



COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor	Dr. Justine Noel		
Office Hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 am -11:30 am, Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm		
Office	Young 312		
Phone	(250) 370-3951		
Email	noelju@camosun.bc.ca		

Intended Learning Outcomes:

1. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of arguments effectively.
2. Write and reason with clarity and precision.
3. Detect bias and fallacious reasoning in arguments.
4. Apply basic logical principles to the evaluation of evidence and the conducting of inquiry.

Course Schedule:

Lectures: Wednesdays, 10:30 am - 11:20 am (Y-325)
Fridays, 10:30 am - 11:20 am (Y-325)

Seminars: Group A: Wednesdays, 11:30 am - 12:20 pm (Y-325)
Group B: Fridays, 11:30 am - 12:20 pm (Y-325)

Course Requirements:

Test 1: 25%,
Test 2: 25%,
Test 3: final exam period: 25%, date TBA
Seminar attendance: 10%
Homework: 15%

Text: The Power of Critical Thinking, Lewis Vaughn and Chris MacDonald, 3rd Cdn. Ed.

Reading Assignments

Week 1: The Power of Critical Thinking

01/7 Introduction

01/9 p. 3-20

Week 2: The Environment of Critical Thinking

01/14 p. 37-44

01/16 p. 45-54

Week 3: Making Sense of Arguments

01/21 p. 69-78

01/23 p. 89-95

Week 4: Reasons for Belief and Doubt

01/28 p. 131-153

01/30 p. 154-165

Week 5: Faulty Reasoning and Fallacies

02/4 **TEST #1**

02/6 chapter 5

Week 6: Faulty Reasoning and Fallacies cont.

02/11 chapter 5, cont.

02/13 no class, reading break

Week 7: Faulty Reasoning and Fallacies cont.

02/18 chapter 5, cont.

02/20 chapter 5, cont.

Week 8: Deductive Reasoning

02/25 p. 255-267

02/27 p. 270-278

Week 9: Inductive Reasoning

03/4 p. 292-301

03/6 p. 333-335

Week 10: Inference to the Best Explanation

03/11 **TEST #2**

03/13 p. 361-369

Week 11: Inference to the Best Explanation, cont.

03/18 p. 375-390

03/20 p. 391-394, 401-402

Week 12: Judging Scientific Theories

03/25 p. 409-417

03/27 p. 433-437

Week 13: Judging Scientific Theories cont.

04/1 p. 438-444

04/3 no class - Easter Friday

Week 14: Applications for Critical Thinking

04/8 no reading assignment

04/10 Review for final exam

Policy on missed tests: make-up tests will be permitted only in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make-up test will not be scheduled until proper documentation is provided.

Cell phones: students are not permitted to use cell phones in class.

Laptop computers: may be used for note taking only - watching sports, videos, shows etc., playing music, online chatting, doing email and so on is not permitted in class.

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	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		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.

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