Scientific & Technical Communication I
Sample Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Overstreet
Email: -----

Course Description:

This course introduces students to reading, writing and multimodal communications in scientific and technical contexts. Students will learn about evidence-supported argumentation, summary and paraphrase, and academic citation practices. Major assignments include the creation of an evidence-supported research essay, a multimodal presentation and an informative website.

Learning Goals:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Incorporate data and figures into written explanations and arguments;
- Write abstracts and summaries of scientific and technical documents;
- Use IEEE citation format to cite sources and provide bibliographic references;
- Read carefully to trace the evidence used to make an argument;
- Use online tools (e.g. Google; Google Scholar) to conduct research;
- Integrate information from multiple sources in written explanations and arguments;
- Take notes and paraphrase to avoid plagiarism;
- Compose in a variety of modes.

Assessment:

There are no quizzes or exams in this course. Your final grade will be based on the degree to which you: 1) complete every assignment as directed; 2) present evidence of sustained effort and engagement; and 3) progress towards achievement of the course learning goals.

The relative weight of each task is as follows:

Coursework (short writings, in-class activities)	20%
Group Projects	10%
Technical Report	30%
Multimodal Presentation	10%
Website	30%

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Scientific & Technical Communication II
Sample Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Overstreet
Email: -----

Course Description:

This course extends skills in evidence-based reading, writing, and multimodal composition introduced in STC I. Major assignments include an evidence-based technical report and a group proposal that responses to a realistic request for proposals. Each of the major assignments will be supplemented with a multimodal presentation, video or website.

Learning Goals:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Write to specifications;
- Plan a project and develop a timeline to completion;
- Use Excel (or similar spreadsheet program) to manage project finances;
- Read and understand research reports and academic articles;
- Use advanced online tools (e.g. scientific databases) to conduct research;
- Compose in multiple genres for a variety of audiences;
- Avoid plagiarism through paraphrasing and citation;
- Combine communication modes to increase reader comprehension and engagement.

Assessment:

There are no quizzes or exams in this course. Your final grade will be based on the degree to which you: 1) complete every assignment as directed; 2) present evidence of sustained effort and engagement; and 3) progress towards achievement of the course learning goals.

The relative weight of each task is as follows:

Technical Report	40%
Proposal (group project)	30%
Multimodal Supplements	30%

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