English 2140
Research, Technical Writing, and Presentation for Scientists and Engineers
Instructor: Tracy Smith

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Course Prerequisite: English 1100 or equivalent

Requirements:

Textbook: Johnson-Sheehan, Richard. *Technical*

Communication Today. 6th Ed. Pearson, 2017. ISBN: 978-

0134425733

- Access to a reliable computer & internet connection (Phones or similar devices may not be able to access or complete all of the required activities.)
- Familiarity with and access to your WSU computer account, Pilot, and email
- Access to MS Word (or expertise to save and open files as true Word documents)
  A PDF reader such as Adobe – available at http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html
- Recommended browser for Pilot: Firefox – available at https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/

Course Objectives:

Applicable WSU Core Objectives:

a. communicate effectively
b. evaluate arguments and evidence critically
c. apply the methods of inquiry of the natural sciences, social sciences, and the arts and humanities
d. demonstrate understanding of contemporary social and ethical issues
e. participate in democratic society as informed and civically engaged citizens

WSU Core Element 1 (Communication) Learning Objectives:

a. Adapt writing processes and strategies for audience, purpose, and type of task
b. Organize and produce texts that meet the demands of specific genres, purposes, audiences, and stances
c. Employ appropriate mechanics, usage, grammar, and spelling conventions
d. Find, analyze, summarize, and synthesize appropriate source material from both print and electronic environments
e. Present focused, logical arguments that support a thesis
f. Use reliable and varied evidence to support claims, incorporate sources from others appropriately, and acknowledge and document the works of others

appropriately

g. Use electronic environments to draft, revise, edit, and share or publish texts use writing processes to explore, think, and learn, and to write appropriately for various tasks and audiences.

Course and Writing Program Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

Academic reading
- Choose and evaluate sources for
    - Authority
    - Accuracy
    - Objectivity
    - Currency
    - Relevance

Analysis
- Develop facility with academic conventions introduced in ENG 1100
- Present self-evaluation and ongoing significant reflection that identifies, demonstrates, and articulates learning and writing skills

Research
- Locate, evaluate, and use academic sources
- Incorporate a variety of types of reliable sources, including within major academic areas
- Use sources to support claims and develop thesis
- Interpret evidence
- Establish connections, references, and relationships between sources
- Evaluate possible bias and entrenched loyalties of sources
- Avoid quote-stacking and throw-away quotes
- Foreground writer's argument without overreliance on sources
- Document and cite correctly in MLA and APA format, choosing appropriate format for academic area

Argument
- Write an arguable thesis statement
- Use reasonable tone that
    - establishes common ground
    - avoids personal attacks
- Respect and grapple with the complexity of issues
- Recognize emotional appeal and logical fallacies
- Sustain progressive, focused, and logical argument that supports thesis
- Acknowledge, accommodate, and refute counterarguments logically and ethically
- Choose and engage target audience that includes skeptical readers
- Avoid stereotyping and oversimplification

- Use reliable and varied evidence to support claims

Understanding of Disciplinary Rhetoric
Be familiar with and practiced in the discipline-specific issues and writing requirements of their major and profession
- Position themselves as professionals who have a voice in the field
- Incorporate the appropriate dissemination of their research to public and professional audiences

Facility with language and writing
- Establish purpose and use precise language understandable for any academic reader
- Avoid plagiarism
- Observe sufficient mechanics, usage, grammar, and spelling (MUGS) conventions to preserve coherence and meaning of text and credibility of writer and future professional in field of study
- Produce texts whose meaning and purpose can be readily understood by a cold reader
- Use electronic environments to draft, revise, edit, and share or publish texts

Equivalency: ENG 2140 takes the place and satisfies the requirement for ENG 2100. This class is designed for engineering and computer science majors, but it also has the same goals and outcomes as any section of ENG 2100. However, assignments vary some to put a greater emphasis on the types of writing that may be useful for study in the engineering and computer science fields.

Grades: Your final grade for the course will consist of the following:

Argument Analysis 1	50 points
Quad Chart	100
Instructions	125
Prospectus/Annotated Bibliography	50
Outline for White Paper	50
White Paper	400
Group Feedback	100
Drafts	60 (15 each)
Discussions	80 (20 each)
Total	1,015 points

Grading Scale: 90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, 59% and below F

Note: All of the assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade for the course. However, turning in all of your work in no way guarantees you a passing grade. Additionally,

your grade will be determined on the quality of your work, not on effort. Group will not be evaluated and draft points will not be given until the end of the semester.

*You must post your own draft to be eligible for group points.
*I will not accept a paper I have not seen in draft stages.

**If you fall behind, miss work, or need extra help: Please do not immediately give up or quit participating in the course if you fall behind or have trouble completing class work. If you communicate with me, I may be able to suggest pathways that can offer a chance of salvaging a rough semester. This does not mean that you can succeed no matter how you perform – it means that you should investigate opportunities with me before determining if you should drop or give up on the course. I can also offer you very serious and substantial help with the course work if you contact me for assistance.

Late Work:
- All assignments must be placed in Dropbox (as a Word document) by the deadline stated on the schedule.
- Failure to meet a deadline will result in your grade on the assignment being dropped one letter for each calendar day it is late.

Other Assignment Considerations:
- If you do not fully understand an assignment, it is your responsibility to get any clarification from me before you turn in the assignment.
- You are responsible for keeping track of your own assignment point accumulation.
- Finally, and very importantly, you cannot use assignments and/or work from another class, including this one (if you took it before). All work must be new.

