

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ENGL-151: Academic Writing Strategies

CLASS SECTION: 032

TERM: Fall 2021

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In-person

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Max Olesen

EMAIL: olesenm@camosun.bc.ca

OFFICE: Paul Building, Room 328

HOURS: Monday/Wednesday – 1:00 – 2:00 pm; Tuesday/Thursday – 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course provides core critical thinking, reading, research and writing skills transferable to academic disciplines. Students practice various forms of academic writing, including summary, critical analysis, and written research. Analysis of textual rhetoric, discourse, and style, along with academic essay-writing, develops self-awareness of methods of inquiry, critique, and reflection.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative
- B in ENGL 170

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

- All class readings will be provided for access on our D2L course website, either as PDFs or links to a website. If paywalls are encountered, please contact me. You do not have to pay for access to any class readings.
- If any technical issues are encountered with your access to D2L or any Camosun website, please contact Camosun eLearning Support at eLearning@camosun.bc.ca.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

Class times and location: Tuesday/Thursday, 10:00-11:20 am, Young Building, Room 220

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
1: Sept. 6-10	Welcome and Introduction to Academic Writing; Overview of Academic Writing Essentials	In-Class Diagnostic Essay – Thurs., Sept. 9
2: Sept. 13-17	Ideas into Words: Sentences, Paragraphs, and Essays; Grammar and Vocabulary	
3: Sept. 20-24	Rhetorical Triangle and Appeals; Summarizing; Outlining	
4: Sept. 27 – Oct. 1	Patterns of Essay Development; Structuring Your Ideas	Summary & Rhetorical Analysis Essay due Tues., Sept. 28 Nat’l Day for Truth & Reconciliation – Thurs., Sept. 30 - College closed; no class
5. Oct. 4-8	Evaluating and Analyzing Persuasion	
6. Oct. 11-15	Using Sources; Quotation and Paraphrase	Thanksgiving – Mon., Oct. 11 – College closed

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
7. Oct. 18-22	Presenting Your Work; Providing Assessments, Evaluations and Feedback	Interview/Narrative Assignment due Tues., Oct. 19 Interview/Narrative Small Group Presentations & Peer Responses – Thurs., Oct. 21
8. Oct. 25-29	Using Logic; Reasoning from Evidence; Avoiding Misinformation; Academic Integrity	
9. Nov. 1-5	Introduction to Research Essay & Annotated Bibliography	
10. Nov. 8-12	Developing as a Researcher; Choosing and Using Research	Remembrance Day – Thurs., Nov. 11 – College closed; no class Summary & Critical Analysis Essay due Fri. Nov. 12
11. Nov. 15-19	Choosing & Using Research, continued; Completing Your Annotated Bibliographies	
12. Nov. 22-26	Organizing & Writing Your Research Essays	
13. Nov. 29 – Dec. 3	Editing & Revision; Completing Your Research Essay	Annotated Bibliography due Thurs., Dec. 2
14. Dec. 6-10	In-class Peer Review – Tues. Dec. 7 Research Essay Workshop – Thurs. Dec. 9	In-Class Research Essay Peer Review – Tues. Dec. 7 Research Essay due Fri., Dec. 10

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
In-Class Diagnostic Essay	5% (Completion)
In-Class Writing Responses & Participation	10%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Summary & Rhetorical Triangle Analysis Essay	10%
Interview/Narrative Assignment	10%
Interview/Narrative Small Group Presentation & Peer Response	5% (Completion)
Summary & Critical Analysis Essay	15%
Annotated Bibliography for Research Essay	15%
In-Class Research Essay Peer Review	5% (Completion)
Research Essay	25%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Assignment Expectations:

- All specific instructions for assignments will be provided on their respective assignment sheets.
- **Assignment submissions:** Please submit assignments to their assigned D2L drop-box by **11:59 pm (PST)** on their due dates.
- **Work to complete all assignments by their deadlines:** Deadlines are there to help us move through class at a smooth, manageable pace. However, if an assignment is unavoidably late it will receive a grade, but no comments. If an assignment is more than a week late without a formal extension, it will lose 5% per day including weekends.
- Requests for formal extensions will be considered on an individual basis in discussion with the instructor.

Class Environment:

- **This course is an inclusive, non-judgmental, and respectful space:** Our class is a shared environment where we are all learners and collaborators; it is a place where we have fun, learn, and express ourselves. New knowledge is gained when we learn collaboratively and feel connected. Respect for each other, and the many divergent views we will encounter in this course, is a requirement for all participants. Disagree with one another, but disrespectful language and actions are not tolerated. Practice judgment, maturity, politeness, and respect in all interactions and communications with your instructor and your fellow students.
- **Please practice polite tech etiquette:** Devices and computers, including smartphones, may be used in class as required for an instructor-directed activity or assignment (e.g., research or an in-class writing assignment), or if your CAL designation includes use of a computer. **Please mute your devices. No texting, calls, or social media use during class time.** You will be asked to leave the class if you are doing these

activities. If you must answer a call or text for personal reasons, please quietly excuse yourself from class to do so.

- **Communication outside class:** Check your email and D2L email regularly, as I send announcements and updates about class via them.
- **Please attend class whenever possible:** This term is unique, and if you are ill, please do not attend class. There may be other reasons that make it difficult or impossible to come to every class. If you are unable to attend class, please contact me as early as possible so that we can discuss how to proceed. I post class slides and assignments on our D2L Content page, but this class is an opportunity for face-to-face, interactive learning; participation is expected and encouraged for every class for the full class period. Your knowledge, experience, and perspective are valued by your classmates and by me. Your contributions will help all of us understand the material better. Please attend class when you can so that you can contribute to our conversations.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds

Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the “Attendance” section under “Registration Policies and Procedures”

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun’s Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student’s right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun’s Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College’s Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College’s expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.