



Grande Prairie Regional College

School of Health, Wellness & Career Studies
Department of Business & Office Administration

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2015

BA 1010 Business Communications I

3 (3-1-0) 60 Hours

Instructor	Cibylla Rakestraw	Phone	Office: 780-539-2873 Cell: 780-512-5129
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Office Hours Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:30 pm
By appointment at other times or on a drop in basis if I'm free.

Required Text/Resource Materials

Business Communications Now, Third Canadian Edition by Findlay & Locker. This is a new textbook for the course and students will require access to McGraw Hill Connect, which is provided through an access card provided with the textbook.

Description:

This course focuses on principles of effective business communication, both written and spoken. Specific topics include the writing process, improving grammar, writing a research paper, documenting with APA style, and preparing for public speaking. Revision and the editing process will be emphasized throughout the course.

Credit/Contact Hours

BA1010 consists of two 80 – minute classes per week plus a weekly one-hour lab. In addition, students are encouraged to contact the instructor throughout the semester for any individual assistance needed.

Delivery Mode(s):

The course work includes lectures, class discussions, group work, online practice exercises, in-class exercises, and individual student presentations, both written and oral.

Objectives:

The primary objective of BA1010 is to improve communication skills (writing and speaking) in business settings.

- Students will review and apply general English requirements in writing including grammar, sentence structure, punctuation, tone, and word usage.
- Students will explore and apply the process of writing an academic research paper.
- Students will explore and demonstrate giving a presentation in front of a group.

Course Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Apply the correct use of grammar, spelling, sentence structure and punctuation in writing;
- Research, plan, compose, edit, and document a formal academic paper;
- Research, plan, execute and evaluate an effective oral presentation.

Transferability:

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

Grading Criteria:

Note: In order to pass BA 1010:

1. ALL assignments and non-graded, assigned work must be completed
2. You must achieve a minimum score of 50% on the Final Exam.

Research Paper	20%
Connect exercises	20%
Mid-term exam	10%
Tests/Quizzes	18%
Oral Presentation	12%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%
Bonus – Discussion forums	5%

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

**Business Administration and Commerce Department
Grading Conversion Chart**

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A+	4	90 - 100	EXCELLENT
A	4	85 - 89	
A-	3.7	80 - 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B+	3.3	77 - 79	
B	3	73 - 76	GOOD
B-	2.7	70 - 72	
C+	2.3	67 - 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2	63 - 66	
C-	1.7	60 - 62	
D+	1.3	55 - 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1	50 - 54	
F	0	0 - 49	FAIL

Course Schedule/Timeline:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Material Covered</u>	<u>Requirements</u>
Week 1	Course outline, pretest, interviews		Complete pre-test, introductions and technology
Weeks 2 - 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating in a Changing World • The Research Process • Words • Sentences 	Chapter 1 and Connect sections on research, words & sentences Using GPRC Library resources	Complete material on Connect site for topics covered. Quizzes on Chapter 1, Words, & Sentences Submit research paper topic & thesis
Weeks 5 - 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Reading • The Writing Process • APA format • Grammar 	Connect Sections Midterm Exam	Complete Connect sections for topics covered. Quiz on Grammar. Submit formal outline for research paper. Complete mid-term exam.
Weeks 8 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punctuation Plus A & B • Giving a presentation 	Connect Sections Chapter 12	Complete Connect sections for topics covered. Quizzes on Punctuation Plus B & C Complete and submit research paper at the end of week 10.
Weeks 11 - 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punctuation Plus C • Adapting to audiences • Communicating across cultures 	Connect Sections Chapters 2 & 5	Complete Connect sections for topics covered. Quizzes on Punctuation Plus C, Chapters 2 & 5 Prepare and deliver presentation Final exam to be scheduled during exam period

Please note: The above schedule may be revised at the discretion of the instructor based on class requirements.

Course Policies:

All assignments must be word-processed. It is particularly important to save a copy of any written work submitted for credit or grading. Assignments need to be submitted through Moodle.

Assignments are due on the dates set by the instructor. If there is a valid reason for an extension, it must be requested prior to the due date. Unauthorized late assignments will have a 10%-per-day late penalty applied to the assigned grade.

Regular participation is critical to success in BA 1010. Should a student be unable to attend a class, it is the student's responsibility to go through the information online.

If a student is unable to complete a scheduled test or quiz, the instructor must be advised before the test/quiz is administered. Voice mail, text, or e-mail notification is fine. The test/quiz will usually then be rescheduled for that student. Failure to notify the instructor of an absence will result in a grade of 0.

Examinations:

Nine quizzes and a midterm will be scheduled during the semester and a final exam will be scheduled at the end of the semester.

Statement on Plagiarism:

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.