

# School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ENGL 151

Academic Writing Strategies September-December, 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:	Paul Gamache		
(b)	Office Hours:			
(c)	Location:	CC 119A		
(d)	Phone:	4449	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	Gamache@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

# 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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.
- 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 auotation.
- 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.

## **Required Materials**

Course Package for English 151 (Gamache)

## **Course Content and Schedule**

Self-reflective writing (ongoing)

Group report (September 13)

Grammar / style test #1 \*(week of September 30) Grammar / style test #2 (week of October 28)

Research essay (November 8)

Persuasive essay (November 22)

Persuasive project (December 6)

Final exam (date TBA)

### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Self-reflective writing 10% completion Group report Grammar / style test #1 5% Grammar / style test #2 10% 30% Research essay Persuasive essay 10%

Persuasive project 10% Final exam 25%

## 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 <sup>rd</sup> 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. Assignment Submission Guidelines

- ➤ All "in-class" assignments are due by the end of class on their assigned date. "Out-of-class" assignments are due by the deadlines shown above. It is your responsibility to note these dates and to meet them. Late or missing assignments will receive a grade of "0" unless you have made arrangements with me beforehand or, in the case of emergencies or serious illness, you have valid (official) documentation such as a doctor's note. ("Having to work" or "going on vacation" are not valid reasons.)
- ➤ If you know that an assignment cannot be completed on time, contact me immediately. Extensions can be arranged for valid reasons as long as you contact me at least two days before the due date (obtain a signed permission slip from me, and attach this slip to the assignment). If you have trouble with any assignment, contact me immediately.
- ➤ All assignments are mandatory, which means that to pass the course, you must complete and submit every assignment (late / graded or not).

## Required Assignment Format

- > All submissions must be on paper; e-mailed assignments are not acceptable.
- > All "out-of-class" assignments must be conform to these requirements\*:
  - word processed / typed (other than in-class assignments)
  - all required parts included
  - ► 12-pt. font (other than in-class assignments)
  - ► 1" margins
  - double spaced (every second line)
  - an extra two blank lines between paragraphs
  - ▶ 8" x 11" blank white paper (lined white paper for in-class assignments)
  - printed one-side only
  - a cover page that lists your name, my name, the assignment title, the course subject, number, section, and date of submission
  - page numbers upper centre or upper right corner starting with Page 2 (the cover page does not count – ignore it. Page 1 is the first page of text, but it should have no number on it; start the numbering – Page 2 – on the second page of text)
  - stapled upper left corner (no paper clips) (no plastic sleeves or other protective covers)
  - all pages (other than the cover sheet) must have more than two lines of text (in-class assignments excepted).

(\* Each assignment may have additional requirements; read the instructions for details.)

## Unacceptable Assignments

- > Assignments that fail to meet these guidelines, that contain an unacceptable level of error, or that are off topic will be deemed "unacceptable."
- ➤ Any assignment deemed "unacceptable" will be returned to you in class for revision/ correction. You must return the revised/corrected assignment to me within 24 hours (otherwise, it is late and will receive "0"). If you are absent when unacceptable assignments are returned, you are out of luck.

# 9. Classroom Etiquette

- > English class is for English work exclusively; if you wish to do other work, do it elsewhere.
- > Please turn off/put away all electronic devices: phones, computers, etc. Focus on reading, thinking, discussing, and writing. If you must use your phone, please do so outside.
- ➤ Please arrive on time, and plan on staying for the whole class. If you enter late or leave early, do so with as little disturbance to others as possible.
- > If you must leave a class early, please let me know ahead of time so that I don't worry that you are lying in the hallway breathing your last breath.
- ➤ Keep the room neat. If you bring something into the classroom, take it away with you. Remember that neither the floor nor the desk is a garbage can. If you spill it, clean it up!