

PLEASE NOTE:

This syllabus serves more than one function. It is designed to be both a typical syllabus and an object of analysis throughout the course. A large part of our classroom effort is geared toward analyzing document design: what choices were made, why they were made, what restrictions were imposed, and how these things have affected the clarity, tone, ethos, etc. of the document. The shortcomings of a pure-text document become more obvious as the semester continues, especially when there are a large number of multimodal readings online (due to the format, hypertext links are forbidden, and URLs are often too long to be placed in the itinerary). Other limitations exist in plenty, and students are encouraged to find them.

In short: this is a highly unorthodox syllabus format--but it is designed this way on purpose.

TECHNICAL

WAITING

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/-----\
*=
*- INSTRUCTOR ..... Nathan Riggs
*= EMAIL ..... riggs2@clemson.edu
*- OFFICE ..... Strode Tower, Basement Office
*= I'LL BE THERE ..... M-F, 2:30pm - 3:30PM
*- CATS ..... Detka, Pilgore, Droogie, Marat
*= NOM DE GUERRE ..... Snake
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* R E Q U I R E D M A T E R I A L S *

- David McMurray's /Online Technical Writing/ (OTM)
@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/>
- various handouts and resources
- Marshall McLuhan's "The Medium is the Massage"
- A Magic Portable Reckoning Box w/ internets (Laptop)
- Various FREE Softwares; we will discuss

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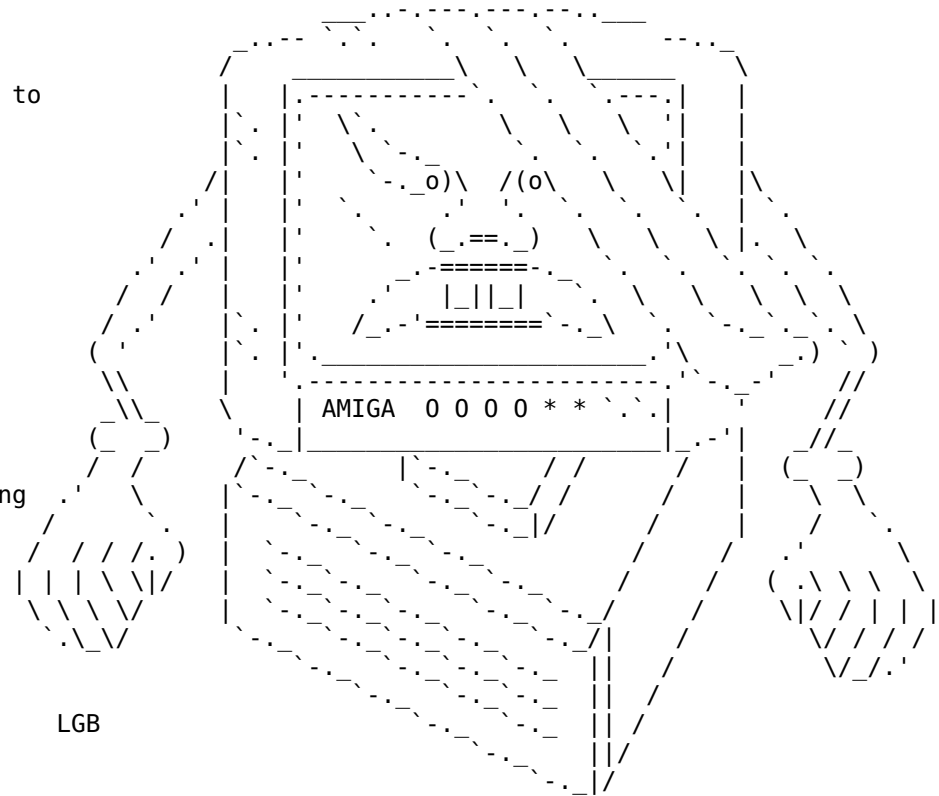
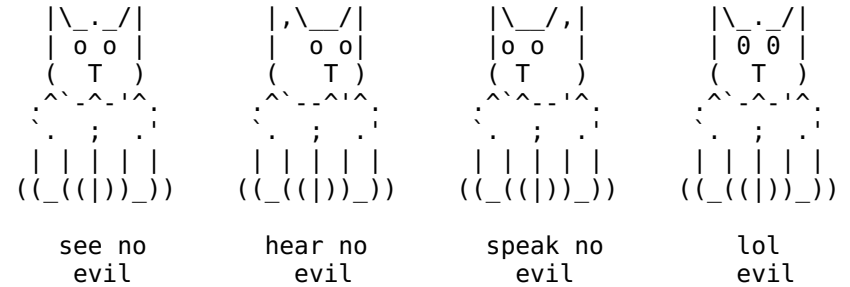
ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This syllabus is /almost/ written in plain-text format, also known as ASCII format (*A*merican *S*tandard *C*ode for *I*nformation *I*nterchange). This standard was derived from morse code and first established in 1963, eventually becoming *the* standard for digital documents. Each character is represented by a series of bits. *Extended* ASCII has 256 possible characters, and that is what we are using here.

