



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE**  
**School of Arts & Science**  
**Department of English**

**ENGL-151-023**  
**Academic Writing Strategies**  
**2018 Winter**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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

Ω Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

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**1. Instructor Information**

(a) Instructor	Micaela Maftai
(b) Office hours	Mondays, 10:00-11:00am or by appointment
(c) Location	LACC 118A
(e) E-mail	<a href="mailto:Mafteim@camosun.bc.ca">Mafteim@camosun.bc.ca</a>

**2. Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course a 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

*They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing* by Cathy Birkenstein and Gerald Graff

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

Week	Date	Area of Focus	Notes
1	Jan 8	Intro	Intro – writing diagnostic
	Jan 10	Summary	“They Say”, “Art of Summarizing”, summary assignment intro
2	Jan 15		Summary/Quotation/Paraphrase, “The Art of Quoting”
	Jan 17		“But Don’t Get Me Wrong”, “Skeptics May Object”
3	Jan 22		Citation styles/referencing
	Jan 24		Academic Integrity
4	Jan 29		Rhetoric
	Jan 31	The three rhetorical appeals	
5	Feb 5	Discussion of Jacobs	
	Feb 7	<b>In-class</b> rhetorical analysis	
6	Feb 12	<b>NO CLASS – College Closed</b>	
	Feb 14	<b>NO CLASS – Reading Break</b>	
7	Feb 19	Punctuation/grammar	Sentence-level writing
	Feb 21		Punctuation Break
8	Feb 26		Sentence and paragraph structure
	Feb 28		<b>In-class</b> proofing exercise
9	March 5	Essay	Essay assignment introduced, “Three Ways to Respond”
	March 7		Essay structure
10	March 12		<b>In-class</b> essay proposal
	March 14		Getting down to writing
11	March 19		Intro to oral presentations, using sources
	March 21		“As a Result”, “So What, Who Cares?”
12	March 26		Essay workshop – <b>attendance required</b>
	March 28		Work period
13	April 2		<b>NO CLASS – College closed</b>
	April 4		Presentations
14	April 9	Presentations	
	April 11	Presentations, final class	

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Assignment	Due Date	Length	Weight
Summary	Jan 29	600-800 words	15%
Rhetorical Analysis	In class on Feb 7	800-1000 words	15%
Proofing Exercise	In class on Feb 28	N/A	10%
Essay Proposal	In class on Mar 14	500-800 words	10%
Essay Workshop attendance	In class on Mar 26	N/A	5%
Final Essay	April 4	1200-1500 words	25%
Presentation	On date chosen	N/A	10%
Participation	N/A	N/A	10%

**LATE POLICY:** In-class assignments must be completed on the date indicated. Please let me know as soon as possible if you have some exceptional circumstances that means you cannot attend the class. Assignments not done in class are due at the start of the class on the due date. Late work loses 5% per day, and will receive a grade only (no written feedback). I understand that life happens – if you are worried about meeting a deadline, please let me know as soon as possible (not the day of).

## 6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

### Some Key Points about this Class:

- Communication skills are essential in every area of study and in almost every kind of work situation. This is a course offered through the English department, but the material covered is useful, important and necessary for every student, in every field. You are encouraged to look for ways to apply the work and skills this course emphasizes in your own field of study and career plans.
- This course focuses on writing (although it addresses several other key areas of academic communication). You are encouraged to see writing as a means of self-discovery and a method of sorting out, and then expressing, your views, opinions, thoughts and arguments.
- You are expected to attend every class. We will be using a blend of lectures, in-class work and group work to achieve the learning outcomes. If you must miss class for a valid reason, please let me know by email as soon as possible.
- As your instructor, I am a valuable resource for you! Please don't ever hesitate to get in touch by email or in person, with any question or issue, no matter how large or small. I will do my best to help, and I will put you in touch with other people or services who may be better placed to help, if necessary. Small problems during term time have a way of spiraling – if you are feeling stressed, behind, confused, or worried about something to do with this course, please get in touch as soon as possible - even just to chat.

## College Supports, Services and Policies



### Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @

<http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

## College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

## College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

## GRADING SYSTEM <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

### 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		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

## B. 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 at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> 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 are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
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.