## Agenda

#### Presented by Dr. Mark Decker

#### **Planning, Designing and Writing Documents**

Effective technical communication characteristics

• Ensuring specificity, accuracy, structure, and visual appeal

Defining purpose and audience

• Identifying the document purposes and assessing your audience's needs and expertise

Writing documents

- · Adopting an appropriate style and tone
- Using effective sentence construction
- · Using sentence variety (emphasis, parallel structure, subordination)

Designing documents

- · Choosing the right words and technical terminology
- Ensuring clarity (ambiguity, awkwardness, logic errors, positive writing, voice)
- Constructing effective paragraphs
- · Page layout and design considerations

Organizing and planning

- Developing work strategies to set priorities and to make the best use of writing time
- Creating project plans outlining specific details for a predictable and logical structure to help your audience understand technical information

#### **Revising and Editing Documents**

Editing for grammar and style

· Using punctuation and mechanics correctly

Reviewing content

- Checking accuracy, completeness, and effectiveness
- · Checking unity and coherence
- · Ethical Issues

Graphics

· Creating and integrating visuals

#### **Best Practices in Correspondence and Technical Documents**

**Business letters** 

· Formats and types of business correspondence

Memos and electronic mail

· Advantages and disadvantages of internal communications

Document elements

 Using formats to establish the order of content in document front matter, body, and end matter

Document types specifications, reports, instructions, and proposals

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Workshop for Engineers
Princeton, NJ - Wednesday, December 18,

**Technical Writing** 

2019



## Learning Objectives

#### You'll be able to:

*Identify* the purposes of technical documents and assess your audience's needs and expertise.

**Learn** effective sentence construction and use a variety of sentence types.

**Choose** the right words and technical terms for your documents.

Get tips on organizing and laying out your documents.

*Edit* for grammar and style, and review your content for accuracy and coherence.

**Learn** best practices for a variety of technical documents.



# Technical Writing Workshop for Engineers

Princeton, NJ - Wednesday, December 18, 2019



**Identify** document purposes and assess audience needs

**Choose** the right words and technical terminology

**Use** a variety of sentences, and construct effective paragraphs

**Discuss** document organization, layout and design considerations **Edit** for grammar and style **Learn** best practices for letters, memos and reports

**Continuing Education Credits** 

**Professional Engineers** 

7.0 CPC Credits/PDHs



## **Faculty**

**Dr. Mark Decker** is professor and assistant department chair in Bloomsburg University's English Department, where he teaches Technical Writing and Writing Technical Manuals in support of the Professional Writing minor. Dr. Decker has a PhD and an MA in English from The Pennsylvania State University (2001, 1997) and he graduated *summa cum laude* in English from Utah State University (1995).

While an undergraduate, Dr. Decker worked for several years as a staff writer for *Aerotech News and Review*, an aerospace and defense industry trade newspaper published in Lancaster, California. During graduate school, Dr. Decker was a member of the Leonhard Center for Technical Writing Initiative, a collaboration between Penn State's Department of English and College of Engineering designed to promote an exchange of ideas between technical writing instructors and the scientific and engineering communities. Dr. Decker also taught Business Writing, Technical Writing, and an Advanced Technical Writing course that enrolled graduate students from technical and scientific disciplines.

After graduate school, Dr. Decker spent four years at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, where he taught Technical Writing in support of that school's major in Technical Communication and served as the advisor for the student chapter of the Society for Technical Communication. Dr. Decker has given presentations at several national and international conferences and has published both a book and a co-edited book as well as several scholarly articles, book chapters, and encyclopedia chapters.

Registration

8:00 - 8:30 am

Morning Session

12:00 - 1:00 pm

1:00 - 5:00 pm

Afternoon Session

8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Lunch (on your own)

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Attendance will be monitored, and attendance certificates will be available after the seminar for most individuals who complete the entire event. Attendance certificates not available at the seminar will be mailed to participants within fifteen business days.

## **Additional Learning**

#### **Webinar Series**

#### **Structural Forensic Engineering**

- Introduction to the Forensic Engineering Process Tues., Nov. 12, 2019, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM CST
- Causes of Failures and the Forensic Engineering Report Tues., Nov. 12, 2019, 1:30 - 3:30 PM CST
- Forensic Examination of Structures and Use in Litigation Wed., Nov. 13, 2019, 11:00 AM 1:00 PM CST

#### **Stormwater Management Systems**

 Basics of Stormwater Regulations and Requirements, Including EPA Regulations

Wed., Nov. 20, 2019, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

• Site Planning and Choosing Best Stormwater Management Practices Wed., Nov. 20, 2019, 12:30 - 2:00 PM CST

• Working with the MS4 Regulator

Thurs., Nov. 21, 2019, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Long-Term Stormwater Management Practices
 Thurs., Nov. 21, 2019, 12:30 - 2:00 PM CST

#### **Cogeneration System Principles and Practice**

- Understanding the Benefits of Cogeneration Thurs., Nov. 21, 2019, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CST
- Laws, Regulations and Building Codes Impacting Cogeneration Thurs., Nov. 21, 2019, 1:00 - 2:30 PM CST
- Examining Cogeneration Technologies Fri., Nov. 22, 2019, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CST
- Moving to Cogeneration: Analysis, Modeling and Case Studies
   Fri., Nov. 22, 2019, 1:00 - 2:30 PM CST

#### **Onsite Power Generation and Distribution**

• Part I

Wed., Dec. 4, 2019, 11:00 AM - 2:15 PM CST

• Part II

Thurs., Dec. 5, 2019, 11:00 AM - 2:15 PM CST

For more information and other online learning opportunities visit: www.halfmoonseminars.org/webinars/

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#### **Technical Writing Workshop for Engineers**

Princeton, NJ - Wednesday, December 18, 2019

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