



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

**ENGL-151-001**  
**Academic Writing Strategies**  
**Fall 2018**

**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	Nigel Brooks		
(b) Office hours	Tuesday and Thursday		
(c) Location	Young 220		
(d) Phone	250 370 3302	Alternative:	
(e) E-mail	brooks@camosun.bc.ca		
(f) Website			

**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

(a) Strategies for Successful Writing Sixth Edition

(b) A dictionary

## 4. Course Content and Schedule

### Assignment Schedule

#### Week One

Course Introduction.

In-class narrative essay—weighting of 5%.

#### Week Two

Introduce peer-reviewing and establish discussion groups.

Submit research essay topic proposals.

#### Week Three

In-class test on Moses Milstein's *Memories of Montreal—and Richness* and Jeffrey Andreoni's *Why Can't I Feel What I See?*—with weighting of 5%—and other class exercises.

(In-class activities during the semester—four tests and an advertisement—will carry an overall weighting of 25%).

Library orientation tour.

#### Week Four

In-class exploration of the evolution of the English language.

In-class test on Richard Rodriguez' s *Private Language, Public Language* and Sasha Chapman' s *Manufacturing Taste* --with weighting of 5%.

#### Week Five

Review grammatical errors and create a grammar check list.

In-class brain-storming exercise.

#### Week Six

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

In-class test on Beth Wald' s *Let' s Get Vertical* and Geoff Dembicki' s *Four Tribes of Climate Change* --with weighting of 5%.

#### Week Seven

In-class expository essay on a hobby or recreational activity--with a weighting of 10%.

In-class instruction on how to give an oral report.

#### Week Eight

Conferences with students

Sign up for the oral progress report.

#### Week Nine

Oral reports on progress in the research essay project begin--with a weighting of 10%.

#### Week Ten

Oral reports continue.

300-word outline of the research essay due in--with weighting of 10%.

#### Week Eleven

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%.  
Form debating teams and start preparing debates.

### Week Twelve

Debate preparation continues.

Research essays due in—with a weighting of 20%.

### Week Thirteen

In-class debates begin with weighting of 10%

### Week Fourteen

Finish debates if necessary.

Final in-class argumentative essay on debate topics—with a weighting  
of 10%.

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

- (a) Narrative Essay 5%  
Expository Essay 10%  
Argument essay 10%  
Research Essay 20%
  
- (b) Three quizzes 15%
  
- (c) Exams
  
- (d) Advertisement 10%  
Oral report 10%  
Debate 10%  
Outline 10%

## **6. Grading System**

- Standard Grading System (GPA)
- Competency Based Grading System

## 7. Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

## 8. 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.

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

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

#### 1. 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

#### 2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

## 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.