



BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Operating Unit: Academic Studies  
Program: Pre-Entry Communication

## Course Outline

**COMM. 0005**

*Technical and Learning Skills for  
Second Language Students*

**Start Date:** May 6, 2002

**End Date:** August 9, 2002

**Course Credits:** 0

**Term/Level:** COMM 0005 - 26733

**Total Hours:** 117

**Total Weeks:** 14

**Hours/Week:** 9

(May 20, July 1, and August 5 are statutory holidays.)

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**Prerequisites: COMM 0004 or Placement Test**

Students in COMM 0005 must be at an advanced level of English. In the first class of this 99-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 0005 to receive a "P" in English 12. This will allow you to enroll in a full-time program at BCIT. Some programs require a 70% (C), and others require a 75% (C+).

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**Course Calendar Description:** Prepares students whose first language is not English but have good writing and speaking skills. You will learn the writing, reading, speaking, listening and study skills needed for BCIT full-time programs.

The course covers essentials of business language skills. A grade of 65% in this course equals a "P" in English 12 articulated at Level IV of English for Academic Purposes. Check with BCIT Admissions to find out the final grade that you need for the program you are planning to take.

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**Course Goals:** COMM 0005 consists of 39 3-hour classes. This course is designed to prepare students whose first language is not English. The course focuses on developing reading, writing, speaking, and study skills required for BCIT full-time programs. Sentence and paragraph development, reading comprehension, speaking, study and grammatical skills are emphasized.

You will also practice revising your work and proof-reading for major errors in sentence structure, grammar and vocabulary. You will be given principles and guidelines in each class, and then apply the principles in individual and group exercises.

## Evaluation

Writing Assignments & Quizzes	50%
Oral Presentation	10%
Revisions, professionalism & participation	5%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Course Learning Outcomes/Competencies

**Writing Skills:** when you have successfully completed this course, you will be able to

- write sentences that are clear, concise, and grammatically correct
- identify and correct spelling errors
- organize paragraphs effectively
- organize and develop your ideas effectively in written assignments
- edit and proofread written assignments.

**Reading and Learning Skills:** when you have successfully completed this course, you will be able to

- read textbooks, handouts, and articles with greater comprehension and retention
- identify main ideas and important details in reading assignments and lectures
- effectively use library facilities for research and study
- take effective notes from written course materials
- prepare successfully for exams
- work effectively with others in group projects
- use an English-to English dictionary.

**Listening and Speaking Skills:** when you have successfully completed this course, you will be able to

- plan, organize, and deliver an effective oral presentation
- improve the grammatical correctness of your speech.



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**COMM 0005**  
Introduction to BCIT for EAL Students

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### **Instructor Information**

**Name:** John Keith

**Office Location:** SW3 4705

**Office Phone:** 451-7044 ext.

**Office Hours:** by appointment

**E-mail Address:** John\_Keith@bcit.ca

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### **Learning Resources**

#### **Required:**

*Writing for Success* by Dale Fitzpatrick. Course Manual, Communication Department, BCIT (available from the book store).

An English-to English dictionary.

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.
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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 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 Full-time Calendar for more information about this policy.

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 Full-time Calendar. Check with the Pre-Entry program head if you have any questions about policies.

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## Assignment Details:

1. You are required to complete a minimum of 6 marked writing assignments in this course, in addition to other exercises, both marked and unmarked, and short quizzes.
2. You must complete all assignments to be eligible to pass this course. You will have two types of assignments: in-class or take-home. The in-class assignments must be completed and handed in during the class in which they are given. The take-home assignments must be submitted at the beginning of the next class.
3. 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.
4. Unless you have obtained an extension, you will be assessed a late penalty of 10% per day for late assignments. 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. 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.

3 Assignments may be handwritten in black or blue ink or word-processed.

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

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**Teaching Methods:** We will be using teaching methods which have proven effective for teaching students at BCIT:

1. Team work. Just as in all courses at BCIT, you will be working in small groups. This will allow you to develop the interpersonal skills you need to succeed at BCIT and in the workplace. You will also learn more in groups as you teach and support each other.
  2. Peer-editing. You'll work with one or two partners to locate, discuss, and correct errors in each other's work.
  3. Explaining in your own words. You'll be reading from textbooks, case studies, and handouts and then putting the ideas into your own words. You will know you have gained knowledge and language skills when you are able to explain the ideas clearly to your team members and to your instructors.
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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.