



APR 22 2003

Course Outline

A POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

School of Computing and Academic Studies
Program: Pre-entry Communication

COMM 0004 CRN 27280
**Technical Communication for Second
Language Students**

Start Date:	April 7, 2003	End Date:	May 9, 2003
Total Hours:	84	Total Weeks:	5.25
Hours/Week:	16	Lecture:	Lab:
Prerequisites:	is a Prerequisite for:		
Course No.	Course Name	Course No.	Course Name
COMM 0003	Writing, Speaking, Listening, and Reading Skills for Technical Communication for Second Language Students	COMM 0005	Technical English and Learning Skills for Second Language Students
COMM 0009	Communication Placement Test (placement at the COMM 0004 entry level)		

■ Course Description (required)

Students will learn the writing, reading, speaking, and listening skills needed to carry out writing and speaking tasks in COMM 0005 and in trades' courses. This course covers sentence and paragraph development, listening & reading comprehension, speaking, and grammatical skills.

■ Detailed Course Description (optional)

COMM 0004 consists of 21 four-hour classes. This course is designed to prepare students whose first language is not English, yet who have good writing and speaking skills for study at BCIT. The course focuses on developing the listening, reading, writing, speaking, and study skills required for technical and business communication.

■ Evaluation

Assignments	40%
Oral presentation/expression	10%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
TOTAL	100%

Comments:

■ Course Learning Outcomes/Competencies

Upon successful completion, the student will be able to:

WRITE

- 1) Organize, draft, revise, and edit a variety of text
- 2) Identify and correct major grammatical, structural and lexical errors; demonstrate control over sentence structure errors in own writing
- 3) Use a wide range of sentence patterns appropriately in written tasks
- 4) Recognize and demonstrate an understanding of audience (e.g. needs, background knowledge) and purpose
- 5) Use appropriate vocabulary to express message clearly
- 6) Choose and apply appropriate paragraph organization when writing on a familiar, relevant or previously researched subject.

READ

- 1) Read and understand a wide variety of written materials of moderate length
- 2) Read and analyze a wide range of writing to analyze sentence structure
- 3) Comprehend less familiar and/or technical terms using a range of decoding strategies and context clues
- 4) Adjust reading techniques according to the level of the material and the purpose of reading

SPEAK

- 1) Ask questions to clarify instructions; respond to questions appropriately
- 2) Demonstrate the use of appropriate verbal and nonverbal communication skills (e.g., turn-taking, eye contact, body language)
- 3) Provide appropriate peer feedback
- 4) Participate effectively in a variety of classroom activities

LISTEN

- 1) Understand discussions, instructions, and lectures at a normal rate of speech
- 2) Understand a variety of natural speech with a varied rate of delivery with some dependence on repetition

■ Verification

I verify that the content of this course outline is current.

Authoring Instructor

Date

I verify that this course outline has been reviewed.

Program Head/Chief Instructor

Date

I verify that this course outline complies with BCIT policy.

Dean/Associate Dean

Date

Note: Should changes be required to the content of this course outline, students will be given reasonable notice.

■ Instructor(s)

Autumn Winter Office Location: SE 41 110 Office Phone: 604.451.7044 box 9312
Office Hrs.: by appointment E-mail Address: awinter@bcit.ca

■ Learning Resources

For this course, you will be provided, at no cost to you, with six draft learning modules.

Module 1 – Introduction to technical communication

Module 2 – Classification

Module 3 – Process description

Module 4 – Cause and effect

Module 5 – Comparison

Module 6 – Interpreting visual data

Recommended:

You'll want to have a good English to English dictionary. You may wish to bring your English dictionary to each class if you want to improve your spelling, vocabulary, and comprehension.

■ Information for Students

(Information below can be adapted and supplemented as necessary.)

Assignments: Late assignments, lab reports or projects will **not** be accepted for marking. Assignments must be done on an individual basis unless otherwise specified by the instructor.

Makeup Tests, Exams or Quizzes: There will be **no** makeup tests, exams or quizzes. If you miss a test, exam or quiz, you will receive zero marks. Exceptions may be made for **documented** medical reasons or extenuating circumstances. In such a case, it is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor **immediately**.

Ethics: BCIT assumes that all students attending the Institute will follow a high standard of ethics. Incidents of cheating or plagiarism may, therefore, result in a grade of zero for the assignment, quiz, test, exam, or project for all parties involved and/or expulsion from the course.

Attendance: The attendance policy as outlined in the current BCIT Calendar will be enforced. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session. Students not present at that time will be recorded as absent.

Illness: A doctor's note is required for any illness causing you to miss assignments, quizzes, tests, projects, or exam. At the discretion of the instructor, you may complete the work missed or have the work prorated.

Attempts: Students must successfully complete a course within a maximum of three attempts at the course. Students with two attempts in a single course will be allowed to repeat the course only upon special written permission from the Associate Dean. Students who have not successfully completed a course within three attempts will not be eligible to graduate from the appropriate program.

Course Outline Changes: The material or schedule specified in this course outline may be changed by the instructor. If changes are required, they will be announced in class.

■ Assignment Details

You are required to complete all assignments—practice and graded—for this course as well as write the midterm and the final exam. In-class assignments must be completed and handed in during the class in which they are given. Any take-home assignments must be submitted at the beginning of the next class.

If you miss an in-class assignment, it is your responsibility to arrange with the instructor to write it in another class or at another time under the instructor's supervision. If you fail to do so, you will receive a grade of zero for the assignment. Assignments received after other students' marked assignments have been returned will receive comments but no grade.

All writing assignments must meet the following requirements:

1. Acceptable Paper. Use lined 8-1/2 by 11" notepaper. If you want to word-process assignments, ask your instructor.
2. Functional Margins and Double-Spaced. Leave 1" margins on all sides of the assignment to allow for marking. Write only on every second line to leave room for the instructor's comments.

Proper Identification. Write your name and course number on the top right hand corner of each page.

Schedule

Week of/ Number	Outcome/Material Covered	Reference/ Reading	Assignment	Due Date
1-2	Technical/Business writing			
3-4	Classification		Assignment #1 paragraph and list (April 10)	
5-6	Cause Effect/Action Outcome		Assignment #2 (hand-in take home April 14) Assignment # 3 (April 17)	
7-9	Language lab		Assignment #4 listening (April 22)	
10 Wed, April 23	MIDTERM EXAM			
11-13	Comparison		Assignment #5 comparison	
14-16	Process description		Assignment #6	
17-19	Oral presentations/interpreting visual data		Assignment #7 (May 06)	
20	Review of language structures learned		Assignment #8 listening (May 08)	
21 Fri, May 09	FINAL EXAM			