In some very rare cases, you still may be required to write documents in ASCII format, especially when applying for certain jobs. Such documents are often *extremely* strenuous to read because they are particularly hard to format in a legible way. On the other hand, ASCII is often seen as a form of art (as well as its sister format, ANSI) due to both the difficulty as well as the precise control the writer has over the layout of the document. You may also find this format used when writing computer code, although we now have syntax highlighting to help us along, as well as languages that are entirely made up of special characters (for instance, check out emoji code @ <http://www.emoji code.org>). We have come a long way since the glory days of ASCII, in any case.

So what's the point? It's simple: know the proper format for the document that you are writing, and make sure it follows the codes and conventions of the situation perfectly. Is this the best format for a syllabus? Probably not--but if not, then what is? Why are these sorts of documents all formatted in the same fashion, and often in the most boring way possible? Does the typical design of a syllabus make you want to read it? To look at it? Does it help in understanding the material being presented? Does it lend the writer credibility or trust? Why and why not; how and how not?

These are the questions we will be constantly asking throughout the next 16 weeks in this course, among many others. Prepare for it!



LGB

COURSE AND OBJECTIVES

COURSE NOTE

This is a course that falls within the discipline of /English/. It may surprise you to learn that the English language, as well as most any spoken language, contains words and phrases that are not appropriate for every situation. We will be discussing these words in the classroom as well as using them frequently, and you should prepare for that. The goal is to not forbid you from using certain language--or myself!--but to understand how language develops and why some words are acceptable in one situation yet not acceptable in another.

Many words, of course, are patently offensive in most situations. We will also discuss these, and determine why they are generally forbidden, and why we will not be using them in the classroom. Until then, try to keep in mind that when you *say* something, you are *doing* something, and that those actions, made up of words, have consequences: for you as well as for those around you, and for both benefit and harm.

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in a week or a	:	needed to	
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## OBJECTIVES

Technical writing is designed to introduce you to the theory and practice of technical communication. By the end of this course, we should be able to:

- *- Analyze the audience, purpose and context in a host of (rhetorical!) communicative situations
- *- Identify and write in common technical writing genres with appropriate technologies
- *- Design usable and persuasive technical documents
- *- Understand the conventions behind a variety of workplace and other technical documents.
- *- Collaborate through a wide variety of technical means
- *- Be critically aware of the ways in which the media we use shape what can be said and who can say it
- *- Learn how to use new software and create unfamiliar document types on your own (autodidactically)



# EVALUATION PROCEDURE

We will be using the University's letter grading scale, which is:

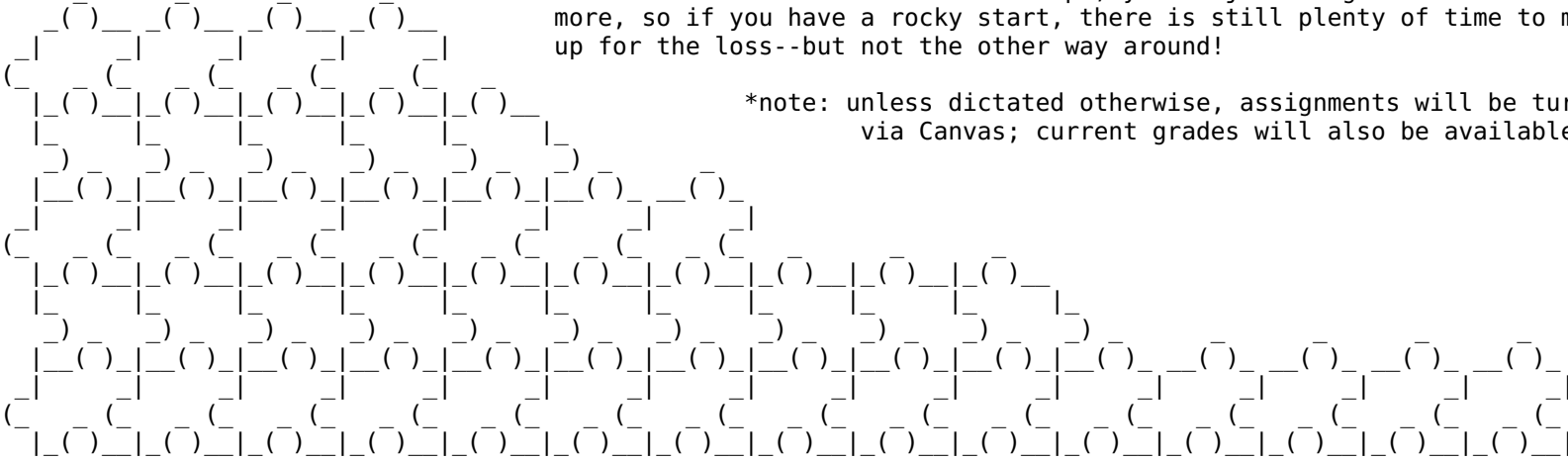
A	100% - 90%
B	89% - 80%
C	79% - 70%
D	69% - 60%
F	59% - 0%

