

COURSE OUTLINE FOR ENGLISH 273 (Mechanical and Electronics Eng)
Technical and Professional Communications 3
Summer/2004

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Texts: Handouts
(Optional but Useful): *A Canadian Pocket Style Manual*, Diana Hacker

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Engl 273 (1.5) - English 273 provides individual and group communications support for students in their final-year technology project course. Written assignments include a technical proposal, a progress report, a professional brochure, and a formal technical report. Presentation assignments include short oral progress reports, longer PowerPoint presentations and professional trade-show displays.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Course Content

WRITING FORMATS

WRITING STYLE

DOCUMENT DESIGN

Students will

- write a formal report on a design specification using correct formal and documentation.
- write a technical proposal which demonstrates the clarity and the value of the technical concept being advocated.
- write a progress report in memorandum format which demonstrate the team's status, keep, and constantly update a log book of personal data, activities, ideas, and results, complete a peer evaluation form assessing each group member write in a style that exhibits brevity and clarity and avoids words of low information content.
- analyze the informational needs and backgrounds of various audiences (scientific, technical, lay) requiring technical reports and use technical vocabulary appropriate for the intended audience.
- design documents for readability: short paragraphs, bullets, headings, tables, effective space

DOCUMENT INTEGRITY

ORAL REPORTING

TEAM WORK

- illustrate technical documents appropriately (charts, graphs and tables) using the appropriate technical-writing conventions
- employ numbers, SI units, equations and abbreviations according to modern conventions for written documents.

write all technical documents using correct spelling, grammar and usage.
present a specification completion report orally to instructors and peers using a variety of visual aids.
use the principles and dynamics of working in a team to enhance the quality of reports.
use the principles of conflict resolution in a team setting to maximize the efficiency of group work.

ATTENDANCE

For every class, I prepare and cover material that is vital and valuable. If you miss a class or a group meeting, it is your responsibility to know the material I have covered and to complete the assignments due. I prefer that you contact me if you are going to miss a class.

ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

YOU MUST SUBMIT ALL ASSIGNMENTS TO PASS THIS COURSE.

Late Submission Policy: You must submit assignments on time. If you know that you will be submitting an assignment late, consult me on or before the due date and let me know the exact date that you will submit the assignment. The late penalty will be 5% per day. If you do not consult me about a late assignment, the late penalty will be 10% per day. You will give a grade of 0 once assignments are handed back to the class.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating in that you are using someone else's words, ideas, opinions, or facts as though they are your own. Words belong to the person who prints or speaks them; to claim them as your own is a form of stealing, which, translated into our academic setting, means cheating. Plagiarism will result in a grade of zero and a meeting with me to discuss subsequent action.

ASSIGNMENT FORMAT: Please follow these conventions for all assignments:

Use white paper 8 X 11.5 inches.

Write on one side of the paper.

Ensure high print quality (Use 12-point font).

Single space text with double space between paragraphs. Use block format (no indentations).

Default to the margins designated by your word processing software (no less than one inch all round). Adjust only if appearance is not compromised.

For multi-page assignments place page numbers and, for memos, abbreviated subject lines on subsequent pages. Staple pages in top left corner.

Submit pink evaluation sheets with every assignment that uses one. You must complete all information at the top of this pink evaluation sheet. Submit it with your assignment; do not affix it to your assignment. I will not mark your assignment unless you include a pink sheet with it.

Please, do not include any title pages, covers, binders, laminates or any protective apparatus to your assignments. Just submit your assignment (stapled) and the pink evaluation sheet (unaffixed).

(English 273 formal reports and user manuals excepted)

PRINCIPLES OF EVALUATION OF COURSE WORK

There is no maximum percentage of an assignment mark deducted for grammar and usage.

No writing assignment will be given a passing grade if it contains more than one serious error for every 100 words..

At least one writing assignment will be written in class.

There will not be a final exam.

EXIT REQUIREMENTS

Students must

meet attendance requirements of instructor.

meet assignment submission deadlines of instructor.

complete all assignments on the major assignment List and the test list to a 60% mastery level.

demonstrate, to the instructor's satisfaction, knowledge of key principles of grammar and usage.

ENGLISH 273 COURSE EVALUATION

1. Proposal (Project Statement)1000 Max
15%
2. Group Progress Report (Written)500 Max
10%
3. Group Progress Report (Oral)9-12 minutes
5%
4. Formal Report (Design Project)2500 Min
35%
5. Final PresentationDisplay/12-16min
15%
6. Personal Performance Review
5%
7. Log Book (See note below)
Will Vary
0%

Note that you must keep a log book. You will be required to produce it, upon request.

A+ = 95-100%

A = 90-94

A- = 85-89

B+ = 80-84

B = 75-79

B- = 70-74%

C+ = 65-69

C = 60-64

D = 50-59%

F = Below 50%

IN = Incomplete, must be negotiated