

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: PHIL-110: Logic and Critical Thinking

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Summer 2023 (July-August)

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-To-Face

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: Dr. Philip Puszczalowski

EMAIL: [puszczalowskip@camosun.ca](mailto:puszczalowskip@camosun.ca)

OFFICE: Lansdowne: Y 312

HOURS: Tuesday & Thursday: 1:30pm – 2:30pm (Or 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

---

(a) **Required Text:** Vaughn, Lewis and MacDonald, Chris. (2019) *The Power of Critical Thinking*. 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition. Oxford University Press.

(b) Other necessary readings will be posted or linked on the class D2L website.

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

---

**Lecture:** Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:30am – 12:20pm (Y 217).

**Seminars:** Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12:30pm – 1:20pm (Y 217).

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
<b>Lecture #1</b> July 4 (Lecture) July 4 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 1 – The Power of Critical Thinking</b> L: Chapter 1 – The Power of Critical Thinking (p. 2-20). S: Exercises 1.1 -1.7	
<b>Lecture #2</b> July 6 (Lecture) July 6 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 2 – The “Environment” of Critical Thinking</b> L: Chapter 2 – The “Environment” of Critical Thinking (p. 33-50). S: Exercises 2.1 -2.5	
<b>Lecture #3</b> July 11 (Lecture) July 11 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 3 – Making Sense of Arguments</b> L: Chapter 3 – Making Sense of Arguments (p. 63-110). S: Exercises 3.1 -3.7	
<b>Lecture #4</b> July 13 (Lecture) July 13 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 4 – Reasons for Belief and Doubt</b> L: Chapter 4 – Reasons for Belief and Doubt (p. 122-159). S: Exercises 4.1 -4.3	
<b>Lecture #5</b> July 18 (Lecture) July 18 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 5 – Faulty Reasoning</b> L: Chapter 5 – Faulty Reasoning (p. 174-197). S: Exercises 5.1 -5.3	<b>Assignment #1 Due (July 18)</b>

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
<b>Lecture #6</b> July 20 (Lecture) July 20 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 5 – Faulty Reasoning (Continued)/Midterm Review</b> L: Chapter 5 – Faulty Reasoning (p. 174-197). S: Exercises 5.1 -5.3	
July 25 (Lecture) July 25 (Seminar)	L: <b>Midterm</b> S: <b>No Seminar</b>	
<b>Lecture #7</b> July 27 (Lecture) July 27 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 6 – Deductive Reasoning: Categorical Logic</b> L: Chapter 6 – Deductive Reasoning: Categorical Logic (p. 214-242). S: Exercises 6.1 -6.8	<b>Assignment #2 Due (July 27)</b>
<b>Lecture #8</b> August 1 (Lecture) August 1 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 7 – Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic</b> L: Chapter 7 – Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic (p. 248-276). S: Exercises 7.1 -7.10	
<b>Lecture #9</b> August 3 (Lecture) August 3 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 7 – Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic (Continued)</b> L: Chapter 7 – Deductive Reasoning: Propositional Logic (p. 248-276). S: Exercises 7.1 -7.10	
<b>Lecture #10</b> August 8 (Lecture) August 8 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 8 – Inductive Reasoning</b> L: Chapter 8 – Inductive Reasoning (p. 284-335). S: Exercises 8.1 -8.12	<b>Assignment #3 Due (August 8)</b>
<b>Lecture #11</b> August 10 (Lecture) August 10 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 9 – Inference to the Best Explanation</b> L: Chapter 9 – Inference to the Best Explanation (p. 344-384). S: Exercises 9.1 -9.10	
<b>Lecture #12</b> August 15 (Lecture) August 15 (Seminar)	<b>Chapter 10 – Judging Scientific Theories</b> L: Chapter 10 – Judging Scientific Theories (p. 390-424). S: Exercises 10.1 -10.9	<b>Assignment #4 Due (August 15)</b>
<b>Lecture #13</b> August 17 (Lecture) August 17 (Seminar)	<b>Catch-Up Day &amp; Final Exam Review</b>	

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
<b>(a) Seminars</b> Each seminar we will go over practice questions for that day's lecture, as well as questions/problems from the previous lecture. Students are expected to be engaged and participate. Students will be graded on a pass/fail basis. The best 10 will form the grade for this portion of the course. No rewrites or deferrals. Further details will be distributed each seminar meeting. <b>Reading the assigned chapter is essential preparation.</b>	<b>10% Total</b> 10 at 1% each Graded as Pass/Fail
<b>(b) Assignments</b> 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: <b>Due July 18</b> Assignment #2: <b>Due July 27</b> Assignment #3: <b>Due August 8</b> Assignment #4: <b>Due August 15</b>	<b>30% total</b> 4 at 7.5% each
<b>(c) Midterm – July 25</b> Further Instructions TBA	<b>30% Total</b>
<b>(d) Final Exam – Scheduled by the College</b> Further instructions TBA.	<b>30% Total</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

---

### (a) Missing Classes

If you miss a class due to illness or some other reason, it is not necessary to notify me, **unless** a test is missed. If classes are missed, it is the student's responsibility to find out from another student what was covered or check D2L and the course outline.

### (b) Missed Tests

Make up tests will be permitted only in cases of illness or personal crisis. A make up test will not be scheduled until proper medical documentation is provided.

## 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	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</a>

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](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto: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.