



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of Humanities

PHIL-110-D01
Logic and Critical Thinking
Summer 2021

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is available on the web @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/phil.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.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Anthony J. Gavin	
(b) Office hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00am-11:30am	
(c) Location	Zoom (signup required)	
(d) Phone	Please email	Alternative:
(e) E-mail	gavina@camosun.bc.ca	
(f) Website	Through D2L	

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(If any changes are made to this part, then the Approved Course Description must also be changed and sent through the approval process.)

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

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.

3. Required Materials

Texts: Vaughn, Lewis and MacDonald, Chris. (2019) *The Power of Critical Thinking*. 5th Canadian Edition. Oxford University Press.

4. Course Content and Schedule

This will be an *asynchronous* online course, with an additional *synchronous* element. This means that there are no particular times of day when you need to watch course videos or complete your assigned work. There are still regular deadlines for completing assignments, so you will be expected to keep up with what we are covering in any given week.

The *synchronous* element of this course is as follows: every **Monday and Wednesday, from 10:00am-11:30am**, I will host an online seminar using the Collaborate tool on D2L. In each seminar we will go over practice questions from the previous lecture(s). I will have a bank of practice questions that we can work through, but students are also encouraged to show up with their own questions. This part of the course is technically optional—participation in the online seminars doesn't

count towards your final grade—but you are *highly encouraged* to take advantage of them. **Reading the assigned chapter is essential preparation for attending online seminars.**

Course videos will be captioned, and I will try to fix any errors in the automatic transcriptions, but please feel free to email me if you notice any remaining mistakes. If you notice any additional accessibility issues with respect to this class, please let me know and I will do my best to solve them. I would also encourage any students who might benefit from their services to consult the Centre for Accessible Learning (<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>).

You are welcome and encouraged to discuss course material with others in your class, and work together to solve problems. However, the work you turn in must be your own. If you are ever unsure about what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, please consult the college's Academic Integrity Policy (available at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>).

The course schedule at the end of this document lists the topics for each week and the relevant readings from the textbook. All of my course videos will be available on the course website prior to the start of the day when the material is covered.

Suggested weekly schedule:

Day(s)	Tasks
Monday	Read assigned materials, watch course videos. Slow down and review as needed. Attend weekly seminar. Schedule meeting with me during office hours if needed.
Tuesday	Read assigned materials and work on exercise problems. Work on assignments as needed.
Wednesday	Attend weekly seminar. Work on assignments as needed. Review week's materials and exercise problems as needed.
Thursday – Friday	Review week's materials and exercise problems as needed. Work on next week's assignments.

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Assignments: 40% (4 at 10% each)

There will be 4 assignments based on what has been discussed in lecture. No rewrites or deferrals. Further details will be provided on D2L and in lecture.

Assignment #1: **Due July 19**
Assignment #2: **Due July 28**
Assignment #3: **Due August 11**
Assignment #4: **Due August 18**

(b) Midterm (30%) **July 26**

(c) Final Exam (30%) **Scheduled by the College**

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

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.

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

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: www.camosun.ca

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, Student Ancillary Fees, Academic Integrity, Grade Review & Appeals, Student Misconduct and Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities and Student Penalties and Fines.

9. Communication and Office Hours

Email is my preferred method of communication, especially for any official requests. If you ask me a question over email, you can expect a reply within about 1 working day. If you don't hear back from me after that time frame, feel free to try again in case your message went astray. When you do address me (over email or otherwise), please do so as either Professor (Prof.) Gavin, or Anthony. If you are ever nervous about sending me an email, or asking a question, please feel free to include a picture of a cute animal or hilarious meme with your request. This will not affect whether or not I will be able to help you with your request, but it does provide a nice icebreaker. Finally, my pronouns are he/him/his. If you think I am unlikely to know the name you would prefer to be called, or the pronouns that I should use for you through the entry that I will see for you on D2L and your college registration, please don't hesitate to make me aware.

I will be available for office hours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 10:00am and 11:30am. My default platform for office hours will be Zoom, but if that does not work for you, please feel free to email me in advance to suggest an alternative. You will need to schedule an appointment beforehand. Appointments can be scheduled in 15 minute blocks. If you are working with a study group and would like to attend office hours as a group, simply designate one person to reserve the appointment and let me know who else will be attending.

PHIL 110-D01 COURSE SCHEDULE

All readings in textbook unless otherwise specified. Schedule subject to change if necessary.

- **July 5:** Chapter 1 - The Power of Critical Thinking (p. 2-20)
Exercises 1.1 - 1.7
- **July 7:** Chapter 2 - The "Environment" of Critical Thinking (p. 33-50)
Exercises 2.1 – 2.5
- **July 12:** Chapter 3 - Making Sense of Arguments (p. 63-110)
Exercises 3.1 – 3.7
- **July 14:** Chapter 4 - Reasons for Belief and Doubt (p. 122-159)
Exercises 4.1 – 4.3
- **July 19:** Chapter 5 - Faulty Reasoning (p. 174-197)
Exercises 5.1 – 5.3
Assignment #1 Due
- **July 21:** Chapter 5 - Faulty Reasoning (Continued)/Midterm Review
Exercises 5.1 – 5.3
- **July 26:** **Midterm**
- **July 28:** Chapter 6 - Deductive Reasoning: Categorical Logic (p. 214-242)
Exercises 6.1 – 6.8
Assignment #2 Due
- **August 2:** **British Columbia Day – NO CLASS OR SEMINAR**
- **August 4:** Chapter 7 - Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic (p. 248-276)
Exercises 7.1 – 7.10
- **August 9:** Chapter 7 - Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic (Continued)
Exercises 7.1 – 7.10
- **August 11:** Chapter 8 - Inductive Reasoning (p. 284-335)
Exercises 8.1 – 8.12
Assignment #3 Due
- **August 16:** Chapter 9 - Inference to the Best Explanation (p. 344-384)
Exercises 9.1 – 9.10
- **August 18:** Chapter 10 - Judging Scientific Theories (p. 390-424)
Exercises 10.1 – 10.9
Assignment #4 Due
- **DATE TBD:** **Final Exam** (to be scheduled by the college).