



CSCI 303 01B Technical Communication for Computing Professionals

Fall 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Afsana Rahman Mou, PhD

Office Location: JOUR 210

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 10:00 am to 11:30 am or online by appointment

University Email Address: afsana.mou@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email with the course name as prefix

Communication Response Time: within 1-2 business day

COURSE INFORMATION

Lecture: Meets 08/20/2026 through 12/04/2026. Final week starts 12/05/2026

Classroom: Ferguson 143, 2 PM : 3: 15 PM every Monday in person , Wednesday Online lecture.

Textbook(s) Required

Textbook: Communication Patterns, Jacqui Read, O'Reilly Media, Inc, 2023.

<https://learning.oreilly.com/library/view/communication-patterns/978109814053>

Course Description

The course will consist of a study of formal and informal communications for computing professionals. Types of communications that will be examined will include academic conference and journal publications; power point presentations for technical and non-technical audience; writing clean code with comments; collaborative software development; soft skills for IT job interviews; in-house technical reports, progress reports, and email messages; writing blog posts and wiki articles. Some of these communications/documents will be created as an individual requirement and will be completed as a team project.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Prerequisites: COSC 1437 with a C or better and Junior standing.

Student Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Adapt rhetorical processes and strategies for audience, purpose and type of task.
- 2) Organize and produce texts that meet the demands of specific genres, purposes, audiences, and stances.
- 3) Employ appropriate mechanics, usage, grammar, and spelling conventions.
- 4) Find, analyze, evaluate, summarize, and synthesize appropriate source material from both print and electronic environments.
- 5) Present focused, logical arguments that support a thesis.
- 6) Use reliable and varied evidence to support claims, incorporate ideas from sources appropriately, and acknowledge and document the work of others appropriately.
- 7) Use electronic environments to draft, revise, edit and share or publish texts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Knowledge of English grammar structure and writing skills.

Instructional Methods

D2L will be the method of instruction for the course. Please go to myLeo and find D2L in Apps. All course materials will be found in D2L.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Build a weekly habit of completing the lessons from the course materials on time every week. Please follow the rules for naming and posting assignments.

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GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

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Weights of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade:

Participation	15%
Assignment	15%
Two Midterm Exams	30%
Final Exam	20%
Presentation	20%
TOTAL	100%

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all coursework in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary

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use of a computer at a friend's house, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please get in touch with your instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, don't hesitate to get in touch with Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

1. Students can meet after class hours
2. Discuss if anything is needed in the designated office hours
3. Email with the class name as prefix
4. Any additional needs for the students can be accommodated based on the request [if it is outside of office hours or outside of the class hours]

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

MAKEUP POLICY

There will be NO makeup exams/assignments in general. However, with prior notification and valid documents, makeup chances may be given to students under extreme circumstances, such as hospitalization, serious injury, death in the family, etc. No makeup allowed for other than exams and assignments.

COLLABORATION POLICY

Students are encouraged to discuss any of the assignments with each other, to the instructor, or to anyone else. However, any assistance must be limited to discussion of the problem and sketching general approaches to a solution. Each student must write out his or her solutions to the homework. Consulting another student's or group's solution is allowed for team research project but prohibited for exams and quizzes. These and any other form of collaboration on assignments constitute cheating. If you have any question about whether some activity would constitute cheating, please feel free to ask.

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Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may require the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette/ments/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholarly work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty, see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a

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learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/
studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031 et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web URL: [http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/
rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses—report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to

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community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR (Tentative)

Week	Content	Remarks
Aug 20	Course Intro and Communication Essentials	
Aug 25	Clarify the Clutter and Audience Analysis	
Sep 1	Accessibility	
Sep 8	Narrative	
Sep 15	Notation and Visual Elements	
Sep 22	Composition	Midterm 1
Sep 29	Written Communication and Research Methods	
Oct 6	Verbal and Non-Verbal Communication	Oct 8 -Fall break
Oct 13	The Rhetoric Triangle and Argumentation	
Oct 20	Knowledge Management Principles	Midterm 2
Oct 27	Knowledge and People	
Nov 3	Effective Practices	
Nov 10	Communicating Remotely	
Nov 17	Presentation	
Nov 24	Presentation	Nov 26 -Thanksgiving
Dec 1	Summary	Last class -Dec 4
Dec 5		Final exam Week

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