These percentages will be calculated from a point system that contains /around/ 1000 cumulative points (this is subject to change). These points can be further categorized by the type of assignment or material, and these will roughly correspond to the total grade as such:

Participation	20% (200 points)
Weekly Quizzes	10% (100 points)
Minor Assignments:	10% (100 points)
Major Assignment 1: Self-Analysis	5% ( 50 points)
Major Assignment 2: Applications	8% ( 80 points)
Major Assignment 3: Instructions	12% (120 points)
Major Assignment 4: Software Manuals (group)	15% (150 points)
Major Assignment 5: Final Technical Document	20% (200 points)

It would be wise to note that it is not possible to receive an "A" grade, and you are unlikely to receive a "B" grade, without a high participation score. Also note that as the course develops, your major assignments become worth more, so if you have a rocky start, there is still plenty of time to make up for the loss--but not the other way around!

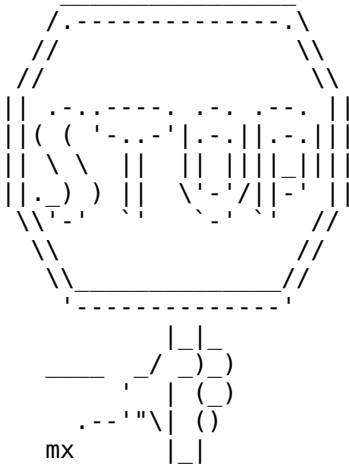
*note: unless dictated otherwise, assignments will be turned in via Canvas; current grades will also be available there.



# ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson's vision of this institution as a "high seminary of learning." Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form.

Especially of note concerning this class in particular: do ***NOT*** use assignments completed in other courses for this course's assignments. I am aware that certain technical documents are constructed in other classes, and students have tried to turn these in as original work done for this course in the past. This is unacceptable, and it is plagiarism.



# STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Clemson works to provide accommodations for you if you need additional resources in the classroom. These may include extra time on exams, note-taking services, and so on. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should make an appointment with Dr. Margaret Camp (656-6848), Director of Disability Services, to discuss specific needs within the first month of classes. Students should present a Faculty Accommodation Letter from Student Disability Services when they meet with instructors. Accommodations are not retroactive and new Faculty Accommodation Letters must be presented each semester. Please find complete information at the Office SDS: @ <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/sds/>.

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NON-DISCRIMINATION  
POLICY & TITLE IX

Clemson University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, genetic information or protected activity (e.g., opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in any complaint process, etc.) in employment, educational programs and activities, admissions and financial aid. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment and sexual violence as mandated by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. This policy is located at:

<http://www.clemson.edu/campuslife/campus-services/access/title-ix/>

Mr. Jerry Knighton is the Clemson University Title IX Coordinator. He also is the Director of Access and Equity. His office is located at 111 Holtzendorff Hall, 864.656.3181 (voice) or 864.565.0899 (TDD).

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<http://libguides.clemson.edu/copyright>

- I PREFER COPYLEFT -  
WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT!



# MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

## 1. Self-Analysis -- due Sep. 6, 2017

You may have been required to write a self-analysis essay before, especially in an English course, but this is slightly different, and it is not necessarily a personal essay (though it may be approached this way). The purpose of this essay is not to analyze your "self," per se, but instead your online persona: the mask you have developed (in latin, persona literally refers to an actor's mask) to present to the world online. Today, this probably takes place most on social media networks such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc., and those should probably be the focus of your attention.

## 2. Application Materials -- due Sep 18, 2017

For this assignment you will be finding either three actual job postings that you would perhaps apply to in the future, or three graduate schools to which you might be interested in applying, and then assembling the documents required to the best of your ability (the documents in question are contingent on the position; we will cover this in detail). This will require an extensive amount of research on the position(s). Also please note: at this point, you should not actually apply for the position--but after doing this assignment, you may be prepared to do so!

