



**Douglas  
College**

**EFFECTIVE: MAY 2012  
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

A. Division: **Academic** Effective Date: **May 2012**

B. Department / Program Area: **Language, Literature and Performing Arts Communications** Revision  New Course

If Revision, Section(s) Revised: **A, F, Q**

Date of Previous Revision: **February 2007**

Date of Current Revision: **January 2012**

C: **CMNS 1111** D: **Workplace Communications for Selected Programs** E: **3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
<b>F:</b> Calendar Description:  Communications 1111 is designed for students enrolled in Business, Criminal Justice, Dispensing Optician, Animal Health Technology, and Health Information Management programs. Instruction is adapted for workplace settings appropriate to each program area. Assignments are drawn from a number of possible components: correspondence, memoranda, reports, and other program related documents. Course work also includes instruction in writing strategies for effective on-the-job communication, and may include instruction in oral communications situations as oral presentations, employment interviews, and meetings.		
<b>G:</b> Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings  Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:  <b>Lecture/Seminar</b>  Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor)  <b>4</b>  Number of Weeks per Semester:  <b>15</b>	<b>H:</b> Course Prerequisites:  <b>Satisfactory result on college Writing Assessment or substitution / equivalent as stated in College Calendar.</b>	
	<b>I:</b> Course Corequisites:  <b>NONE</b>	
	<b>J:</b> Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite  <b>NONE</b>	
	<b>K:</b> Maximum Class Size:  <b>25</b>	
<b>L:</b> PLEASE INDICATE:  <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Credit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Credit Non-Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> College Credit Transfer:  SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS ( <a href="http://www.bctransferguide.ca">www.bctransferguide.ca</a> )		

**M:** Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

Communications 1111 has been developed to meet the communications requirements of a number of business of technology programs.

General:

The student will be able to

1. Write in standard English
2. Demonstrate communicative competence, i.e. appropriate communication behaviour in specific communication contexts.

Specific:

The Communications instructor will choose from the following list those skills and tasks appropriate to the business and technologies fields.

Written Skills:

The student will be able to

1. Write appropriately for single and multiple readers
2. Distinguish objective from subjective statements
3. Distinguish internal from external written communication situations
4. Use correct language fundamentals in all written assignments
5. Write effective sentences
6. Write well-developed paragraphs
7. Demonstrate unity, coherence, and emphasis
8. Prepare written reports using language conventions consistent with appropriate field-related standards and practices
9. Compose a set of procedures related to a business or technology subject.

Written Tasks:

Students will be able to successfully complete a variety of tasks which the Communications instructor selects from the following:

1. Extract and summarize the main points from field-related articles
2. Develop an effective application letter and resume
3. Compose an informative report on a workplace related topic
4. Write effective correspondence in a variety of relevant situations consistent with field-related standards and practices
5. Demonstrate the ability to develop and compose an agenda
6. Demonstrate the ability to record and compose accurate minutes of a meeting
7. Compose an informative brochure
8. Compose a newsletter for a field-related organization
9. Compose a press release on a field-related event or issue
10. Compose a set of procedures related to a business or technology subject
11. Demonstrate the ability to research using primary and secondary sources
12. Demonstrate the ability to select and analyze researched information and then to present it following the documentation conventions appropriate to the field, avoiding plagiarism.

The student should also be able to

Oral

1. Prepare for an employment interview
2. Plan, prepare and deliver oral presentations
3. Apply basic rules of order in formal meetings
4. Present motions in meetings.

Other

1. Collaborate effectively with other students
2. Interact appropriately with the readers of their written work, job interviewers, and participants at meetings
3. Understand basic communication theory as it relates to the student's chosen field.

**N:** Course Content:

Course content will be drawn from the following areas:

Writing Skills

coherence and cohesion

clarity and conciseness

tone, diction, voice

mechanics: grammar, sentence structure, spelling, punctuation, etc.

Writing Tasks

Reports: progress, informational, problem/solution

Letters and Memos: application, sales, persuasive, bad news, transmittal, to the editor, inquiry, information

Agenda and Minutes

Resume

Process description

Manual Writing

Summary

Brochure

Newsletter

Expanded definition

Press release

Exercises

Readings

1. Field-related material as content and context for assignments, e.g. summary

2. Course handbook

Oral Skills

Listening and responding

Preparing: research, organization, prompts

Delivery

Physical behaviour

Use of visuals

Oral Tasks

Employment interview

Meetings

Oral presentations

Other

Collaboration or team-work

Interpersonal communication with readers of writing assignments, with interviewers, and with participants of meetings.

**O:** Methods of Instruction

This course will emphasize learning through doing. Working individually and in groups, students will be involved in the discussion, analysis and interpretation of various writing activities. Under the instructor's guidance, students will integrate the results of primary or secondary research with correct language principles in a number of writing situations. Students may be required to write in response to textbook cases, film or video scenarios, field trip experiences, and other workplace situations encountered in the community. Other methods include lectures, group discussions, and presentations by resource people with field-related expertise.

**P:** Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

No single text is applicable for all career programs or for all course objectives. However, a handbook and/or exercise book is required. The following are examples of possibilities:

Business Communication: Strategies and Skills by R. Huseman et al.

Successful Writing at Work by Philip C. Kolin

Administratively Write! by Ron Blicq

**Q:** Means of Assessment

To pass CMNS 1111, students must demonstrate the ability to write in standard English.

Given the variety of programs for which CMNS 1111 may be adapted, evaluation components may vary significantly. The following are two current examples of how components and marks have been set up for the course:

CMNS 1111 for Business Management

Expanded Definition	5%
Summary	10%
Letters and Memos	30%
Information Report	15%
Meeting Skills Quiz	10%
Minutes/Agenda	10%
Application Package (Letter and resume)	10%
Writing Exercises/ Participation	<u>10%</u>
	100%

CMNS 1111 for Health Information Management

Summary	10%
Letters	20%
Memoranda	20%
Oral Presentation	10%
Meeting Skills	15%
Application Package (Letter and resume)	10%
Miscellaneous	<u>15%</u>
	100%

**R:** Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

Yes.

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 Course Designer(s)

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 Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

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 Dean / Director

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 Registrar