16HS105 TECHNICAL ENGLISH COMMUNICATION

Hours Per Week :

L	T	P	C
3	-	2	4

Course Description and Objectives :

To introduce students the specific use of English for the purpose of Technical Communication that would strengthen their skills in the areas of writing and speaking and thereby enable them to function effectively in their professional sphere. The teaching efforts in this course will be directed towards making students develop their technical writing skills in particular and overall language proficiency in general. It will be done by making students peruse good samples of technical writing covering a wide range of contemporary issues relevant to the engineering profession. Students will, also be revisiting, the fundamentals of grammar to get trained on use of standard English.

Course Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to

CO1: Functional language and grammar to express clearly in speaking.

CO2: A variety of strategies for listening for main points.

CO3: Read, understand and interpret material on technology and be able to write coherently on topics related to technology.

CO4: Participate effectively in the academic discourse of engineering both in classroom and beyond.

SKILLS:

- ✓ *Apply different sub skills like skimming, scanning, reading for information, reading for inference etc to understand different kinds of text.*
- ✓ *Apply different sub skills like top down, bottoms up approachs to listening, and understand phonetic and phonological features of the English language to deconstruct long spoken discourses.*
- ✓ *Use functional vocabulary relevant to subject areas like environment, tourism, engineering, technology and media to express ideas lucidly.*
- ✓ *Use appropriate sentence structure, cohesive devices and diction to construct simple text in writing and regular correspondence like e-mails, letters etc.*
- ✓ *Capture and understand key points during class room discourses through applying sub skills of writing like note-making, paraphrasing and summarizing.*

UNIT - 1 L-9

- Text : Environmental consciousness

  (Climate change, green cover, pollution, renewable vs. non renewable energy sources (from energy unit)
- Grammar : Articles, prepositions, sentence types and construction
- Vocabulary : Root, prefixes and suffixes
- Composition : Paragraph writing (descriptive and narrative)
- Laboratory Practice : Introduction to phonetics (Organs of speech- consonants, vowels and diphthongs; Syllable, stress and intonation)

UNIT - 2 L-9

- Text : Emerging technologies
  (Solar power, cloud computing, nanotechnology, wind energy (to be covered from energy unit)
- Grammar : Time and tense (Present, past and future; Helping verbs; Modals)
- Vocabulary : Synonyms and antonyms
- Composition : Letter writing (Informal)
- Laboratory Practice : Grammar practice (Speaking of past, present and future)

UNIT - 3 L-9

- Text : Travel and tourism
  (Advantages and disadvantages of travel, tourism, *atithi devo bhava*- Tourism in India)
- Grammar : Subject-Verb agreement and sentence construction
- Vocabulary : Idioms and Phrases

  Composition : Letter writing (Formal)
- Laboratory Practice : Situational conversations – Role plays (Introducing, greeting, enquiring, informing, requesting and inviting)

UNIT - 4 L-9

- Text : Engineering Ethics
  (Challenger disaster, biotechnology, genetic engineering, protection from natural calamities, how pertinent is the nuclear option? An environment of energy (from energy unit)) Avoiding sexist language (Gender sensitization)
- Grammar : Sentence transformation (Degrees, voice, speech and synthesis)
- Vocabulary : Phrasal verbs

  Composition : Note-making on Nandan Nilekani's "In search of our energy solutions" (from energy unit) Summarizing on "Flight from conversation" (New York Times)
- Laboratory Practice : Situational conversations – Role plays (Emotions, directions, descriptions, agreements, refusals and suggestions).

ACTIVITIES:

- *Doing phonetic transcription of selected words from the list provided using talking dictionaries of AHD and CALD.*
- *Complete graded grammar exercises in Rosetta Stone.*
- *Complete graded listening and reading comprehension exercises in Rosetta Stone.*
- *Watch TED videos and making notes.*
- *Watch TED videos to paraphrase and summarize.*
- *Ad- making.*
- *Prepare brochure.*
- *Dialogue writing followed by role play.*
- *Poster designing.*
- *Team presentation with PPTs and group discussion.*

UNIT - 5 L-9

- Text : Media matters: (History of media, language and media, milestones in media, manipulation by media, thousands march against nuclear power in Tokyo (from energy unit), entertainment media and interviews)
- Grammar : Common errors
- Vocabulary : One-word substitutes
- Composition : E-mail, short message service (SMS), writing advertisements, reporting; Social Media- blogging, facebook, twitter (acceptable and non acceptable content)
- Laboratory Practice : Group discussions (topics from energy unit) – Dumping of nuclear wastes, exploration of eco-friendly energy options, lifting of subsidies on petrol, diesel, LPG etc)

TEXT BOOK:

1 *"*Mindscapes - English for Technologists and Engineers*"*, Orient Black Swan, 2012.

REFERENCE BOOKS:

1. V. R. N. Swamy, *"*Strengthen Your Writing", 1st edition, Orient Longman, 2003.
2. T. E. Berry, *"*The Most Common Mistakes in English Usage", 1st edition, Tata McGraw Hill, 2004.
3. T. Balasubramanian, "A Textbook of English Phonetics for Indian Students*"*, Macmillan Ltd., 2000.
4. V. Sasikumar and P.V. Dhamija, "Spoken English: A Self-Learning Guide to Conversation Practice", 34th Reprint, Tata McGraw Hill, New Delhi, 1993.
5. M. M. Maison, "Examine your English", 1st edition, Orient Longman, 1999.
6. A. Rizwi, "Effective Technical Communication", Tata McGraw Hill, 2005.