## 3. Instructions -- due Sep 29, 2017

Here you will be writing detailed instructions on how to complete a task that is related to your field or discipline of interest. This must be a task that your fellow classmates can complete without having to pay for certain software or have specialized equipment to do the job. It is important to remember that these instructions should be 1) practical, and 2) repeatable! Your grade is partially determined by how well others are able to follow.

## 4. Manual Writing -- due Oct 27, 2017

In a group, you will write a manual for a piece of software that none of your group members know how to use. This software will be open-source, and you will publish your manual online. Additionally, the manual should have multimedia components--primarily video--that aid users in understanding the software.

## 5. The Technical Report -- due Dec 8, 2017 (prospectus due Nov 10)

Your final major assignment will be to write a detailed technical report that is specific to your (desired) profession or endeavor. You should keep in mind that the intended audience should be those professionals who would read such a report--but remember still that not all of them are experts! We will discuss this in much greater detail in class, and a prospectus must first be approved before the writing of the document begins.

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ITINERARY
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--=<{ A FEW THINGS TO NOTE FIRST! }>--

- *- This itinierary is subject to change at any time for any reason, including pure whimsy.
- *- Except in the case of surprises (and there will be a few), quizzes will be given on Fridays. This does **not** mean that you should cram all of your reading into Thursday evening; if I suspect a large number of people have not done the reading, I will give the quiz immediately.
- *- At the end of the Itinerary is a list of links that correspond to each week's tasks. For example: On the Monday of Week 2 you will see "Video: Audience Analysis" in the "OTHER" section for the day. The link for this particular video will be in the "Week 2" section of the link list at the end. Of course, this is inconvenient--but don't fret. All of these are available to click on our Canvas site.
- *- I would suggest using the Canvas link list instead of this hard copy; we may add or delete content as the semester runs its course.
- *- At times, I may feel old-fashioned and actually provide a hard copy of something, made of paper and everything! These are called "handouts," and it is an ancient practice from the mystical art of pedagogy. On the itinerary, anything I hand out like this will have an "[H]" beside it.
- *- As noted well above this section, all assignments will be turned in via Canvas unless you are notified otherwise.
- *- Your minor assignments are as follows, in order: Oral Presentation, Prospectus, Group Presentation on Ethics and Document Design, Find Errors in Course Documents, and a Personal Response to Robots. Each is worth 20 points.



APPLICATIONS WEEK 3 -- SEP 4 - SEP 8	_____/	AND INSTRUCTIONS WEEK 4 -- SEP 11 - SEP 15
MONDAY, SEP 4 -- LABOR DAY	./	MONDAY, SEP 11
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- OTW: Business Correspondence & Resumes	./	- OTW: Types of Technical Reports
- OTW: Resume Examples	\-	- OTW: Task-Analysis
- OTW: Application Letters	./	
- Article: CV vs. Resume	\-	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
	\-	- begin crafting your resume. Do *NOT* use a
	./	template!
	\-	- on facebook, share a personal horror story
	./	about an interview. This can be yours or
	\-	"someone you know"
*- OTHER:	./	
- Video: Recruiters	\-	
- Video: Cover Letters	./	
	\-	
WEDNESDAY SEP 6	./	WEDNESDAY, SEP 13
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- OTW: Document Design	./	- Article: Cover Letter Workshop
- Article: Rhetorical Situations	\-	
- Article: What's Technical About Technical Writing?	./	
	\-	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- Major Assignment #1 due by midnight!	\-	- Minor assignment: oral presentation (20 pts)
	./	- make sure that you are posting to facebook
	\-	twice a week, and responding to the posts
	./	of others!
	\-	
*- OTHER:	./	
- Video: Job Interview	\-	
	./	
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FRIDAY SEP 8	./	FRIDAY, SEP 15
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- OTW: Oral Presentations	./	- OTW: Instructions
(in the applications of tech writing section)	\-	- OTW: Instructions Examples
- Read Assignment sheet for 2nd major assignment	./	
	\-	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- begin researching actual job listings or	\-	- Oral presentations, cont.
graduate schools	./	- post a response to today's video on facebook;
- make sure to research the values of the institution	\-	then respond to the posts of two others
as well as the people involved!	./	
	\-	
*- OTHER:	./	*- OTHER:
- Video: Death by Powerpoint	\-	- Video: The American Dream
	./	- Resume and CV are due on Monday!

