OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: CMNS 325
Number of Credits: 3  Course credit policy (105)

Course Full Title: Writing for the Sciences and Technologies
Course Short Title: Writing for the Sci & Techs

Faculty: Faculty of Humanities
Department (or program if no department): Communications

Calendar Description:
An introduction to advanced principles and applications of written and oral communication for the sciences. Topics covered include the ethics of scientific communication, incorporating online tools in research and writing, defining audiences, designing documents, using visual aids, and preparing presentations.

Prerequisites (or NONE): One of the following: CMNS 125, CMNS 145, CMNS 155, CMNS 175, or ENGL 105.
Note: As of January 2016, prerequisites will change to the following: 45 university-level credits, including one of the following: CMNS 125, CMNS 145, CMNS 155, CMNS 175, or ENGL 105.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE): None
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE): None

Equivalent Courses (cannot be taken for additional credit)
Former course code/number:
Cross-listed with:
Equivalent course(s):
Note: Equivalent course(s) should be included in the calendar description by way of a note that students with credit for the equivalent course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.

Transfer Credit
Transfer credit already exists: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Transfer credit requested (OReg to submit to BCCAT):
☐ Yes ☒ No (Note: If yes, fill in transfer credit form)
Resubmit revised outline for articulation: ☐ Yes ☒ No
To find out how this course transfers, see bctransferguide.ca.

Total Hours: 45
Typical structure of instructional hours:

| Lecture hours | 20 |
| Seminar/tutorials/workshops | 15 |
| Laboratory hours | 10 |
| Field experience hours | |
| Experiential (practicum, internship, etc.) | |
| Online learning activities | |
| Other contact hours: | |

Total 45

Special Topics
Will the course be offered with different topics?
☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes,
Different lettered courses may be taken for credit:
☐ No ☐ Yes, repeat(s) ☐ Yes, no limit

Note: The specific topic will be recorded when offered.

Maximum enrolment (for information only): 25
Expected frequency of course offerings (every semester, annually, etc.): every other year

Department / Program Head or Director: Samantha Patridge  Date approved: April 2014
Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)  Date of posting: April 25, 2014
Faculty Council approval  Date approved: May 9, 2014
Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte  Date of meeting: May 23, 2014
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval  Date of meeting: May 23, 2014
**Learning Outcomes**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Apply the communication process specific to technical and scientific communications.
2. Work within ethical guidelines involved in observing, recording, and reporting in the Sciences.
3. Practice advanced principles of communication in memos, letters, summaries, proposals, reports, and articles.
4. Design effective and professional documents and visual aids.
5. Engage in advanced principles of audience definition for a wide range of audiences and for various public media, including popular newspapers and magazines, and scientific and technical journals.
6. Use online tools in the research and writing process.
7. Demonstrate advanced oral presentation skills.

**Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)**
- Yes
- No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because

**Typical Instructional Methods** (guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department’s discretion)
Reading, lectures, discussions, and hands-on practice in researching, organizing, and reporting.

**NOTE:** The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

**Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials** (if more space is required, download supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author Surname, Initials</th>
<th>Title (article, book, journal, etc.)</th>
<th>Current Edition</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year Published</th>
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**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** (Eg. Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing)
Use this section for supplies and materials for all sections of this course.

**Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting**

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<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Final exam:</th>
<th>Assignments: 100%</th>
<th>Midterm exam:</th>
<th>Practicum:</th>
<th>Quizzes/tests:</th>
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**Grading system:** Letter Grades: Yes Credit/No Credit: No Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: Yes

**Typical Course Content and Topics**
Week 1: Introduction to the course; the social nature of science
Week 2: Exploring science and technology
Week 3: Research reviews; summary and citation in the sciences and science communication
Week 4: Ethics of science communication
Week 5: Research proposals
Week 6: Research reports
Week 7: Presenting science and technology to scientific audiences
Week 8: Presenting science and technology to public audiences
Course Content continued

Week 9: Document design in the sciences and science communication
Week 10: Writing popular science
Week 11: Review, revision and reflection on review articles
Week 12: Review, revision and reflection on popular science and technology articles
Week 13: Reflection on writing for the sciences and technologies