

Syllabus Spring 2016

English 202:	Technical Writing
Instructor:	Bonnie Yeomans
E-mail:	BYeomans@trcc.commnet.edu
Office Hours:	By appointment, before and after class, and on-line chats
Required Text:	Technical Writing by John Lannon 13 th ed.
Materials:	one notebook, one folder, flash drive

Course Description:

This course develops writing skills needed in the workplace. After targeting an audience, you will complete an array of assignments: memos, letters, visuals, instructions, proposals, formal analytical reports, etc. Topics for these assignments may relate to your major. You will learn how to format pages, incorporate visuals into your writing, and give brief oral presentations based on your written assignments.

Learning Objectives

- Recognize the difference between academic writing and writing in business, industry and technical fields
- Understand the importance of error-free documents in the workplace
- Prepare documents with clarity and economy of words
- Recognize and adjust for audience background and knowledge when creating workplace documents
- Create visuals for documents that are well-integrated into the text
- Format documents to fit specific writing assignments including, but not limited to, letters, memos, proposals, and short reports
- Produce a formal, analytical report using advanced research techniques
- Prepare and give an oral presentation of the formal report's major findings
- Collaborate and be a team player
- Manage writing projects in ways found in workplace settings

Class time-Tuesday and Thursday (8:00-9:15)

Location: E116

- lectures,
- discussions
- collaborative writings

Class time will be a combination of lectures, discussions, and collaborative writing to prepare you for your individual writing assignments. Class will simulate the workplace where you are employees who will be provided the opportunity to learn how to write business documents in a friendly environment.

- ***You will be expected to spend at least 2 hours on your class work each week besides the regular class time commitment.***

Homework

Two types of homework are assigned in this class:

I. Individual Work

- preparing individual writing assignments
- accomplishing posted chapter readings
- completing homework exercises
- taking quizzes

Individual Writing Assignments: (Tentative Schedule)

Due

• Personal Inventory	5pts.	01/26/16
• Audience Awareness	5pts.	02/02/16
• Research-Phase 1	5pts.	02/16/16
• Visual Aid	5pts.	03/01/16
• Correspondence Portfolio	15pts.	03/15/16
• Resume	5pts.	03/29/16
• Long Report Proposal	5pts.	04/07/16
• Instructions	5pts.	04/14/16
• Long report outline, body/text rough Draft (APA)	10pts.	04/26/16
• Long report rough draft (abstract, front and back parts)		04/28/16
• Long Written Report final copy and start oral presentations	20pts.	05/03/16
• Oral presentations continue		05/05/16
• Finish Oral Presentations Evaluation Letter		05/10/16

Your writing assignments will be difficult if you don't complete the reading.)

II. Collaborative Homework

20pts.

- Participation in all collaborative projects in class and outside of class as needed.

Each week you will have collaborative assignments. These are the ones that you work with your team/group to complete by sharing the responsibilities and may involve *computer-supported collaboration*.

- **Keep in mind that you may find yourself working on individual and collaborative work simultaneously so organization is imperative.**

When you do assignments in a group, you may pass in one copy with the names of the group members at the top of the page. However, each person must have a copy in class so they can participate in class discussions.

- All **homework assignments**, both **individual and collaborative**, must be **word processed** and handed in on the day due in class. They will be considered late if not. Any homework or individual assignments still not passed in a week after their due date will be evaluated, but you will receive no credit.

Do not e-mail your assignments unless specified.

All homework assignments and individual writing assignments will be posted on Blackboard Learn

- I check my email for any questions usually in the morning, afternoon and evening.

Tentative Chapter Reading Assignments Schedule

Week 1-Jan. 21-Introduction to Tech Writing

Read Chapter 1-Introduction to Technical Communication

Read Chapter 2-Meeting the Needs of Specific Audience

Week 2-Jan. 26 and 28

Continue discussion of Chapters 1 and 2

Read Chapter 5-Teamwork and Global Considerations

Week 3-Feb. 2 and 4

Read Chapter 11-Editing for a Professional Style and Tone

Week 4-Feb. 9 and 11

Read Chapter 7-Thinking Critically about the Research Process

Week 5-Feb.16 and 18
Read Chapter 13-Designing Pages and Documents

Week 6-Feb. 23 and 25
Read Chapter 12-Designing Visual Information

Week 7-March 1 and 3
Read Chapter14-Memos
Read Chapter 15-Email and Text Messaging
Read Chapter 16-Workplace Letters

Week 8-March 8 and 10
Workplace Correspondence Continues

Week 9-March 15 and 17
Read Chapter 17-Resumes and Other Job-Search Materials

March 22 and 24
Spring Break-No Class

Week 10-March 29 and March 31
Review Chapter 17-Application Letters
Read Chapter 23-Proposals

Week 11-April 5 and 7
Read Chapter 19-Technical Descriptions, Specifications and Marketing Materials
Read Chapter 20-Instructions and Procedures

Week 12-April 12 and 14
Read Chapter 22-Formal Analytical Reports
Read Chapter 24-Oral Presentations

Week 13-April 19 and 21
Research Project Discussions

Week 14-April 26 and April 28
Research Project Workshop

Week 15-May 3 and May 5
Final Copy of Report is due
Oral Presentations begin

May 10
Finish any oral reports
Evaluation Letter

Attendance

Attendance is important and all absences count. Please remember, should you be absent on a day that an assignment is due, it will be considered late and must be handed in no later than the next class to receive any credit. If you feel that you must tell me the reason for an absence, send me an email. An occasional tardiness is understandable; chronic tardiness or leaving class early disrupts and distracts. Also, if you find that personal and/or professional responsibilities are preventing you from attending class, drop the course and take it at a later time.

Remember: Your attendance reflects your sense of responsibility, conscientiousness and work ethic.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM [*Three Rivers Community College Faculty Handbook 2014-2015*]

Academic integrity is essential to a useful education. Failure to act with academic integrity severely limits a person's ability to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Furthermore, academic dishonesty erodes the legitimacy of every degree awarded by the College. In this class and in the course of your academic career, present only your own best work; clearly document the sources of the material you use from others; and act at all times with honor. You may be asked to sign a statement attesting to the originality of your words for any assignment.

Plagiarism is the intentional use of someone else's words or ideas. It is a serious violation of academic standards that is subject to one or more of the following penalties: a failing grade for the paper; a failing grade for the course; a report to the administrative authorities for appropriate action (i.e. a notation of the student's permanent record, suspension, or expulsion).

DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that may affect your progress in this course, please meet with a Disability Service Provider (DSP) as soon as possible. Accommodations cannot be provided until you provide written authorization from a DSP in the Counseling & Advising Office – Room A119. Matt Liscum - [\(860\) 215-9265](tel:8602159265) – Physical, Sensory, Medical, Mental Health Disabilities
Chris Scarborough - [\(860\) 215-9289](tel:8602159289) – Learning Disabilities, ADHD/ADD, Autism Spectrum

DIGICATION

All students are required to maintain a learning portfolio in Digication that uses the Three Rivers College.

Available Resource

The Writing Center/TASC:

Room C117

Phone: (860) 892-5713 or (860) 892-5769

E-Mail: TRWritingcenter@trcc.commnet.edu

Online tutoring: <http://www.etutoring.org/>

Weather Cancellations:

Call (860) 886-0177 or go online to: www.trcc.commnet.edu