HU 3120: Technical and Scientific Communication

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Office Hours: M & W 10 a.m., and by appointment.

Quick links: [Course Calendar | Assignment Descriptions and Handouts]

Course Description

Technical and Scientific Communication is a study of written and oral communication in technical and scientific environments. It emphasizes audience, writing processes, genres of scientific and technical discourse, visual communication, collaboration, professional responsibility, and clear expression.

Required Textbook

• Additional readings will be provided.

Course Policies

• I expect regular attendance from all students. More than four unexcused absences will result in your final grade being dropped by one letter (for example, B becomes C, AB becomes BC, CD becomes F). Also, absences and tardiness will reflect poorly on your social practices when I determine your social practices grade. In-class work generally cannot be made up.
• Technology problems are not a viable excuse in this class.
• You are responsible for providing a replacement if I lose your papers. This doesn't mean that I will make a policy of losing your papers—all it means is that you should keep a saved copy of the major assignments on hand, and be prepared to offer a copy should the unthinkable happen.
• I reserve the right to revise this syllabus throughout the semester.
• Late assignments are generally not accepted.
• I expect all work in this class to meet the standards of the university's Academic Integrity Policy.

Assignments

There will be five major assignments in this class, listed below, which are due on the dates listed in the course calendar.

The five major course segments are as follows:
1. Resume and Cover Letters
2. Instructions
3. TBA
4. Reading Science and Technology
5. Portfolio

Grading

I will give letter grades (A, AB, B, BC, C, CD, D, or F) for all graded assignments in this class. The final grade is determined as follows:

10% Resume and Cover Letters
15% Instructions
25% TBA
10% Reading Science and Technology
15% Portfolio
25% Social Practices—This grade will reflect your contributions to class discussions, peer review activities, and group work, as well as your commitment to submitting timely and complete work. Needless to say, if you are not in class, you are not participating, so this grade will also partially reflect your attendance.

ADA Notice

MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students, 487-2212. For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office at 487-3310.