

Course Outline

BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

School: Computing and Academic Studies

Department: Pre-Entry Communication

COMM. 0004

Introduction to BCIT for EAL Students

Start Date: May 7

End Date: July 20

Course Credits: 0

Term/Level:

Total Hours: 98

Total Weeks:

Hours/Week:

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, reading comprehension, speaking, and grammatical skills.

Course Goals: 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 reading, writing, speaking, and study skills required for technical and business communication, with particular emphasis on writing skills.

Evaluation

Writing Assignments	40%
Professional and Participation	10%
Presentation	5%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	30%
TOTAL	100%

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

WRITING Skills

- 1) Organize, draft, revise, and edit a variety of texts
- 2) Identify and correct major grammatical, structural and lexical errors; demonstrate control over sentence structure errors in own reading
- 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.

READING Skills

- 1) Read and understand a wide variety of written materials of moderate length
- 2) Read and analyze a wide range of texts to analyze sentence structures
- 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 for reading

SPEAKING Skills

- 1) Ask questions to clarify instructions; respond to questions appropriately
- 2) Demonstrate the use of appropriate of 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

LISTENING Skills

- 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

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.



BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Operating Unit: Academic Studies
Program: Pre-Entry Communication

COMM 0004
Introduction to BCIT for EAL Students

Instructor Information

Name: Andrea Matthews **Office Location:** SW2-209

Office Phone: 451-6855 **Office Hours:** by appointment

E-mail Address: Andrea_Matthews@bcit.ca

Learning Resources

Required:

Oxford Practice Grammar (available in the BCIT bookstore, approx. \$24).

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.

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 page 2 of the 1999 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.

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. 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.

Note: You are responsible for 2 journal entries per week, which will be read and responded to but not corrected. You will be given a mark for your journal to be included with your participation grade.

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 Assignment #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sentence structure • types of sentences
2 – 3	Getting to Know Students in Technical Programs	Module 1 DESCRIBING EDITING Assignment #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incomplete/incorrect sentences • Types of fragments
4 – 6	Getting to Know the Class	Module 1 DESCRIBING COMPARING Assignment #3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing paragraphs • Main idea sentences • Supporting details
7	Finding out about BCIT	Module 2 COMPARING Assignment #4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepositions • Order of adjectives • Comparative vocabulary • Subject/verb agreement • Countable/uncountable nouns
8	Thinking about your own future education	Module 2 COMPARING Assignment #5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlining paragraphs • Structuring comparative paragraphs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> side by side point by point
9 – 10	Improving Your Study Skills	Reviewing all language skills learned to date	
11 Date: _____	MIDTERM EXAM	Assignment #6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language of evaluation
12	Classifying Programs at BCIT	Module 3 CLASSIFICATION Assignment #7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification language • Passive and active voice • Listing structures • Parallel structure
13 – 15	Making and Justifying Decisions	Module 3 INDIRECT SPEECH Assignment #8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indirect questions • Direct question