a satisfactory grasp in the other area(s).	6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+	Satisfactory (C+) or minimally satisfactory (C) performance. These grades indicate a satisfactory (only) performance and knowledge of the subject matter.	3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

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 E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** 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, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
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.

10. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services, and the College web site in the Policy Section.