

```
for object to mirror...
mirror_mod.mirror_object

operation == "MIRROR_X":
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operation == "MIRROR_Z":
    mirror_mod.use_x = False
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    mirror_mod.use_z = True

#selection at the end -add
mirror_ob.select= 1
modifier_ob.select=1
context.scene.objects.active
("Selected" + str(modifier_ob))
mirror_ob.select = 0
= bpy.context.selected_object
data.objects[one.name].select

print("please select exactly

-- OPERATOR CLASSES -----

types.Operator):
    X mirror to the selected
    object.mirror_mirror_x"
    mirror X"
```

Comm 1116

Week 1: Intro and Outline

5 Questions

- Who is this guy?
- Why am I here?
- What is technical writing anyway?
- What are you doing to us this term? (outline)
- What next? (homework and upcoming lab)



Thorsten Ewald

- Have been using PCs since the DOS age
- Started word processing in HTML, have built websites (before WYSIWYG software).
- Used Ubuntu and other free- and shareware enthusiastically
- Learned Fortran and Basic at university



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- I game (Xbox): COD MW2. Replaying Red Dead Redemption 2. Looking forward to Assassin's Creed Mirage.

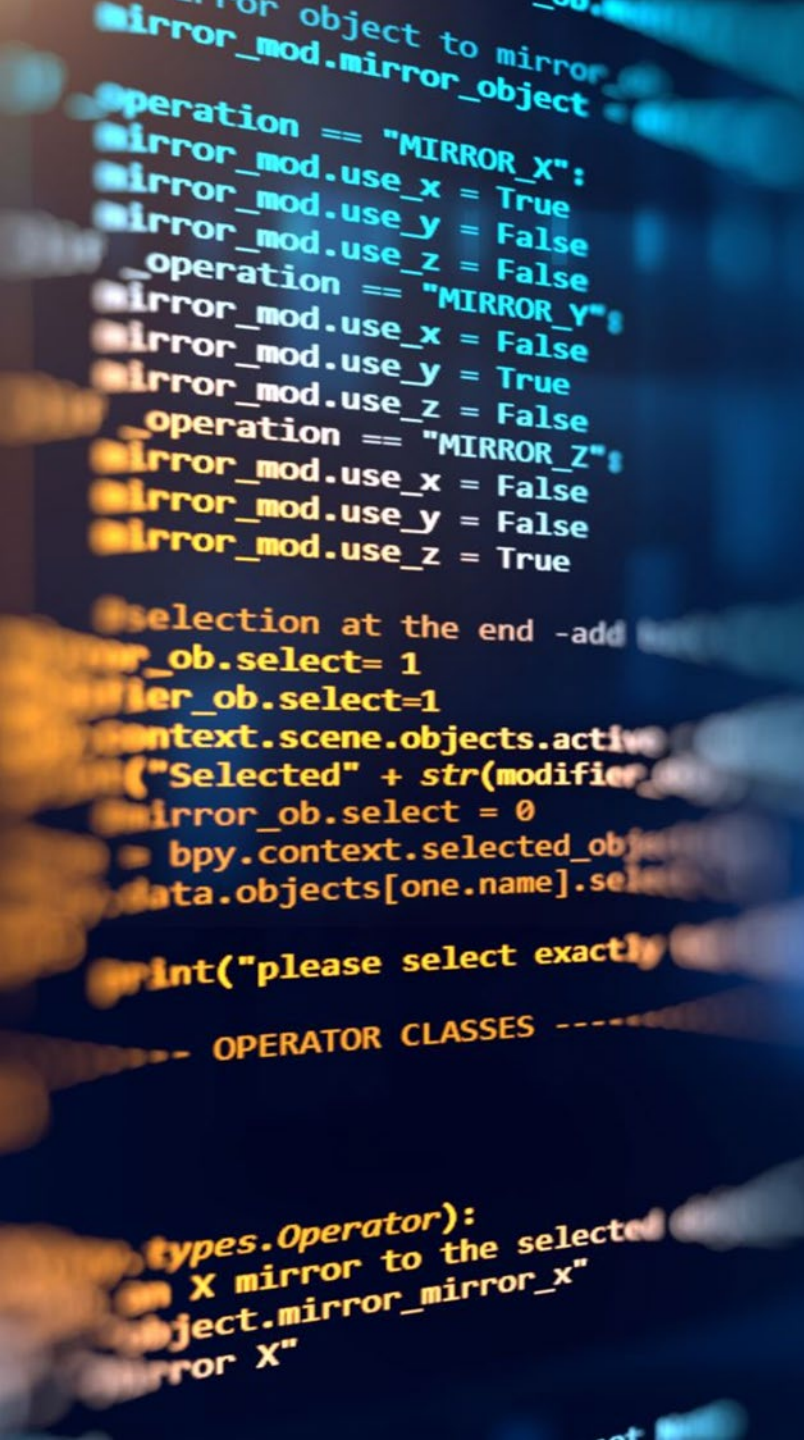


Technical Writer since 1992

BCIT Instructor since 1997

Why are you here?

- Why are you taking a writing course in a computing program?
- Sadly (for you) there is no getting away from communication in the workplace
- Technical people spend 20% to 40% of their day writing and speaking professionally (not coding).
- Miscommunication costs dearly:



“Poor communication is yet another common reason of IT project failure. This problem can also be linked to the lack of project management. Effective and efficient communication with stakeholders, management and the project team is vital for success of a project. It is the responsibility of the project manager to communicate the updated approved requirements and decisions to the team members.”

<https://reqtest.com/agile-blog/common-reasons-projects-fail>

The cost of poor communication

Unclear email → recipient

Frustrates the reader and is ignored or thrown out.
This has caused disasters... and a lot of wasted effort and money.

Space Shuttle Challenger:
Jan. 28, 1988



Deepwater Horizon:
April 20, 2010



Proposals submitted to the US
gov't



The cost of poor communication

1/3 of proposals submitted to the US gov't are rejected for "technical noncompliance"



“The Canadian gov’t’s Phoenix payment system for gov’t employees was meant to integrate approximately 200 different pay systems throughout the country and various departments and make 2,700 payroll employees redundant.

