

School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ENGL 151 – X01

Academic Writing Strategies

Quarter 3/2013

COURSE OUTLINE

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

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records. You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Alena Chercover
(b)	Office Hours:	Mondays 2:30-3:30 and by appointment
(c)	Location:	CC119A
(d)	Phone:	Please email or stop by during office hours
(e)	Email:	chercovera@camosun.bc.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

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

- 1. 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 academic and non-academic writing.
- 2. 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 organization of ideas.
 - Vary style purposefully for planned rhetorical strategies.
 - Write for specific results.
 - Critique his/her own and others' writing.
- 3. Read and analyze 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, which may include 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.

- 4. Demonstrate information literacy skills.
 - Determine the nature and extent of the information needed.
 - Know and use what information resources are available, in different formats.
 - Use print and electronic resources effectively and efficiently.
 - Evaluate sources for authority, relevance, reliability, currency and other criteria.
 - Incorporate and integrate research through correct use of summary, paraphrase and quotation.
 - Document sources fully and ethically, according to specified bibliographic conventions.
- 5. 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.

3. Required Materials

Text: Ackley, Blank, and Hume. Perspectives on Contemporary Issues, 2008

4. Course Content and Schedule

This **tentative** schedule outlines weekly topics and major assignments for English 151. The schedule is subject to change.

Date	Monday (3:30-5:20)	Thursday (12:30-2:20)	Due	Weight
Week 1 April 4		Introduction to English 151 Academic Writing Strategies Topics Discussion Questions	In-class writing sample	NA
Week 2 April 8 & 11	Topics Analysis vs. Summary Summary Assignment Readings "Selling Suds" 126 Reading Critically 3 Writing a Summary 10	Topics Purpose and Audience Readings Atwood, "Letter to America" 169	Discussion Questions – "Selling Suds" Discussion Questions – "Letter to America"	2% 2%
Week 3 April 15 & 18	Topics Building Paragraphs Readings Thomas King, "Borders" (on-line)	Topics Constructing Thesis Statements Rhetorical Appeals Readings James, "Green Winter" 420	Discussion Questions— "Borders" Discussion Questions – "Green Winter"	2% 2%
Week 4 April 22 & 25	Topics Rhetorical Appeals cont'd Paragraph Construction cont'd Readings Lewis, "Pandemic" 374	Topics Essays Readings Writing a Critique 16	Discussion Questions — "Pandemic" Summary Assignment	2% 13%

Week 5 April 29 & May 2	Topics Review/Prep for In-class Essay Readings Eighner, "On Dumpster Diving" 198	Critical Analysis In-class Essay	Critical Analysis In-class Essay	15%
Week 6 May 6 & 9	Topics Research Questions Annotated Bibliography Assignment Readings Writing a Research Paper 41	Topics Argument Readings Writing an Argument 23 Turpin, "Women Confronting War" 324	Discussion Questions – "Women Confronting War"	2%
Week 7 May 13 & 16	Topics Researching & Evaluating Research Material	Topics Documentation & Plagiarism Integrating Sources	Writing Reflection	5%
Week 8 May 20 & 23	Victoria Day - No Class	Topics Outlines Readings Dryden, "The Game" 133	Discussion Questions – "The Game" Annotated Bibliography	2% 10%
Week 9 May 27 & 30	Topics Introductions and Conclusions Methods of Development	Topics Logic		
Week 10 June 3 & 6	Work Period	Topics Editing/Common Errors Peer Editing	Draft Research Paper and Peer Edit	5%
Week 11 June 10 & 13	Topics Review for In-class Essay	In-Class Essay	Research Paper In-Class Essay	25% 15%

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Assignment	Weight	Due Date
Diagnostic	Complete/Incomplete	Thursday, April 4
Discussion Questions/Paragraphs*	12%	Ongoing
Summary Assignment	13%	Thursday, April 25
Critical Analysis (In-Class)	15%	Thursday, May 2
Writing Reflection	5%	Thursday, May 16
Annotated Bibliography	10%	Thursday, May 23
Peer Edit	5%	Thursday, June 6
Research Paper	25%	Monday, June 10
In-Class Essay	15%	Thursday, June 13

^{*} Note that only six of the seven discussion questions will contribute to your total mark; I will not include the lowest mark.

6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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	Incomplete: 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	In progress: 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. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)	
cw	Compulsory Withdrawal: 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.	

7. 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.

8. Additional Information and Class Policies

- All major assignments are mandatory. Students cannot complete the course unless all these assignments are submitted.
- Late assignments will be marked with a penalty of 5% per day (unless accompanied by appropriate documentation for illness, etc.) up to one week beyond the due date. I normally do not give extensions, but if one is required, come speak to me *before* the due date. Late assignments will be given a grade but no feedback.
- Assignments are due on the due date at the beginning of class.
- Assignments must be submitted in person. Please do not email assignments.
- Please keep a copy of all assignments.
- Assignments due on the last day of the course must be submitted that day.
- Students are expected to participate in all class activities.
- Electronic devices (cell phones, laptops, etc.) should be turned off during class. Please see me if you wish to discuss this point.
- Plagiarism means presenting the words or ideas of others as your own. Plagiarism is a
 serious academic offence. All sources of ideas or information that is not primarily your own
 must be appropriately documented according to appropriate documentation guidelines. The
 minimum penalty for plagiarism is a zero on the relevant assignment. Please see the Student
 Conduct Policy.
- Please feel free to contact me about any concerns or questions you may have about the course. The easiest way to contact me is by email or to see me during my office hours.