

Special Topics in Business Communications

Course Number: POFT 1291 NH1 HYB

Semester Credit Hours: 2

Prerequisite: None

Semester: 1st

Instructor Information:

Lisa Bowen, Instructor

Lab: Business Computer Technology Building, Lab 19

Telephone: 903.823.3063

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 2:45-5 PM

Office Phone: 903.823.3383

E-mail: lisa.bowen@texarkanacollege.edu

Course Weekly Schedule

Monday/Tuesday 5:30-9:20 PM (Face-to-Face in Class)

Wednesday/Thursday 5:30-9:20 PM (Online-Cengage Unlimited)

Daily Attendance Check In

Monday through Thursday 5:30 PM

Tardy: 5:31-5:45 PM

Absent: After 5:46 PM (Failure to check in for attendance online will result in an absence unless you are present in the classroom, or a school holiday or break.)

Textbook—Available as E-Book through Cengage Unlimited Platform:

Business English, 13th Edition. Mary Ellen Guffey and Carolyn M. Seefer. South-Western Cengage Learning, 2019. ISBN: 978-0-357-03378-4

Course Description:

Business English reviews the grammar, punctuation, and usage guidelines necessary for students to succeed in a business or professional career. It teaches students how to use the English language proficiently.

Student Learning Outcomes for the Course:

Upon successful completion of the required assignments, students should be able to:

- Identify parts of speech and understand how they function in sentences.
- Write complete sentences avoiding fragments, comma splices, and run-ons.
- Use nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections correctly in oral and written communication.
- Develop proficiency in punctuation, capitalization, and number style skills.
- Demonstrate realistic applications of current usage and style in today's workplace.
- Demonstrate improved vocabulary, spelling, and editing skills.

- Recognize and create professional business messages that demonstrate correct formats and ideas expressed in clear, concise, and correct English.

Teaching Method--Hybrid

- **Lectures:** Students are offered chapter lectures as “in person” and “recorded online” Lectures. It is the student’s responsibility to attend when in-class lectures are presented or to view the prerecorded online lectures for each chapter for better knowledge and understanding of the course.
- **Chapter Assignments and Tests:** Detailed end of chapter reinforcement assignments, unit reviews, quizzes, and tests are offered online through Cengage Unlimited with MindTap. The online activities reinforce the student’s ability to carry out the tasks learned in each chapter.

Grading Scale Summary

Percentage	From	Final Grade	Average
60%	Reinforcement Assignments/FAQ’s	A	90-100
40%	Unit Reviews/Quizzes/Tests	B	80-89
		C	70-79
		D	60-69
		F	50-59

Business Office Technology/Medical Office Careers for N1 Hybrid Policy and Procedure Document

Effective Date: Every new semester

Department: Workforce

Applies To: All Students Enrolled in the Part-time Business Office Technology/Medical Office Careers
Level 1 Certificate Programs

Attendance Policy

- Students are required to check in via Microsoft Teams or in lab, Monday through Thursday between **5:30 PM and 5:45 PM**
- Check-ins after **5:46 PM** are considered **Tardy**; check-ins after **6 PM** will be considered **Absent**.
- Failure to check in will result in an absence unless the student is physically present in class or the absence coincides with a recognized school holiday.

Absentee Policy

- Instructors may withdraw students from a course if unexcused absences exceed five (5) prior to the published Last Day to Drop.
- Absences exceeding this threshold after the drop deadline may result in a grade of “F” for the semester.
- Three (3) tardies equal one (1) absence.
- Students are considered tardy from the designated class start time up to 15 minutes into the session. After 30 minutes, the student is marked absent.
- Students leaving early, returning late during class, or showing absence in the online course may also result in an absence.

Excused Absences

Excused absences include:

- Official school trips or school business
- Military duty
- Religious holy days (per FBD LEGAL)

Students must follow proper notification procedures to qualify for make-up work. All other absences are considered unexcused unless otherwise stated in the instructor’s syllabus.

Make-Up and Late Work Policy

- Students are responsible for all missed work due to absences.
- Late work is accepted only in cases of excused absences or emergencies.
- Instructors are not obliged to offer make-up opportunities for unexcused absences.

Academic Integrity Policy

Texarkana College maintains a zero-tolerance policy for scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to:

- Cheating on exams
- Plagiarism
- Collusion
- Falsification of records

Violations will result in disciplinary action and may lead to dismissal from the course with a grade of **“F”**. This policy applies to all instructional settings, including the TC Testing Center and dual credit campuses.

Examples of Cheating Include:

- Copying files or sharing storage devices
- Glancing at or copying exam answers
- Printing work for others
- Submitting reused assignments
- Buying/selling assignments or test materials
- Sharing login credentials

Classroom Conduct

Students must:

- Show respect to instructors and peers
- Avoid unauthorized web browsing or social media use during class
- Collaborate ethically—no copying or cheating

Violations such as cheating, harassment, or viewing inappropriate content will result in dismissal from class with a grade of **“F”** and disciplinary action.

Additional Classroom Policies

- No food or drinks are allowed in classrooms or labs.
- Pornographic content and obscene email usage are strictly prohibited
- Harassment of any kind will result in immediate dismissal and disciplinary action

Disability Services

Texarkana College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodation is available upon request.

Contact: Tonja Blasé

Phone: 903.823.3349

Email: tonja.blase@texarkanacollege.edu

Students must present their accommodation letter to instructors immediately to ensure timely support.

Financial Aid Notice

Dropping a class may negatively impact your financial aid status. Students are strongly advised to consult the Financial Aid Office before withdrawing from any course.

Student Email Policy

All students are issued a Texarkana College email account, which is the official channel for communication with faculty and staff. Format: [firstinitial.lastname####@texarkanacollege.edu](#)

Example: [a.student1234@texarkanacollege.edu](#)