LANGUAGE WEEK 5 -- SEP 18 - SEP 22	_____/	PROPOSALS / PROSPECTUS WEEK 6 -- SEP 25 - SEP 29
MONDAY, SEP 18	./	MONDAY, SEP 25
*- READINGS DUE:	./	*- READINGS DUE:
- OTW: Translating Technical Information	\-	- OTW: Proposals
- Article: Design Fails	./	- OTW: Business Plans
- Article: Terrible Website	\-	
	./	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- Major Assignment #2 is due by midnight!	\-	- It's early, but start thinking about your final
- Read Assignment sheet for Major Assignment #3	./	project. You have to write a prospectus for
- Find a massive design failure and post to facebook;	\-	it, and that is due on Oct. 9th!
comment on the posts of others	./	
	\-	
*- OTHER:	./	*- OTHER:
- Video: Writing Instructions	\-	- Video: Technical Document Proposals (boring)
	./	- Video: The Structure of Technical Reports
	\-	
WEDNESDAY SEP 20	./	WEDNESDAY, SEP 27
*- READINGS DUE:	./	*- READINGS DUE:
- Article: Explaining Technical Things	\-	- OTW: Titles, Abstracts, Introductions & Conclusions
- OTW: Common Grammar, Usage & Spelling Problems	./	- Article: Technical Report Prospectus
	\-	
	./	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- Find a bad instruction manual and bring it to class	\-	- On facebook, tell a workplace horror story. If you
We will Analyze these in groups	./	don't have one of your own, find friends and
	\-	family who do--there are a lot of them!
	./	- Resond to the posts of others
	\-	
*- OTHER:	./	*- OTHER:
- Video: Jargon and Communication	\-	- Video: Asking for Money
- Video: Communication Between Fields	./	
	\-	
FRIDAY SEP 22	./	FRIDAY, SEP 29
*- READINGS DUE:	./	*- READINGS DUE:
- OTW: Information Structures	\-	- Article: Introduction to Grant Writing
- compile a list of jargon in your own discipline	./	- Read Minor Assignment Prospectus handout
and be prepared to discuss it in class	\-	
	./	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- Figure out what you'll be writing instructions on.	\-	- Major Assignment #3 is due by midnight!
Remember to follow the assignment guidelines!	./	- Discuss today's video on facebook.
- begin writing said instructions	\-	
	./	
*- OTHER:	./	*- OTHER:
- Video: Talking to Sales People	\-	- Video: On Work (strong language)
	./	

USER GUIDES / HANDBOOKS WEEK 7 -- OCT 2 - OCT 6	_____/	SOFTWARE WORKSHOP WEEK 8 -- OCT 9 - 13
MONDAY, OCT 2	./	MONDAY, OCT 9
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- OTW: User Guides	./	- Openoffice.org User Guide (skim over)
- OTW: Handbooks	\-	- OTW: User Guide Examples
	./	- OTW: Progress Report Examples
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	\-	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- Bring a hard copy of your instructions to class; other students will be following them	./	- minor assignment: prospectus due (20 pts)
	\-	- Be prepared to discuss the design of the openOffice.org User Guide
*- OTHER:	./	
- Post something funny to facebook	\-	
	./	
WEDNESDAY OCT 4	\-	WEDNESDAY, OCT 11
*- READINGS DUE:	./	*- READINGS DUE:
- Article: The DudeBro Manifesto (google memo)	\-	- The GNU Manifesto
- Article: DudeBro Response	./	- Howard, Who "Owns" Electronic Texts?
- OTW: Progress Reports	\-	
	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	\-	- begin quest to find a piece of software to write a user guide for as a group
- Be prepared to thoroughly discuss the articles read for today, as well as their implications	./	- find a user guide for a piece of open-source software to discuss in class
- Respond to the important videos on facebook	\-	
	./	
*- OTHER:	\-	
- Watch: Some Important Videos	./	
	\-	
FRIDAY OCT 6	./	FRIDAY, OCT 13 -- MIDTERM EVALUATIONS
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- OTW: Standard Operational Policies and Procedures	./	- Revisit texts on Jargon!
- Guerilla Open-Access Manifesto	\-	
- Open-Access Wikipedia Page	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
	\-	- begin assembling software manual as a group
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	
- work on that prospectus! It is due on Monday.	\-	
	./	
*- OTHER:	\-	
- Video: The Importance of SOPP	./	
- Finish that prospectus! It is due on Monday	\-	
	./	

## GROUPTHINK

WEEK 9 -- OCT 16 - OCT 20

MONDAY, OCT 16 -- FALL BREAK

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WEDNESDAY OCT 18

- *- READINGS DUE:
  - OTW: Strategies for Peer-reviewing & Team-writing
  - Article: Teamwork Skills
- *- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
  - group work on major assignment #4
- *- OTHER:
  - Video: Brown Eyes Blue Eyes (racist language)
  - Video: Groupthink

FRIDAY OCT 20

- *- READINGS DUE:
  - none!
- *- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
  - group work on major assignment #4
  - post which group member you are as described in the "Team Dynamics" video; confirm or deny what others in your group post about themselves.
- *- OTHER:
  - Video: Milgram Experiment Update
  - Video: Team Dynamics
  - Video: Stanford Prison Experiment

