



INSTRUCTOR TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

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My role as an educator is to be a resource, moderator, facilitator, and guide. I cannot force a student to learn, so students are fully responsible for their own learning, and therein, students are also responsible for the grade they receive. Students in this course start with zero points, and the amount of total points earned will determine the final grade in the course. I expect professional behavior from students in the same manner that a manager or employer expects professional behavior from employees. I am open to suggestions and constructive criticism - as I want to make this course experience meaningful and the course content useful.

Themes

The primary themes you will see within the syllabus and within the course are:

- 1) **PREPARATION.** Prepare and study before you speak or act. In business, persons who speak, write, or act before having the facts lose credibility and ultimately lose opportunities for career advancement. Manage your time wisely and plan to complete all tasks well in advance of the deadlines in order that you have time to make improvements or corrections if necessary.
- 2) **POLITENESS.** Treat others with politeness and respect at all times. We might disagree with the points made by another, but we should not become disagreeable. Make sure that what you say and do would be appropriate for a corporate work-office setting.
- 3) **PERFORMANCE.** I will set high but achievable expectations for assignments, and I will show you specifically how you will be graded. I consider a "C" to be an average grade. As with the business world, you will not be entitled to a bonus for "average" performance. There is not a "curve;" you either earn the points, or you do not. If all students meet and exceed the assignment expectations, they will all earn an A in this course. Using the Rubrics, you should be able to "grade your own work" before you even submit the assignment. If you meet and exceed the top expectations for each assignment, you earn a bonus (an A). If you do average work, you earn an average grade (a C). If you fail to meet the objectives, you will likely also fail the assignment. There should be few surprises.

Student Responsibility

If you have questions, make sure to get answers before you start your assignments. This will avoid a waste of resources and wastes of your time.

Please do not ask me for extra-credit assignments. I do not reward poor preparation and poor performance. These assignments would only create more work for me (to develop, review, and grade), and they distract my attentions from best-serving the entire class (our organization).

Bonus Points

If a student can develop a resource that is significantly beneficial to the entire organization (class), I might be willing to give that student a "bonus." For examples, if a member of our class

- arranges for a business executive to give a brief talk / guest lecture on a topic we are currently studying,
- designs an online resource tool (web page) that significantly improves the ability for others to quickly access quality and credible information,

- creates a learning object (video, animation, simulation) that helps the entire class better understand a concept that has not yet been covered within the course,

then that student might earn a bonus because their extra efforts benefit everyone in the organization.

Unless the project is significantly beneficial, it will not be approved. Our classroom time is extremely busy with many requirements we must complete. Even if approved, the project must meet the same professional standards as all other work in the course in order to receive credit.

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