When it was launched in 2016, it failed spectacularly (only 6 of these systems had been tested at launch). Thousands of employees went without pay or with payment errors for months; the manual system had to be (partially) restored and the gov’t had to get IBM (vendor) to rehire about 1,000 programmers to help fix the error – which suggests the errors and problems were the government’s (client’s) fault.

The total cost of this colossal failure could amount to \$2.3 billion by 2023.”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phoenix_pay_system#

What exactly is technical writing?

Technical writing is the clear, simple, and concise transmission of information required in a specific communication scenario.

But why don't we start by taking a look at something that is not an example of good technical communication: p. 6 of the textbook?



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print("please select exactly")

-- OPERATOR CLASSES --

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Not concise:
Most of the
first
paragraph is a
long and
unnecessary
preamble to
the main idea.

When is this
meeting? This
email does not
provide
complete and
necessary
information.

Information is
not accessible:
Meeting items
are spread
throughout the
email and
material
wastage is
mentioned
twice.

From: Jane Simms
To: Fred Nesbitt
Sent: October 09, 2020
Subject: Proposal

Unclear/incomplete subject
line: Is this a proposal? No.
It's about a proposal, but
which one? This subject line
does not provide sufficient
information.

Let me first of all thank you for the draft proposal you submitted. I read it over the weekend with great interest and think that you've come up with some interesting ideas for improving the production line at Pinnacle Manufacturing. I had no idea that the materials wastage there was so significant. Shocking numbers.

We should probably talk about that and a couple of other things at a follow-up meeting of the project committee this week. Pinnacle will no doubt be surprised by the hidden wastage you found and we may have to develop that part of the proposal more. Also, Frank from accounting will be there and said he wants to go over your numbers so please bring a cost breakdown.

But don't worry. Everyone thinks you've done a really good job.

One more thing, can you bring your finalized production line schematic and your workflow charts? Wai-Lin wants to discuss them and maybe make some machine tool suggestions.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Let me know if you have any questions (ext. 4351).

Where and when are we
meeting?

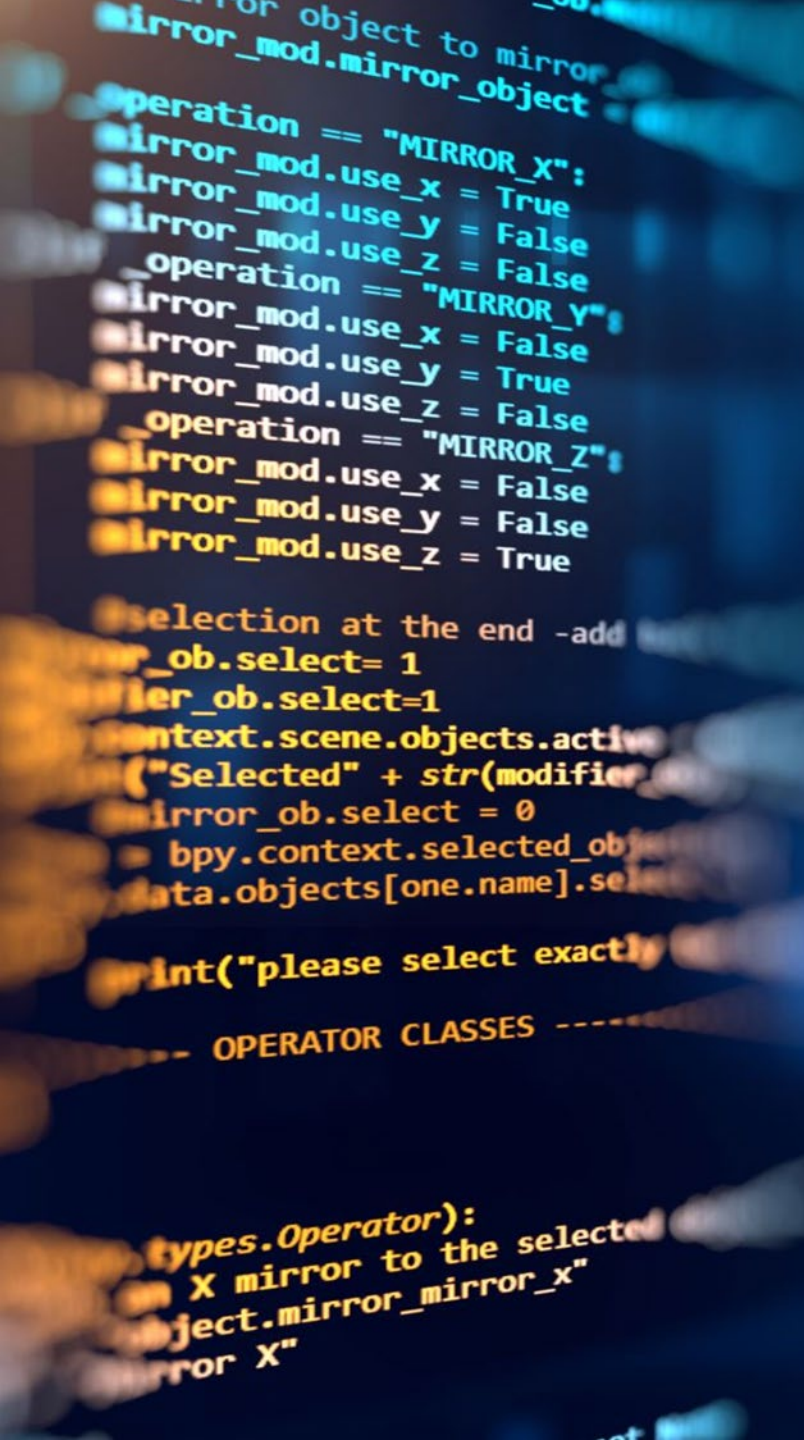
What exactly is technical writing?

Clearly this is a very ineffective email.

It's a 174-word ramble through the writer's thought processes as they were writing the email. It has poor structure, omits necessary information, and is impossible to scan.

It lacks structure because it hasn't been planned or edited.

Let's take a look at a much improved version: p. 7 of the textbook. It's only 90 words long, but contains more useful information.



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-- OPERATOR CLASSES -----

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```

Clear/complete subject line: this email is a request for a meeting on a specific proposal

The opening statement identifies the main idea clearly and concisely

This email includes the meeting time, providing all the information the reader will need to show up for the meeting (and prepare for it).

From: Jane Simms
To: Fred Nesbitt
Sent: October 09, 2020
Subject: Request for meeting about the Pinnacle Draft Proposal

I think we should have a follow-up meeting about the Pinnacle Manufacturing draft proposal this Wednesday at 3 p.m., in my office.

