

## School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ENGL 151

# Academic Writing Strategies

**Quarter or Semester/Year** 

#### **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:	Nigel Brooks		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mon to Thurs 2:30-3:20		
(c)	Location:	Paul 327A		
(d)	Phone:	370 3302	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	brooks@camosun.bc.ca	a	
(f)	Website:			

#### 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 toxts.
  - 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.
- 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

- (a) Strategies for Successful Writing Fifth Edition
- (b) A dictionary

#### 4. Course Content and Schedule

(This section can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

## Assignment schedule

## Week One:

**Course Introduction** 

In-class narrative essay with weighting of 5%

Introduce peer-reviewing and establish discussion groups

## Week Two:

Exploration of the evolution of the English language.

In-class test on Moses Milstein's *Memories of Montreal--and Richness* and Evelyn Lau's *An Insatiable Emptiness--*with weighting of 5%--and other class exercises.

In-class activities during the semester will carry an overall course weighting of 25%.

Library orientation tour.

## Week Three:

In-class expository essay with weighting of 10%.

Review grammatical errors.

In-class group work on advertisement that promotes some aspect of Camosun College--it could be something that the college already has or that it should have.

In-class test on Candace Fertile's The Oldest Profession: Shopping and Mark

Kingwell's Ten Steps to Creating a Modern Media Icon--with weighting of 5%

## Week Four:

In-class instruction on how to give oral reports.

Sign up for oral reports on progress in research essay project and prepare for reports.

Conferences with Students.

In-class test on Celia Milne's Pressures to Conform and Robert

M. MacGregor's *I Am Canadian: National Identity in Beer Commercials--*with weighting of 5%.

## Week Five:

Oral report on progress in the research essay project with weighting of 10% 300-word outline of the research essay due in with weighting of 10%

## Week Six:

Form debating teams and start preparing debates.

In-class test on Julie Traves' *The Church of Please and Thank You* and Neil Bissoondath's *No Place Like Home--* with weighting of 5%.

Research essay due in with a weighting of 20%.

## Week Seven:

In-class debates with weighting of 10%.

Final in-class argumentative essay with weighting of 10%.

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

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

- (a) Three essays of 500 750 words with weighting of 10% One research essay of 1000 – 1500 words with weighting of 20%
- (b) Four in-class tests with weighting of 5%
- (c) No exam
- (d) Oral report of 10% Outline of 10% Debate of 10%

#### 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	Description
Grade	•

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.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED