

Writing 2130G

Building Better (Communication) Bridges: Rhetoric and Professional Communication for Engineers

Winter 2019

Lecture Section 002

Friday 9:30-10:30 (FNB 1240)

Instructor: Dr. J. Johnston

Course Description and Objectives

This course introduces students to rhetorical principles and the practices of written, oral, and visual communication in professional engineering contexts. Particular attention is paid to identifying and understanding audience, context and purpose; the grammar and effective style of Standard Written English; modes of persuasion; interpersonal communication; the negotiation of cultural difference; and effective scholarly research practices. Students will learn strategies for drafting and designing technical and academic documents and for approaching the editing and revision of those documents. As well, they will gain experience in organizing research effectively for presentation, composing clear and useful visual aids, and presenting research to their peers and the broader public with confidence.

Students who successfully complete Writing 2130 should be able to do the following:

- Write and speak with a greater degree of clarity, confidence, and critical self-awareness to different kinds of audiences
- Understand what constitutes effective, ethical, and correct written and oral communication in a variety of rhetorical situations (and why)
- Identify and define various rhetorical contexts for professional communication, including cultural contexts
- Identify, correct, and avoid errors in composition, grammar, and mechanics
- Distinguish between primary and secondary sources (research vs. review materials) and employ the methods of finding and evaluating such sources efficiently and correctly and of assessing their relative merits
- Understand what is at stake in conducting a review of scholarly literature and produce an annotated bibliography
- Integrate source materials into written assignments both ethically and correctly, using IEEE documentation
- Develop and deliver a brief presentation based on research
- Understand the constitution and practice of effective listening
- Work effectively with classmates, giving and receiving useful, constructive feedback and learning to read and consider received feedback thoughtfully, incorporating it into revisions
- Revise papers and oral presentations through multiple drafts
- Create an effective process description through analogy/metaphor and vivid language
- Understand basic principles of document design and visual rhetoric and apply them to a research papers as well as to electronic slides

Antirequisite

Engineering Sciences 2211F/G: Engineering Communications

Prerequisite

Engineering Sciences 1050: Introductory Engineering Design and Innovation Studio

Required Texts

R. Irish and P.E. Weiss, *Engineering Communication: From Principles to Practice*, 2nd ed. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2013.

W.E. Messenger *et al.*, *The Canadian Writer's Handbook: Second Essentials Edition*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2017.

IEEE Citation and Documentation Guide

<https://iee-dataport.org/sites/default/files/analysis/27/IEEE%20Citation%20Guidelines.pdf>

Course Requirements

Quizzes (Best 2 of 3 @ 7.5%)	15%
Assignment #1: Re-working of ES 1050 "State of the Art" report for a general audience (300-500 words)	10%
Assignment #2: Speech based on Assignment 1 Assignment #3: Multi-	10%

If you miss a total of more than nine hours of class meetings (the equivalent of more than three weeks of class meetings) your final grade will be reduced by 15% (e.g. an earned final grade of 80% will be reported as a final grade of 68).

This policy will be waived only for medical or compassionate reasons. If you have good reasons for waiving an absence of one class meeting (e.g. if you've missed three hours, and need or want to miss another class meeting) discuss these reasons with your instructor within one week of that absence. If your absence is extended and prolonged (over one week of continuous non-attendance), then you should discuss it with your academic advisor in your home faculty, who may require documentation. That advisor may then contact all of your instructors.

Instructors are encouraged, in the first instance, to arrange participation requirements and multiple small assignments in such a way as to allow students some flexibility. A student seeking academic accommodation for any work worth less than 10% must contact the instructor or follow the appropriate Department or course specific instructions provided on the course outline.

In arranging accommodation, instructors will use good judgment and ensure fair treatment for all students. Instructors must indicate on the course outline how they will be dealing with work worth less than 10% of the total course grade. In particular, instructors must indicate whether medical documentation will be required for absences, late assignments or essays, missed tests, laboratory experiments or tutorials, etc. Where medical documentation is required, such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Academic Counselling/Dean's office, who will make the determination whether accommodation is warranted. Given the University's Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy, instructors may not collect medical documentation."

Medical Accommodation Policy

For UWO Policy on Accommodation For Medical Illness, see the following:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

(downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the "Medical Documentation" heading)

"Students seeking academic accommodation **on medical or other grounds** for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments **worth 10% or more of their final grade** must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds cannot be granted by the instructor or Writing Studies, and Writing Studies requires students in these circumstances to follow the same procedure when seeking academic accommodation on non-medical (i.e. non-medical compassionate or other) grounds.

Students seeking academic accommodation **on medical grounds** for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments **worth less than 10% of their final grade** must also apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Where in these circumstances the accommodation is being sought on **non-medical grounds**, students should consult in the first instance with their instructor, who may elect to make a decision on the request directly, or refer the student to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty. 117 13(c)-100 g/2 1 cY,r)&

Class Meeting and Reading Schedule

Note: Quiz dates are tentative and may change depending on how much material we have (or have not yet) covered since the previous quiz. Quizzes will never be moved up—