The feedback from the team has been really positive, but we'll need to discuss the following:

- Information on the hidden wastage you found. This part of the proposal needs more development.
- Finalized production line schematics and workflow charts. Wai-Lin may have machine tool suggestions.
- A breakdown of your cost calculations. Frank from Accounting asked to discuss them.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Let me know if you have questions (ext. 4351).

The meeting items are gathered in one location and highlighted with bullets, making the key information easily accessible

The six attributes of technical writing



1. Clarity:

2. Completeness:

3. Conciseness:

4. Accessibility:

5. Accuracy:

6. Correctness:

Technical writing is a learnable skill

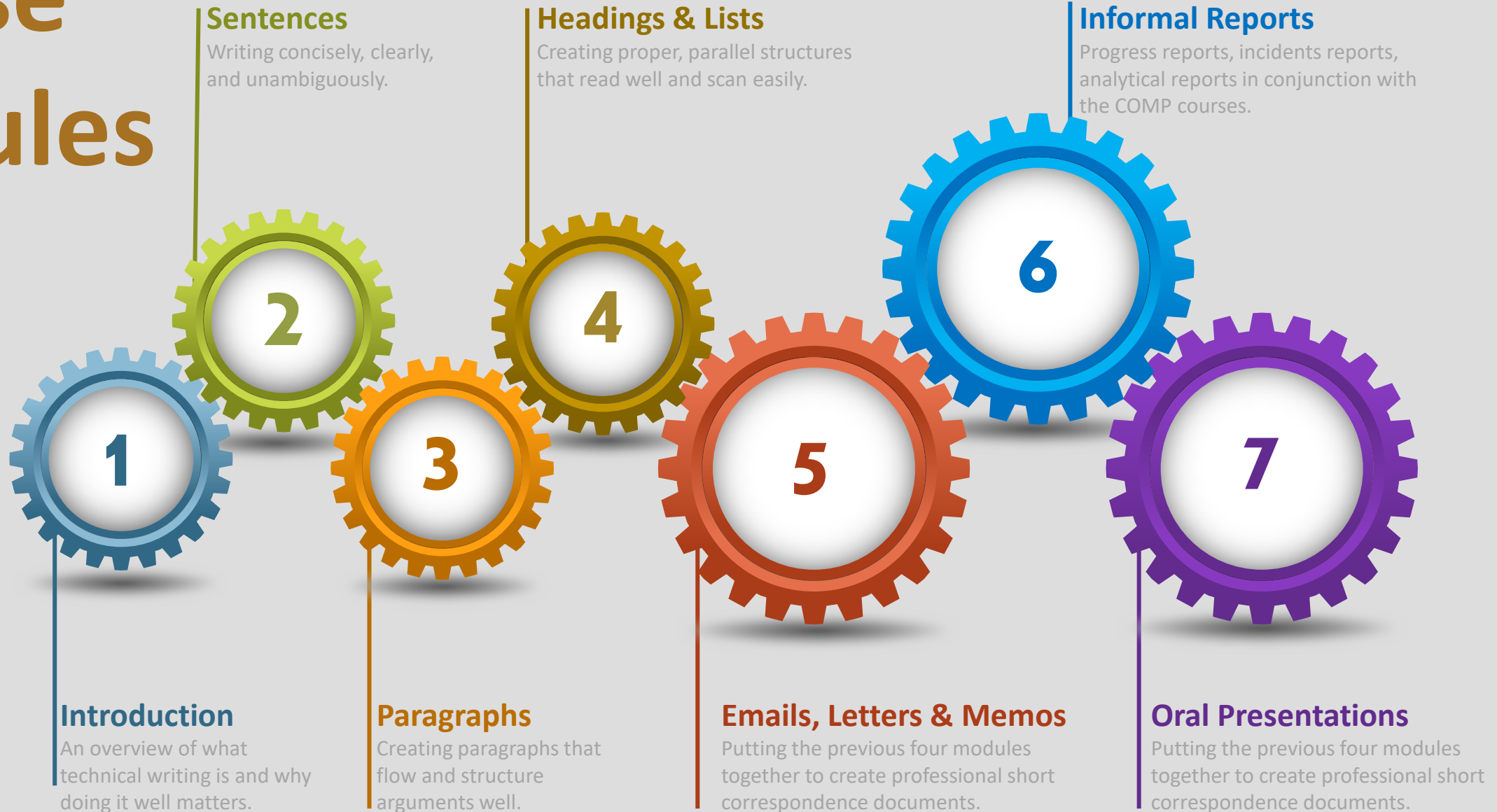
It's not magic and it's not a natural gift, but a series of teachable practices that you just need to apply consistently.