## ETHICS

WEEK 10 -- OCT 23 - OCT 27

MONDAY, OCT 23

- *- READINGS DUE:
  - Overview of Ethics
- *- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
  - think about the ethical dimensions of what you are writing as a group; work on minor assignment
- *- OTHER:
  - Video: The Trolley Problem

WEDNESDAY, OCT 25

- *- READINGS DUE:
  - none!
- *- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
  - minor assignment due: group presentation on ethical issues in document (20 pts)

FRIDAY, OCT 27

- *- READINGS DUE:
  - Katz, "The Ethic of Expediency"
- *- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
  - Your group's software manual is due by midnight! (this is major assignment #4)
  - be prepared to discuss Katz article
- *- OTHER:
  - By now, you should have been approved to start your final assignment (prospectus approved). Get on that!





WRITING  
WEEK 13 -- NOV 13 - NOV 17

ONE DAY  
WEEK 14 -- NOV 20 - NOV 24

MONDAY, NOV 13

MONDAY, NOV 20

*- READINGS DUE:  
- Windsor, "Engineering Writing / Writing Engineering"

*- READINGS DUE:  
- Begin Reading "Ethically Aligned Design." You should have this finished by next Wednesday.

*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:  
- none. We may be working on informal fallacies.

*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:  
- Today is an optional conference day. I will be in my office during normal class time for conferencing.  
- Keep working on your technical document!

*- OTHER:

WEDNESDAY NOV 15

WEDNESDAY, NOV 22 -- THANKSGIVING BREAK

*- READINGS DUE:  
- Article: An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments

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*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:  
- be prepared to talk about informal fallacies!

*- OTHER:

FRIDAY NOV 17

FRIDAY, NOV 24 -- THANKSGIVING BREAK

*- READINGS DUE:  
  
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:  
- Bring a rough draft of your final assignment to class for peer review!

*- OTHER:

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THE FUTURE OF WORK WEEK 15 -- NOV 27 - DEC 1	_____/	END TIMES WEEK 16 -- DEC 4 - DEC 8
MONDAY, NOV 27 --	./	MONDAY, DEC 4
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- *skim* The Future of Employment (72 pages!)	./	- Article (book): The Medium is the Massage
	\-	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- be prepared to discuss reading.	\-	- be prepared to discuss how media work!
	./	- Make sure to do your course evaluations!
	\-	
*- OTHER:	./	
- Video: AI and your Future Job	\-	
- Video: The State of AI	./	
	\-	
WEDNESDAY NOV 29	./	WEDNESDAY, DEC 6
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- You should have finished the IEEE's	./	- Heidegger, The Question Concerning Technology
"Ethically Aligned Design" by now	\-	
	./	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	\-	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- be prepared to discuss reading	./	- Be prepared to discuss whatever it was you just
	\-	read
	./	
	\-	
*- OTHER:	./	
- Video: Machines and Ethics	\-	
	./	
	\-	
FRIDAY DEC 1	./	FRIDAY, DEC 8
*- READINGS DUE:	\-	*- READINGS DUE:
- Article: Universal Basic Income	./	
	\-	
*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:	./	*- ASSIGNMENTS DUE:
- minor assignment #5: 750-1000 words on your	\-	- Your final major assignment is due. No exceptions!
thoughts on machine ethics (20 pts). There	./	
are no wrong answers as long as it is well	\-	
thought and well-written!	./	
	\-	
*- OTHER:	./	*- OTHER:
	\-	
	./	

# WEEKLY LINKS

(these correspond to the dates on the itinerary)

WEEK 1: WELCOME -- AUG 23-AUG 25

This Syllabus.

WEEK 2: ANALYSIS -- AUG 28-SEP 1

/OTW/ ( /Online Technical Writing/ book)

Introduction:

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/intro.html#about>

Writing Process (all links in middle section):

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/process_over.html](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/process_over.html)

*ARTICLES*

5 Concepts:

@ <http://thevisualcommunicationguy.com/2013/08/07/5-concepts-you-need-to-understand-to-communicate-persuasively/>

Rhetorical Analysis:

@ [https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Rhetoric_and_Composition/Rhetorical_Analysis](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Rhetoric_and_Composition/Rhetorical_Analysis)

*Videos*

Audience Analysis:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hfue7l-WuJ4>

Corporate Training:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYjgHLFZMa0>

Work:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZ4VzhIuKCQ>

Etiquette:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMqyEUDhl30>

## WEEK 3: APPLICATIONS -- SEP 4-SEP 8

/OTW/

Business Correspondence and Resumes

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/lettov.html>

Resume Examples

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#resumes>

Oral Presentations

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/oral.html>

Application Letters

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#application_letters](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#application_letters)

Document Design (all sections!)