Editing Skills: This course presupposes that you have a mastery of standard edited American English; therefore, grammatical errors will strongly affect assignment grades.

Pilot (Desire2Learn): All course materials, with the exception of the textbooks, are available through Pilot (Desire2Learn). Your login information is the same as your other WSU accounts.

University Writing Center: Writing consultants in the Writing Center are available to assist you as you work on your assignments. Be sure to pull up the assignment in Pilot when you go. This service is free to all WSU students. For more information see the Writing Center website or call them at 775-4186.

Computer & Technology Help: Available at the help desk in 025 Library Annex, www.wright.edu/cats, by email at helpdesk@wright.edu, or by calling (937) 775-4827.

Poor-Quality Work: Turning in low-quality work because you know you'll have the opportunity for revision is a poor strategy – sloppy or underdeveloped work is difficult for me to comment on productively, and I won't take a lot of time on work that has clearly not been given enough attention by the writer.

Sample Collection: Unless you let me know otherwise, assume that I may use samples of your work from this class anonymously in other courses. If you don't want me to use your work, please let me know.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism will be taken seriously in this course and will not be tolerated. In short, plagiarism is using the work of another without giving credit to the original source. This can involve one sentence or an entire paper. **Any student who submits plagiarized work in the course, whether for a grade or not, will receive an F in the course, along with other consequences allowed by the university.** It is also considered unethical to submit the same paper for two classes or to "recycle" a paper from a previous class, high school, etc. Such situations will also result in an F for the course. All assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin, a plagiarism detection service.

Nature of Postings, Responses and Discussions: All postings and responses in this course should be respectful in nature towards other students and me. This does not mean you cannot disagree with another student or me. In fact, quite the opposite is true, but you must demonstrate respect of the other person's idea, even if it is different from your own. Personal attacks or otherwise nasty or inconsiderate postings and responses will not be tolerated in this course. Violations of this policy will result in loss of posting privileges and/or removal from the course at my discretion.

ENG 2140 WEEKLY SCHEDULE

All items should be completed in order by the dates listed. **Items in red are graded**.

<mark>Please see modules for detailed instructions for each assignment. This document is simply a list of readings, lectures and assignments.</mark>

WSU observes the Juneteenth holiday on June 20 this year, so there are no assignments that day.

WEEK 1: June 21-24, **Modules**: **Getting Started and Summarizing and Analyzing an Article**

Tues. 11:59 p.m.	**Lecture – Getting Started** **Read – Syllabus, Schedule, Engineering Article (link in Module), Chapter 1 from textbook** **Due Tuesday: Discussion Posting on Goals and Objectives**
Thurs. 11:59	**Due Thursday – Discussion Posting, OWL** **Lecture – Argument Analysis** **Read – Chapter 13 from textbook, Argument Analysis Instructions, Review Article for Analysis**

WEEK 2: June 27-July 1, Modules: Evaluating and Revising Your Work and Writing Instructions

Mond. and Tues. 11:59 p.m.	**Lecture – Instructions** **Read – Guidelines for Evaluating Drafts, Chapter 8 in textbook, Directions for Instructions** **Due Monday – Discussion Posting (related to Instructions)** **Due Tuesday – First Draft of Summary/Analysis Due**
Thurs. 11:59 p.m.	**Due Thursday – Group Comments Due**

July 4 is Independence Day, No Assignments

WEEK 3: July 5-8, Module: Planning and Researching a White Paper

Tues.11:59 p.m.	**Lecture – White Papers/ Prospectus and Annotated Bibliography** **Read – Chapter 15 in textbook, Prospectus/Annotated Bibliography Instructions**

	Read – Chapter 14 in textbook, White Paper Instructions **Due Monday - Final Draft of Summary/Analysis Due** **Due Tuesday – First Draft of Instructions Due**
Thurs 11:59 p.m.	**Due Thursday – Prospectus/Annotated Bibliography for White Paper Due** **Due Thursday – Group Comments on Instructions Due** **Due Thursday – Discussion Due**

WEEK 4: July 11-15, Modules: Designing a Quad Chart and Outlining a White Paper

Mon. and Tues. 11:59 p.m.	**Lecture – Quad Charts** **Read – Read Chapters 17 and 18 in textbook, Quad Chart Instructions, White Paper Instructions** **Lecture – Outlining** **Read – Chapter 15 in textbook, Outline Instructions** **Due Monday – Outline of White Paper Due** **Due Tuesday – First Draft of Quad Chart Due**
Thurs. 11:59 p.m.	**Due Thursday – Group Comments on Quad Chart Due** **Due Thursday – Final Draft of Instructions**

WEEK 5: July 18-22, Modules: Writing a White Paper and Documenting Sources

Mon. and Tues. 11:59 p.m.	**Lecture: Documentation of Sources** **Lecture – White Paper** **Read – White Paper Instructions** **Due Monday – First Draft of White Paper Due**

	Due Tuesday - **Final Draft of Quad Chart Due**
Thurs 11:59 p.m.	**Due Thursday – Group Comments on White Paper Due**

Week 6: July 25-28, Module: Wrapping Up

Mon. 11:59 p.m.	**Due Monday – Discussion Due, Revisiting Goals and Objectives**
Thurs 11:59 p.m.	**Due Thursday – Final Draft of White Paper**

- This syllabus is subject to change at any time during the semester.