We are going to break technical writing into a series of rules and guidelines that will automatically improve your writing.

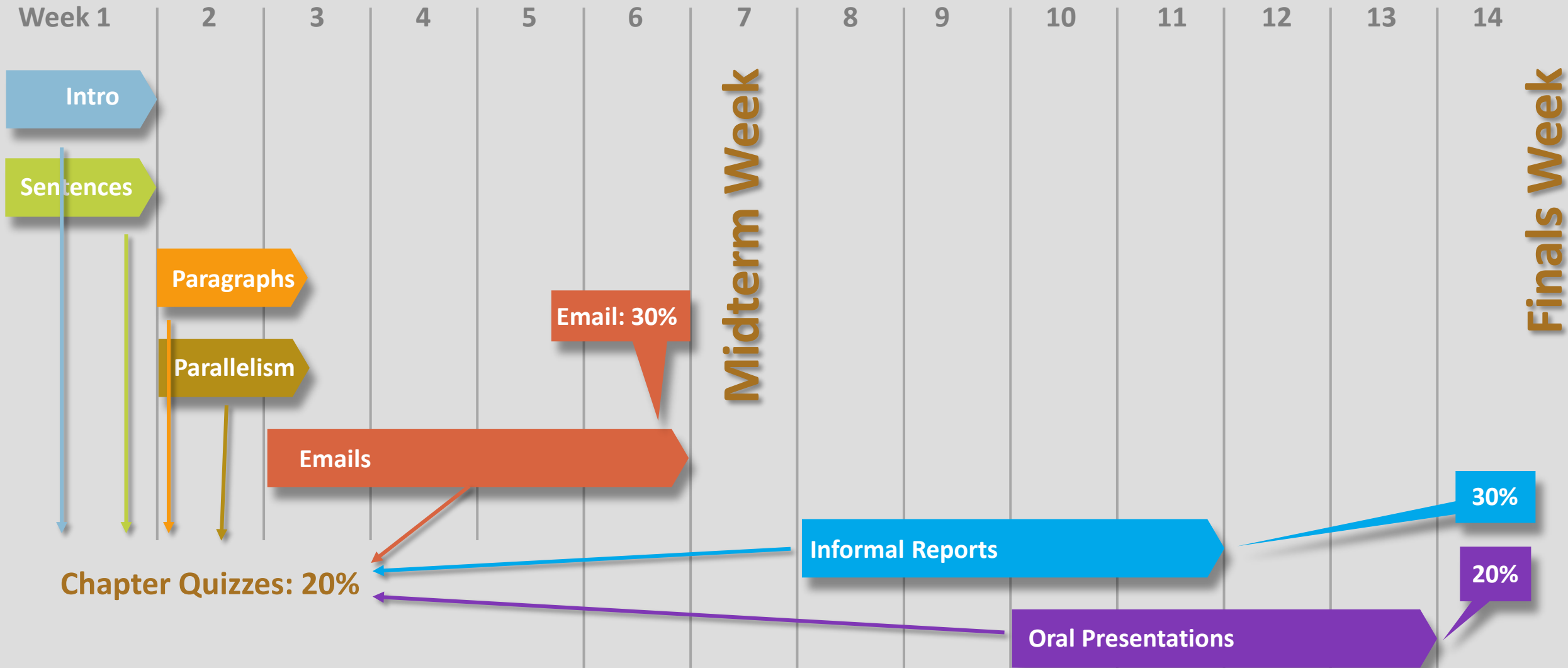
And we are going to build up your skills before we start grading your writing.



Course Modules



Course Schedule



Grading Scheme Summary

Chapter Quizzes: 20%

Email Midterm: 30%

Analytical take-home Report: 30%

Oral Presentation: 20%

Homework for Week 1

Lecture

Read Chapter 1 of the textbook and do Chapter 1 Quiz in the Quiz section of the Activities tab in D2L: ~2%

Due Sunday, Sept. 10 at 11:59 p.m.!



