

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-110: Logic and Critical Thinking

CLASS SECTION: 110-001 in YOUNG 201 (Lecture & Seminar: 10:30-1:20 M/W)

TERM: Summer (July – August 2022)

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): in person

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̓SÁNEĆ 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: Juliette Christie

EMAIL: jchristie@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Young 312

HOURS: Monday/Wednesday, following Seminar (1:30 – 2:00) & by appointment

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 examines logical fallacies and issues such as distinctions between belief and attitude, objective and subjective, truth and validity. Real-life issues will be emphasized. In all cases the key question will be, have I been given good reasons for accepting a belief?

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

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. 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.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Text:

Chris MacDonald & Lewis Vaughn, *The Power of Critical Thinking – 5th Canadian Edition*, Oxford, University Press, 2019. [ISBN: 9 780199 030439]

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

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

Notice that a significant portion of assigned readings/pages involves practice questions. You do not have to do all of them; that would be overwhelming and unnecessary! The idea is to look over the exercises and to focus on those which directly connect to what has been emphasized in Lecture and Seminar. I will help you to select from the questions and we will work on a solid sample of them during Seminars (and Lecture, if the need arises). Doing practice exercises a second time, checking to see that you do understand them, or adding in new items from a section we have used will be an excellent way to study.

I WILL ANNOUNCE -- IN CLASS AND ON D2L -- ANY CHANGES TO TOPICS AND/OR READINGS.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
WEEK 1: July 4,6	Monday: Chapter 1 (2-28) & Chapter 2 (33-59) INTRODUCTION The Power & The Environment of Critical Thinking ***In-Seminar Assignment (1) Wednesday: Chapter 3 (63-91; 106; 109-112) Making Sense of Arguments ***In-Seminar Assignment (2)	If you are able to skim the noted pages from Chapters 1 & 2 before our first meeting, that would be marvellous.
WEEK 2: July, 11, 13	Monday: Chapter 4 (122-167) Reasons for Belief and Doubt ***In-Seminar Assignment (3) Wednesday: Chapter 5 (174-205) Faulty Reasoning (Fallacies & Unacceptable Premises) ***In-Seminar Assignment (4)	The 1st Take-Home Assignment will be distributed at the end of Wednesday's Seminar. It is due next Monday at the start of Lecture.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
WEEK 3: July 18, 20	Monday: First day of Chapter 6 (214-227) Deductive Reasoning: Categorical Logic Wednesday: Second day of Chapter 6 (227-247) Deductive Reasoning: Categorical Logic ***In-Seminar Assignment (5)	The 1st Take-Home Assignment is DUE at the start of Monday's Lecture. The 2nd Take-Home Assignment will be distributed at the end of Wednesday's Seminar. It is due next Monday at the start of Lecture.
WEEK 4: July 25, 27	Monday: First day of Chapter 7 (248-262) Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic Wednesday: Second day of Chapter 7 (264-270; 276-280) Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic ***In-Seminar Assignment (6)	The 2nd Take-Home Assignment is DUE at the start of Monday's Lecture. The 3rd Take-Home Assignment will be distributed at the end of Wednesday's Seminar. It is due next <i>Wednesday</i> at the start of Lecture.
WEEK 5: August 1, 4	Monday: HOLIDAY -- Class does not meet; no office hours Wednesday: First day of Chapter 8 (284-304) Inductive Reasoning ***In-Seminar Assignment (7)	The 3rd Take-Home Assignment is DUE at the start of Wednesday's Lecture.
Week 6: August 8, 10	Monday: Second day of Chapter 8 Inductive Reasoning (304-314; 323-329; 332-341) ***In-Seminar Assignment (8) Wednesday: Chapter 9 (344-374) Inference to the Best Explanation ***In-Seminar Assignment (9)	We began chapter 8 last Wednesday and will finish it this Monday. Chapter 9 overlaps this Wednesday and next Monday.
WEEK 7: August 15, 17	Monday: Second day of Chapter 9 (337-381; 384-388) ***In-Seminar Assignment (10) Wednesday: Full Review Toward Final Exam (including practice final questions to go over, together, in Seminar)	

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 noticed is required. Deadlines scan 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-Seminar Assignments will be completed in Seminar & handed in prior to leaving. There will be 10 of these Assignments. THE BEST 8 SCORES WILL COUNT. Each is worth up to a total of 5 points.	40%
Take-Home Assignments (assigned at the end of Seminar, weeks 2, 3 and 4) will be completed at home and handed in the following week at the <i>beginning</i> of Lecture. You may work alone or in groups, using text and notes. DO NOT USE OTHER/OUTSIDE SOURCES. Be certain that you are able to do the assignment on your own. THE BEST 2 SCORES WILL COUNT. Each offers a total of 15 possible points.	30%
The <i>cumulative</i> Final Exam (scheduled by the College) will be worth a total of 30 possible points.	30 %
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

Doing readings before class will be extremely helpful; a “skim” will work nicely. You can then reread after class. We will, together, work on subsets of the (voluminous!) exercises provided by the book. Work done during Seminar will involve text exercises or items which I supply. Take-home work will involve the same sources. You are definitely invited (and encouraged) to do more of the exercises in the text or to go over items again which we covered in class. You might, then, email me about them, discuss them during office hours with me, or – of course – bring them up during class.

THERE WILL BE NO REWRITES OF ASSIGNMENTS. Unexcused late work will not be accepted for a grade/score, but I will be willing to mark it with comments such that the learning opportunity is not missed. (An excuse for late work will need to be “official” – such as medical or emergency, and most definitely not things along the lines of cats chewing up homework or the beauty of the day! If you know, in advance, that there is a major life event which will prevent you from handing in work, please discuss it with me before the fact and we may be able to work around the event/date.)

Be sure to contact me if ever you should find course material confusing; it is easiest to attend to issues before they snowball. And, again, if you have questions about the course or would simply like to discuss topics a bit more, please do contact me. I read and respond to emails via D2L or by way of jchristie@camosun.ca. Remember that I will have office hours “by appointment” at mutually agreed upon times if that will assist you in your studies. (My regular office hours are set up when people will be on campus, directly after class. However, I am available outside of the regularly scheduled times if the need arises.)

Here's the general approach to take to Phil. 110: READ! PRACTICE! THINK! (... and ENJOY!)

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.

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.