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/#design>

## *Articles*

CV vs. Resume:

@ <http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/curricula-vitae-cvs-versus-resumes/>

Dobrin, What's Technical About Technical Writing? (pdf on Canvas)

Rhetorical Situations:

@ <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/625/01/>

## *Videos*

Recruiters:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFngomrq58o>

Cover Letters:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ev9JJS7M2yM>

Job Interviews:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oYZEYs0eRDM>

Death by Powerpoint:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KbSPPFYxx3o>

## WEEK 4: AND INSTRUCTIONS -- SEP 11-SEP 15

/OTW/

Types of Technical Reports

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/otherep.html>

Task-Analysis

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/task_analysis.html](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/task_analysis.html)

Instructions

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/instrux.html>

Instructions Examples

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#instructions>***Articles***Cover Letter Workshop: @ <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/723/03/>***Videos***

The American Dream:

@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGH3029HI58&list=PLghL9V9QTN0gCZia2u-YnLxhetxnC_ONF&index=47](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGH3029HI58&list=PLghL9V9QTN0gCZia2u-YnLxhetxnC_ONF&index=47)

## WEEK 5: LANGUAGE -- SEP 18-SEP 22

/OTW/

Translating Technical Information

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/translating.html>

Common Grammar, Usage, and Spelling Problems

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/gramov.html>

Information Structures

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/structov.html>***Articles***

Design Fails:

@ <https://creativemarket.com/blog/design-fails>

Terrible Website:

@ <http://www.arngren.net>

Explaining Technical Things:

@ <https://theout.fit/updates/explaining-technical-things-to-not-so-technical-people>***Videos***

Writing Instructions:

@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDA3_5982h8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDA3_5982h8)

Jargon and Communication:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Umy8CbUxak>

Communication Between Fields:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F6Srzc8EEg>

Talking to Sales People:

@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_NeJ3Kg60Uo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_NeJ3Kg60Uo)

WEEK 6: PROPOSALS / PROSPECTUS -- SEP 25-SEP 29

/OTW/

Proposals

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/props.html>

Business Plans

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/busplan.html>

Titles, Abstracts, Introductions & Conclusions

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/partsov.html>

*Articles*

Introduction to Grant Writing:

@ <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/981/1/>

Technical Report Prospectus:

@ <https://www.tu-chemnitz.de/phil/english/sections/linguist/independent/kursmaterialien/TechComm/achtml/props.html>

*Videos*

Technical Document Proposals:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lP3duRTL-kM>

On Work:

@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_TC4nEBYuI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_TC4nEBYuI)

Asking for Money:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6Zz-Nkkaxc>

The Structure of Technical Reports:

@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvWmK_eTa7w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvWmK_eTa7w)

## WEEK 7: USER GUIDES / HANDBOOKS -- OCT 2-OCT 6

/OTW/

## User Guides

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/user_guides.html](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/user_guides.html)

## Handbooks

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/handbook.html>

## Standard Operational Policies and Procedures

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/orgpols.html>

## Progress Reports

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/progprep.html>

## *Articles*

## The Dudebro Manifesto (white paper)

@ <https://gizmodo.com/exclusive-heres-the-full-10-page-anti-diversity-screed-1797564320>

## Opposition Piece

@ <https://medium.com/@yonatanzunger/so-about-this-googlers-manifesto-1e3773ed1788>

## Open-Access Wikipedia Page:

@ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access)

## Guerilla Open-Access Manifesto:

@ [https://archive.org/stream/GuerillaOpenAccessManifesto/Goamjuly2008_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/GuerillaOpenAccessManifesto/Goamjuly2008_djvu.txt)

## *Videos*

## The Importance of SOPP:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yslB3BkDm8>

## Some Important Videos:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6EoRBvdVPQ&list=PL7XlqX4npddfrdpMCxBnNZXg2GFll7t5y>

## WEEK 8: SOFTWARE WORKSHOP -- OCT 9-OCT 13

/OTW/

## Progress Report Examples

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#progress_reports](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#progress_reports)

## *Articles*

## The GNU Manifesto:

@ <https://www.gnu.org/gnu/manifesto.en.html>

## OpenOffice.org User Guide:

@ [https://www.openoffice.org/documentation/manuals/00o2.x/user_guide2_draft.pdf](https://www.openoffice.org/documentation/manuals/00o2.x/user_guide2_draft.pdf)

Howard, "Who 'Owns' Electronic Texts?" (pdf on Canvas)

## WEEK 9: GROUPTHINK 00 OCT 16-OCT 28

/OTW/

Strategies for Peer-reviewing and Team-writing  
@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/team.html>

