



Course Syllabus

Course Information

BUS 205 ONL
Business Writing
3 credit hours

Instructor Information

J.S. Engebretson

Contact Information

Office Hours: I do not have onsite office hours. If you have questions (after you have checked the online resources), please contact me via email or phone (call or text). We can also schedule Zoom sessions for more one-on-one communication.

Email: js.engebretson@doane.edu

Cell Phone: 402.826.9132

Preliminary Class Plan and Topics

Please see the schedule provided in the course.

Communicating With the Instructor

When questions arise during the course of this class, please remember to check these sources for an answer before asking me to reply to your individual questions:

1. Course syllabus
2. Announcements in Canvas

If you have questions of a personal nature such as relating a personal emergency, questioning a grade on an assignment, or something else that needs to be communicated privately, contact me via email or phone (text or call). I'm also happy to zoom with you to further discuss the course. My preference is that you try to email me first. Please allow 24 hours for me to respond to emails Monday-Friday and 48 hours on the weekend.

If you have a question about the technology being used in the course, please contact the Doane University Help Desk for assistance (contact information is listed below).

Course Catalog Description

An examination of effective written communication in organizational contexts through realistic applications relevant to the current business environment.

Course Textbook and Materials

Required

The McGraw-Hill 36-hour Course in Business Writing and Communication, Second Edition. Kenneth W. Davis, McGraw Hill Education, 2 Edition (2010) ISBN: 978-0071738262

Learning Objectives

- A. Develop and use analytical and creative thinking skills to gather and analyze information, to identify and solve problems, to determine potential outcome alternatives, and to make appropriate decisions
- B. Gain knowledge and understanding of the ethical and legal issues involved in business
- C. Gain knowledge and understanding of the various components of a business enterprise and the interrelationship of those components
- D. Gain knowledge and understanding of the nature of change and develop a willingness to anticipate, adapt, and respond effectively to change
- E. Obtain an understanding of the value of diversity

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Create appropriate business messages following the three primary writing approaches: direct, indirect and persuasive
- 2. Present information in a business format.
- 3. Proofread, revise and edit business messages.
- 4. Produce communications that are error-free, professional and targeted.
- 5. Demonstrate improved efficiency in writing and editing.

Course Requirements

Online Course

This is an online course and there will not be any face-to-face class sessions. All assignments and course interactions will utilize internet technologies. You must have a reliable internet connection throughout the duration of the course.

This course uses Canvas for the facilitation of communication between faculty and students, submission of assignments, and posting of grades. The Canvas Course Site can be accessed at <https://doane.instructure.com>

Attendance in an online course means logging into the Canvas on a regular basis and participating in all of the activities that are posted in the course. In addition, check your Doane University email account regularly, as your instructor may send important information via email.

Attendance/Participation

Doane University expects active participation by a student in a course, whether the course is on-ground or online. A student is expected to be prompt and regularly attend on-ground classes in their entirety. Regular engagement is expected for online courses.

You should plan to work on this course every day. This is a condensed, fast-paced, course. Expect to spend approximately 18 hours a week preparing for and actively participating in this 8-week course.

Class Preparation

Preparation for class means reading the assigned readings and reviewing all information required for that week.

Computer Requirements

For the successful use of Canvas please refer to Doane University's [minimum computer requirements](#). This also includes:

- Reliable computer and internet connection
- A web browser (Chrome or Mozilla Firefox)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (free)
- Word processing software—Microsoft Word or Google Docs
- Webcam and mic

Campus Network or Canvas Outage

When access to Canvas is not available for an extended period of time (greater than one entire evening – 6 p.m. until 11 p.m.) you can reasonably expect that the due date for assignments will be changed to the next day (assignment still due by midnight).

Drop and Add Dates

If you feel it is necessary to withdraw from the course, please contact your advisor for full details on the types of withdrawals that are available and their procedures.

Federal requirements state that students must complete 75% of the course work to be eligible to receive an incomplete for the course. If students fall more than two weeks behind, they cannot meet this requirement.