Homework for Week 1



BCIT LEARNING HUB COMM-1116-0 - Business Communications 1 ...

Course Home Content Activities Grades Course Tools myTools E-Mail HELP! Edit Course

Discussions

Assignments

Quizzes

Virtual Classroom

Video Assignment

Kaltura Media Gallery

Self Assessments

Checklist

Surveys

Chat

News

This Week

Posted by Thorsten Ew

Because we are n

either.

Looking forward

of Jan 04)

ne late start in the week, we won't be holding labs

ure on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

Updates

2 N

99

6 C

Instructo

Search Topics



Bookmarks



Course Schedule

1

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2

[Course Outline](#)

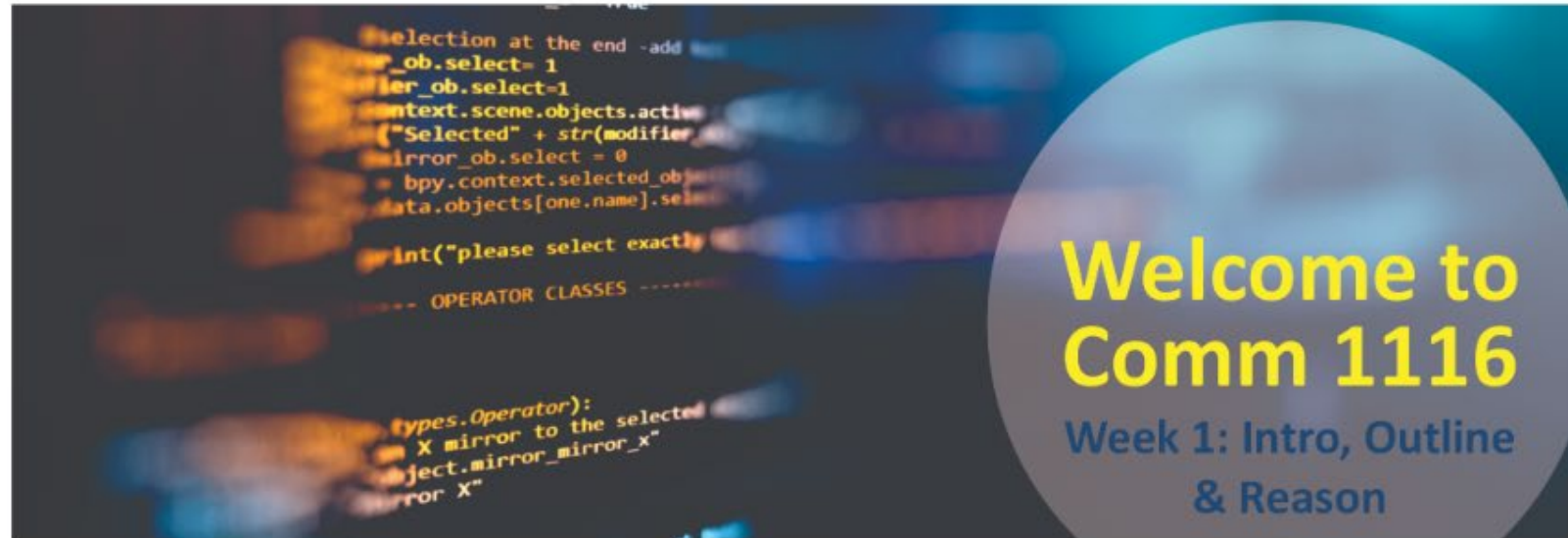


[Week 1 Intro](#)

