COMMUNICATION IN THE ENGINEERING PROFESSIONS

1.0 Course Description

Communication lies at the heart of the engineering professions. This course introduces students to the unique and varied communication challenges of their discipline. Through a combination of lectures, readings, and workshops, students are exposed to the types of communication they will engage in as professionals and given the opportunity to refine their analytical, writing, presentation, and problem-solving skills.

Lecture: 2 hrs. Workshop: 2 hrs.

2.0 Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

- To demonstrate an ethical approach to engineering communication
- To develop documents and visual support that meet the needs of technical and non-technical audiences
- To work within a team environment to create documents for engineering practices

3.0 Topics Covered

3.1 Engineering rhetoric
3.2 Audience analysis
3.3 Employment and entrepreneurial communication
3.4 Research and documentation
3.5 Ethical communication
3.6 Collaborative writing
3.7 Technical definitions, descriptions and instructions
3.8 Technical and design reports
3.9 Visual communication
3.10 Oral presentations

4.0 Teaching Method

4.1 Lectures and Workshops

The course will be taught using lectures, workshops and online environments. Workshops will take place in a computer lab and will focus on building writing skills and applying them to the types of communications discussed in both the lectures and workshops.
4.2 Term Grading Scheme

Students will complete a minimum of five graded assignments. No assignment will be accepted after the scheduled due date without prior permission from the instructor. Students will write a diagnostic test in the first workshop.

- Persuasive message
- Collaborative oral presentation
- Midterm test
- Collaborative report
- Collaborative research proposal
- Participation
- Research progress report
- Final exam 25%

4.3 Final Examination

No aids are allowed. Students must write the final examination to pass the course.

5.0 Course Materials

Online resources will be provided by the workshop and or course instructor.

5.1 Simulation Software

In selected sections, at the discretion of the instructor, students must purchase an online simulation package.

6.0 Course Policies

6.1 Students must adhere to university policies; see http://www.ryerson.ca/senate/policies. The most relevant policies are the following:

- Policy #46 Policy on Grading, Promotion, and Academic Standing ("GPA Policy")
- Policy #60 Academic Integrity
- Policy #61 Student Code of Non-Academic Conduct
- Policy #134 Undergraduate Academic Consideration and Appeals
- Policy #135 Examination Policy
- Policy #145 Course Management Policy
- Policy #150 Accommodation of Student Religious, Aboriginal and Spiritual Observance
- Policy #157 Establishment and Use of Ryerson Student E-Mail Accounts For Official University Communication
- Policy #159 Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities
6.2 Print and Digital Copying Guidelines

Ryerson University complies with Canada’s Copyright Act which protects both creators/owners and users of copyrighted materials. Students should familiarize themselves with Ryerson's Copyright policies and procedures, and contact the Copyright and Scholarly Engagement Librarian at copyrt@ryerson.ca for questions, concerns and clarification of the copyright rules.

6.3 Turnitin.com

By taking this course, students agree that all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site. Students who do not want their work submitted to this plagiarism detection service must, by the end of the second week of class, consult with the instructor to make alternative arrangements.

Please note the following from Policy 145 Course Management Policy:

4.3.1.2 Even when an instructor has not indicated that a plagiarism detection service will be used, or when a student has opted out of the plagiarism detection service, if an instructor has reason to suspect that an individual piece of work has been plagiarized, the instructor is permitted to submit that work in a non-identifying way to any plagiarism detection service.

6.4 Email Communication

Ryerson requires that any official or formal email communication from students be sent from their official Ryerson electronic accounts.

6.5 Video and Audio Recording

No video or audio recording is permitted in class without the express permission of the instructor.

7.0 Ryerson’s Learning Management System

Ryerson University supports Brightspace by D2L as its official Learning Management System. University Policies governing Brightspace have been documented at the Courses @ Ryerson Privacy and Security website.