***Articles***

Teamwork Skills:  
@ <https://www.kent.ac.uk/careers/sk/teamwork.htm>

***Videos***

Groupthink:  
@ <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/mcat/behavior/social-psychology/v/conformity-and-groupthink>  
Stanford Prison Experiment:  
@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZwfNs1pqG0>  
Milgram Experiment Remake:  
@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnYU16wlBF4>  
Team Dynamics:  
@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7agjXFFQJU>  
Brown Eyes Blue Eyes:  
@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHxFu02Nk-0>

## WEEK 10: ETHICS -- OCT 23-27

***Articles***

Katz, "The Ethic of Expediency" (pdf on Canvas)  
Overview of Ethics:  
@ <http://www.iep.utm.edu/ethics/>

***Videos***

The Trolley Problem:  
@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg16u_bzjPE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg16u_bzjPE)



WEEK 11: TECHNICAL REPORTS REDUX -- OCT 30-NOV 3

/OTW/

Technical Report Examples

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#technical_reports](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#technical_reports)

Re-Read Technical Documents: An Overview

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/otherep.html>

Recommendation and Feasibility Reports

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/feas.html>

Recommendation Report Examples

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#recommendation_reports](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#recommendation_reports)

Primary Research Report Examples

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#primrsch>

Technical Specifications Examples

@ [https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#tech_specs](https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#tech_specs)

*Articles*

Guide to Technical Report Writing:

@ <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/ei/internal/forstudents/engineeringdesign/studyguides/techreportwriting>

*Videos*

The Structure of Technical Reports:

@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvWmK_eTa7w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvWmK_eTa7w)

Importance of Feasibility Studies:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nhFbNno9JqI>

Progress Reports:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-vvrcQdpZQ>

US Govt Progress Report:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxikFRQ4iKQ>

## WEEK 12: PRECISION -- NOV 6-NOV 10

/OTW/

Basic Patterns and Elements of Sentences

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/twsent.html>

Libraries, Documentation, Cross-Referencing

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/infoov.html>

Report and Section Introductions

@ <https://www.prismnet.com/~hcexres/textbook/models.html#intros>***Articles***

The Impotence of Proofreading:

@ <https://taylormali.com/poems/the-the-impotence-of-proofreading/>***Videos***

The Importance of Language Conventions:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d01RLnJBQzc>

## WEEK 13: WRITING -- NOV 13-NOV 17

***Articles***

Windsor, "Engineering Writing / Writing Engineering" (pdf on Canvas)

An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments:

@ <https://bookofbadarguments.com/>

## WEEK 14: ONE DAY -- NOV 20-NOV 24

***Articles***

Ethically Aligned Design:

@ [http://standards.ieee.org/develop/indconn/ec/ead_v1.pdf](http://standards.ieee.org/develop/indconn/ec/ead_v1.pdf)

## WEEK 15: THE FUTURE OF WORK -- NOV 27-DEC 1

***Articles***

Ethically Aligned Design:

@ [http://standards.ieee.org/develop/indconn/ec/ead_v1.pdf](http://standards.ieee.org/develop/indconn/ec/ead_v1.pdf)

Universal Basic Income:

@ <https://www.cnbc.com/2016/11/18/elon-musk-says-robots-will-push-us-to-a-universal-basic-income-heres-how-it-would-work.html>

The Future of Employment:

@ [http://www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk/downloads/academic/The_Future_of_Employment.pdf](http://www.oxfordmartin.ox.ac.uk/downloads/academic/The_Future_of_Employment.pdf)

***Videos***

The State of AI:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVF7KiYv01c>

AI and Your Future Job:

@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-naGYaiAlFA>

Machines and Ethics:

@ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr_Duwm0uzc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr_Duwm0uzc)

## WEEK 16: THE END OF TIMES -- DEC 4-DEC 8

***Articles***

The Medium is the Message (book)

Heidegger, The Question Concerning Technology (pdf on Canvas)



- *- most of the ASCII art on this syllabus was obtained from the archive at <http://www.chris.com>.
- *- The above image is from Hollow Knight, a metroidvania game published by Team Cherry. You should play it.
- *- ASCII images are often randomly paired with the accompanying text; there is no hidden meaning.
- *- Nintendo and the Pokemon company hold all rights to Pikachu.
- *- I did not write this on an Amiga Computer.
- *- if anything is on this syllabus that belongs to you, please do let me know and I will promptly update this syllabus with the proper attribution.
- *- This syllabus is yes, a syllabus, but is also used in class as an object of analysis--thus the unorthodox form.
- *- Apologies in advance for the formatting of the links sections--I am still trying to figure out how to best format that and retain the long URIs!