2

Week 1 Intro

Print

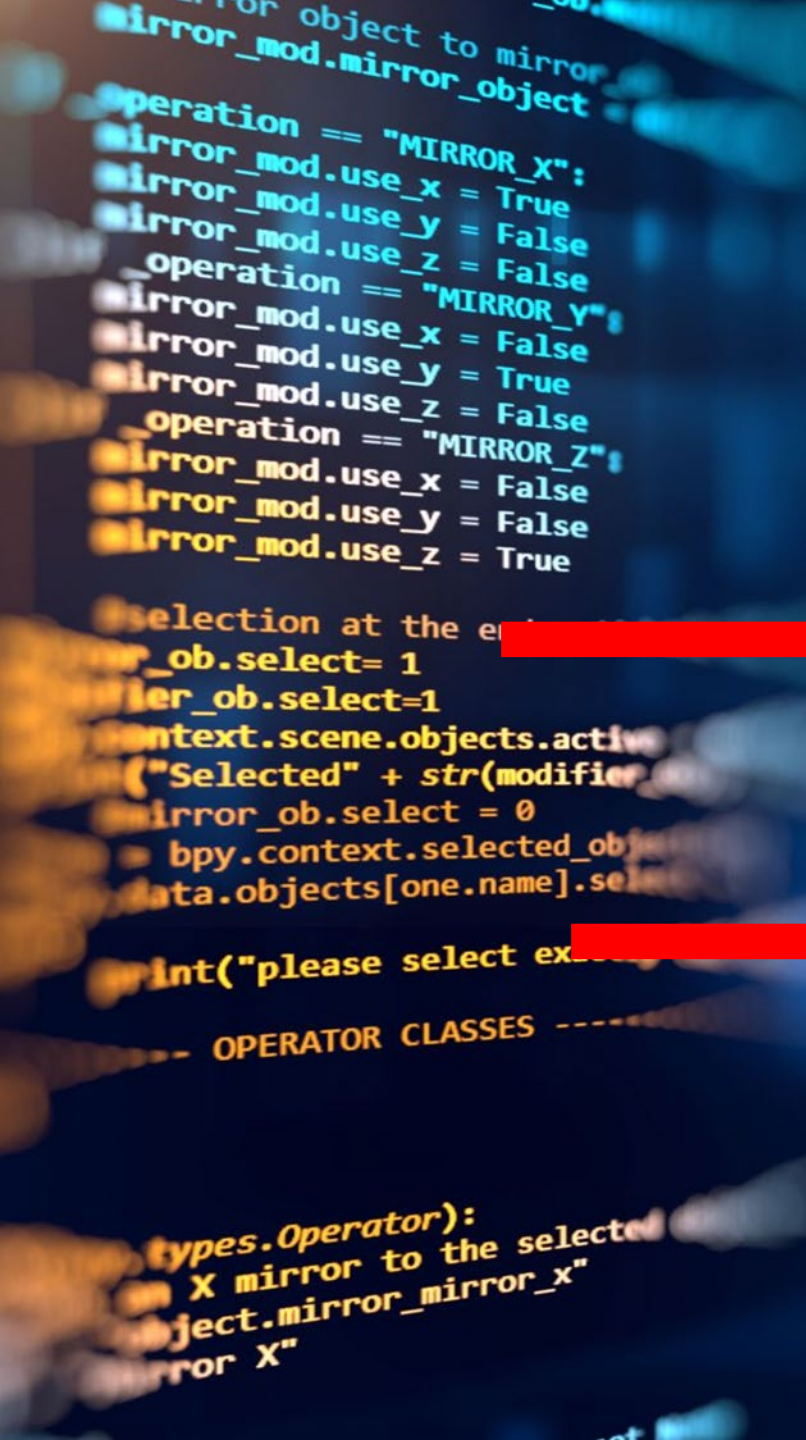


Comm 1116: Introduction

Welcome to the course!

I'm looking forward to meeting all of you in the lecture this week.

After each lecture, you will have to do the chapter quiz. That includes this week. Sorry. The quizzes (as a whole) and the discussions (as a whole) are worth 15% each, so don't miss out on these easy marks.



COMM-1116-0 - Business Communications 1...

Course Home Content Activities Grades Course Tools myTools E-Mail HELP! Edit Course

Search Topics

Bookmarks

Course Schedule 1

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Course Outline ✓

Week 1 Intro 2

Week 1 Intro

Print

Comm 1116: Introduction

Welcome to the course!

Chapter 1 Quiz: Intro to Tech Writing



Quiz



Due January 15 at 11:59 PM



Ends Jan 16, 2023 12:01 AM

As a supplement to the lecture, please read Chapter 1 from our textbook: *Writing in the Technical Fields* 3rd ed.

If you want to save some time, you do not at this point need to know the four stages of editing, so you could omit that section, starting at p. 13. I would recommend, however, that you read the box on "Audience, Purpose, and Tone" on pp. 14-15.

When you have finished reading the chapter, please do the quiz.


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Thanks, and see
you after the 10-
minute break