Academic Integrity

Fundamental to our mission, our core values, and our reputation, Doane University adheres to high academic standards. Students of Doane University are expected to conduct themselves in a manner reflecting personal and professional integrity. Disciplinary actions may be taken against students whose academic behavior is not congruent with the expectations of the University. Students are responsible for adhering to the standards detailed in this policy. Not being familiar with these standards does not mean that the students will not be accountable for adherence to them. Additional details on the Academic

Integrity policy for violating academic integrity are published in the undergraduate and graduate catalogs.

[http://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=18&navoid=1448#Academic Dishonesty](http://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=18&navoid=1448#Academic_Dishonesty)

Course Grading

Submitting Assignments

All assignments, unless otherwise announced by the instructor, must be submitted via Canvas. Each assignment will have a designated place to submit the assignment. All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor and review the course site regularly to learn about changes to assignments or due dates.

Grading Scale

Assignment of letter grades is based on a percentage of points earned. The letter grade will correspond with the following percentages achieved. All course requirements must be completed before a grade is assigned.

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| A+ = 97-100% | A = 94-96% | A- = 90-93% | B+ = 87-89% | B = 84-86% | B- = 80-83% |
| C+ = 77-79% | C = 74-76% | C- = 70-73% | D+ = 67-69% | D = 64-66% | D- = 60-63% |
| F= 59% or below | | | | | |

Grading Scheme

Please check each assignment for how points are awarded.

Late or Missed Assignments

Assignments are due by the specified date and time. Student work received after the due date will be graded beginning at 3/4 points, unless arrangements have been made with the instructor prior to the due date. After Module 5 concludes, no missing assignments and discussion board entries before this time will be accepted or graded.

Feedback

Please allow 1-4 days for feedback on assignments. Please review instructor feedback for assignments and assessments, as this will help you reflect on what you have learned while receiving suggestions for improvement.

Technical Support

If you are in need of technical assistance, please access the [Self Service Portal](#). You may reach the help desk at 402-826-8411 or by email at helpdesk@doane.edu.

Accessibility Statement

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, professional disability specialists and support staff at Doane University facilitate a comprehensive range of academic support services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Doane University staff coordinate student transitions from high schools and community colleges, conduct in-service training

for faculty and staff, enable the resolution of accessibility issues, conduct community outreach, and facilitate collaboration among Doane University staff on disability policies, procedures, and accommodations.

Disability Services

[Doane University's Disability Services Office](#) will provide guidance on accommodations and universal access. To request accommodations please complete the [Self-Identification Form](#) and visit the website for additional information.

Academic Support

Doane offers a range of academic support services for students.

For students taking courses online or for our Non-Residential students:

<https://www.doane.edu/graduate-and-adult/academic-support>

For students taking courses on our Crete campus:

<https://www.doane.edu/students/resources/academic-support>

Title IX Requirements: Mandatory Reporting

At Doane, all university employees, including faculty, are considered Mandatory Reporters. As a Mandatory Reporter, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and relationship violence to the Title IX Coordinator and, thus, cannot guarantee confidentiality. This means that if you tell me about an incident of sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination, I have to share the information with the University's Title IX Coordinator. My report does not mean that you are officially reporting the incident. This process is in place to ensure you have access to and are able to receive the support and resources you need. For additional information, including confidential resources, please visit the [Campus Advocacy, Prevention, and Education \(CAPE\) Project](#).

Instructional Technology Accessibility and Privacy Policies

If your course uses additional technology tools, information on the [technology's accessibility and privacy is available on our website](#).

Syllabus Disclaimer

The instructor and Doane University views the course syllabus as an educational contract between the instructor and students. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as deemed necessary. Students will be notified in a timely manner of any syllabus changes via email or in the course site Announcements. Please remember to check your Doane University email and the course site Announcements often.

Doane Syllabus Addendum

Each student is responsible for being aware of the policies, resources, and expectations as specified in the Doane Syllabus Addendum located at:

<https://www.doane.edu/Syllabus>