



BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Operating Unit: Academic Studies  
Program: Pre-Entry Communication

## Course Outline

**COMM. 0004**

Introduction to BCIT for EAL Students

<b>Start Date:</b>	September 12	<b>End Date:</b>	November 21
<b>Course Credits:</b>	N/A	<b>Term/Level:</b>	PreEntry
<b>Total Hours:</b>	84		
<b>Total Weeks:</b>	11		
<b>Hours/Week:</b>	8		

### Prerequisites: COMM 0003 or Placement Test

Students in COMM 0004 must be at an advanced level of English. In the first class of this 84-hour course, you are given a placement test to determine eligibility.

### Course 0004 is a Prerequisite for: 0005

You will need to obtain a minimum grade of 65% in COMM 0004 to enter COMM 0005.

**Course Calendar Description:** 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.

**Course Goals:** COMM 0004 consists of 14 six-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 listening, reading, writing, speaking, and study skills required for technical and business communication, with particular emphasis on writing skills.

### Evaluation

Assignments	40%
Professionalism and Participation	5%
Oral Presentation	5%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Course Learning Outcomes/Competencies:** When you have successfully completed this course, you should be able to:

**Writing Skills**

1. Write sentences that are clear, concise, and grammatically correct
2. Identify and correct spelling errors
3. Organize paragraphs effectively
4. Organize and develop your ideas effectively in written assignments
5. Edit and proofread written assignments

**Reading and Learning Skills**

1. Read textbooks, handouts, and articles with greater comprehension and retention
2. Identify main ideas and important details in reading assignments and lectures
3. Prepare successfully for exams
4. Use an English-to-English dictionary.

**Listening and Speaking Skills**

1. Plan, organize, and deliver an effective oral presentation.
2. Understand spoken instructions, explanations, and questions.

**Course Content Verification**

I verify that the content of this course outline is current, accurate, and complies with BCIT Policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Program Head/Chief Instructor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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



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Introduction to BCIT for EAL Students

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### Instructor Information

**Name:** Andrea Matthews                      **Office Location:** SW3 4705  
**Office Phone:** 451-7044                      **Office Hours:** N/A  
**E-mail Address:** Andrea\_Matthews@bcit.ca

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### Learning Resources

#### Required:

**Module 1** – Getting To Know Each Other: Finding Out About Students In Technology, Business, And Trades.

**Module 2** – Getting To Know Your Campus And What It Has To Offer You As Students In Technology, Business and Trades

**Module 3** - Deciding On a Program In Technology, Business, And Trades.

For your hand-written assignments, you'll need

- 3-hole lined 8-1/2 by 11" notepaper
- a pen (black or blue ink only) or HB pencil
- liquid paper or other means of making corrections neatly
- 2 write – on overhead transparencies
- 2 different colored water-soluble (washable) overhead transparency pens

**Recommended:** You'll want to have a good **English –to English dictionary**. I strongly recommend you bring your English dictionary to each class if you want to improve your spelling, vocabulary, and comprehension.

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**BCIT Policy Information for Students:** As a BCIT student, you should familiarize yourself with the following BCIT policies and the procedures used in applying these policies:

**Conduct and attendance Policy:** BCIT is committed to creating and maintaining an environment that is conducive to learning. In doing so, students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times, respecting other people's rights, property, environment, health and safety, and are held responsible for their own and collective actions. See the 2000 Full-time Calendar for more information about this policy.

**Harassment and Discrimination Policy:** BCIT and its management, together with the unions and the Student Association, are committed to providing an environment where the individual differences of all

students and employees are valued and respected - an environment free from harassment and discrimination. See the 1999 Full-time Calendar for more information about this policy.

### **I.D. Required in Examination Centres**

Effective December 2000, in order to write exams, students will be required to produce photo-identification at examination centres. Photo I.D. must be placed on the desk before an exam will be issued to the student. The I.D. must remain in view on the desk while writing the exam, for inspection by invigilators. Students should bring a BCIT OneCard or alternatively two pieces of identification, one of which must be government photo I.D. such as a drivers license. Please see BCIT Policy #5300, Formal Invigilation Procedures.

This is not a complete list of all BCIT policies relating to students. Other policies, including Reassessment and Appeal Policy and Freedom of Information Policy are outlined in the 1999 Full-time Calendar. Check with the Pre-Entry program head if you have any questions about policies.

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**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. You will have approximately 10 assignments – one each class exclusive of the first, Midterm, next to last, and Final 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. Please start writing on the side of the page that has holes on the **left**.

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.

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**Professionalism and Participation:** BCIT prides itself on the professionalism of its students, who are welcome in any workplace because of their proven ability to show up and do the job in a way that earns the respect of their coworkers and supervisors.

To meet workplace standards, you'll have to

- Submit all assignments on time, or obtain extensions before deadlines
- Attend all classes, or explain an absence the same way you would have to excuse yourself for not being able to come in to work
- Treat each other and your instructor with courtesy and consideration
- Contribute to the success of your course by participating actively in every class.



### OUTLINE OF YOUR WORK FOR THIS COURSE

(schedule is subject to change based on the instructor's perception of the needs of the class)

CLASS	TOPIC	LANGUAGE SKILL	STRUCTURE
1	Getting to Know Each Other	Introduction to the course Module 1 DESCRIBING <b>Assignment #1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sentence structure</li> <li>• types of sentences</li> </ul>
2	Getting to Know Students in Technical Programs	Module 1 DESCRIBING EDITING <b>Assignment #2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incomplete/incorrect sentences</li> <li>• Types of fragments</li> </ul>
3	Getting to Know the Class	Module 1 DESCRIBING COMPARING <b>Assignment #3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing paragraphs</li> <li>• Main idea sentences</li> <li>• Supporting details</li> </ul>
4	Finding out about BCIT	Module 2 COMPARING <b>Assignment #4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepositions</li> <li>• Order of adjectives</li> <li>• Comparative vocabulary</li> <li>• Subject/verb agreement</li> <li>• Countable/uncountable nouns</li> </ul>
5	Thinking about your own future education	Module 2 COMPARING <b>Assignment #5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlining paragraphs</li> <li>• Structuring comparative paragraphs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>side by side</li> <li>point by point</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6	Improving Your Study Skills	Reviewing all language skills learned to date	
7 Date: Sept. 30	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	<b>Assignment #6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language of evaluation</li> </ul>
8	Classifying Programs at BCIT	Module 3 CLASSIFICATION <b>Assignment #7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classification language</li> <li>• Passive and active voice</li> <li>• Listing structures</li> <li>• Parallel structure</li> </ul>
9	Making and Justifying Decisions	Module 3 INDIRECT SPEECH <b>Assignment #8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indirect questions</li> <li>• Direct question</li> </ul>

10 - 11	Making and Justifying Decisions, cont.  Preparing Oral Presentations	Module 3 SEQUENCING Assignment #10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language of cause and effect</li> <li>• Language of justification</li> </ul>
12	Giving Oral Presentations	Module 3 Cause and effect Assignment #10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language of cause and effect</li> <li>• Language of justification</li> </ul>
13	Reviewing What You've Learned in Comm 0004	Review of all language structures learned	
Date: Oct 22	FINAL EXAM		