



**TORONTO INTERNATIONAL OSLIFE SCHOOL
COURSE OUTLINE**

Communications Technology, Grade 10, Open

Name of School: Toronto International Oslife School

Department: Technological Education

Course Developer: Justin Fowler, BFA, BEd, OCT

Course Development Date: July 2025

Course Review Date: July 2025

Course Title & Grade: Communications Technology, Grade 10

Ministry Course Code: TGJ2O

Course Type: Open

Credit Value: 1.0

Developed from: The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 & 10, Technological Education, 2009

Prerequisite: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to communications technology from a media perspective. Students will work in the areas of TV/video and movie production, digital media, print and graphic communications, photography, and interactive new media and animation. Student projects may include computer-based activities such as creating videos, editing photos, working with filming, developing animations, and designing social media campaigns. Students will also develop an awareness of environmental and societal issues related to communications technology and will explore secondary and postsecondary education and training pathways and career opportunities in the various communications technology fields.

CURRICULUM OVERALL EXPECTATIONS:

A. Communications Technology Fundamentals:

By the end of the course, students will:

A1. demonstrate an understanding of the core concepts, techniques, and skills required to produce a range of communications media products or services;

A2. demonstrate an understanding of technical terminology, basic scientific concepts, and mathematical concepts used in communications technology and apply them to the creation of media products;

A3. demonstrate an understanding of and apply the interpersonal and communication skills necessary to work effectively in a team setting.

B. Communications Technology Skills:

By the end of the course, students will:

B1. apply project management techniques to the planning and development of communications media products;

B2. apply a design process or other problem-solving processes to meet a range of challenges in communications technology;

B3. create products or productions that demonstrate competence in the application of creative and technical skills.



C. Technology, The Environment and Society

By the end of the course, students will:

C1. describe the impact of communications media technologies and activities on the environment and identify ways of reducing their harmful effects;

C2. demonstrate an understanding of social effects and issues arising from the use of communications media technologies and the importance of representing cultural and social diversity in media productions.

D. Professional Practice and Career Opportunities

By the end of the course, students will:

D1. demonstrate an understanding of and apply safe work practices in communications technology activities;

D2. identify career opportunities in communications technology and demonstrate an understanding of the skills, work habits, education, and training required for entry into postsecondary programs or employment in these fields

COURSE CONTENT:

Unit Name	Time Allocation
1. Introduction to Communications Technology	5
2. Graphic Design and Typography	25
3. Film and Photography	25
4. Digital Media	20
5. Technology and Society	20
6. Culminating	15
Total Hours	110

TEACHING & LEARNING STRATEGIES:

Direct Instruction (teacher-led)		Class Activity (teacher facilitation)	✓
Direct Instruction (discussion possible)		Experiential learning (learn by doing)	✓
Class Discussion (teacher facilitated)		Worksheets/Surveys	✓
Small Group Discussion		Individual or Group Research	✓
Partner Discussion/Conferencing		Teacher modeling	✓
1:1 Conferencing Teacher & Student	✓	Text-based modeling	✓
Teacher reading to class		Use of Computers / Internet	✓
Silent individual reading	✓	Use of video or audio materials	✓
Group based reading		Role Playing	
Independent Work (teacher facilitation)	✓	Presentations	
Group Work (teacher facilitation)		Guest Speaker / Interviews / Questions	
Brainstorming	✓	Field Trip	



ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION:

Purpose: The primary purpose of assessment is to improve student learning. Assessment relates directly to the expectations for the course.

A variety of assessments for and as learning are conducted on a regular basis to allow ample opportunities for students to improve and ultimately demonstrate their full range of learning and in order for the teacher to gather information to provide feedback. Assessment tasks relate to the success criteria set out in lesson plans. Success criteria allow students to see what quality looks like.

Evaluation is the process of judging the quality of student work in relation to the achievement chart categories and criteria, and assigning a percentage grade to represent that quality. Evaluation is based on gathering evidence of student achievement through:

- Products
- Observations
- Conversations

Assessment for Learning - we provide feedback and coaching

Assessment FOR Learning is the process of seeking and interpreting evidence for the use of learners and their teachers to decide where the learners are in their learning, where they need to go, and how best to go there.

Assessment as Learning - we help students monitor progress, set goals, reflect on their learning

Assessment AS Learning is the process of the explicit fostering of students' capacity over time to be their own best assessors, but teachers need to start by presenting and modeling external, structured opportunities for students to assess themselves.

Assessment of Learning – we use assessments as ways of providing evaluative statements about the level of achievement of students

Assessment OF Learning is the assessment that becomes public and results in statements of symbols (marks/grades/levels of achievement) about how well students are learning. It often contributes to pivotal decisions that will affect students' future.

Grading

- The final grade is based on performance in 3 areas: products, observations and conversations.
- 70% of the grade is based on evaluations conducted throughout the course.
- 30% is based on a final evaluation.

Weighting of Categories:

Knowledge & Understanding	Thinking	Communication	Application
25%	25%	25%	25%

Assessment Tools: The following assessment tools are used in AVI4M at TIOS:



Marking schemes	✓	Rubrics	✓
Anecdotal comments	✓	Checklists	
Rating Scales			

Assessment Strategies: The following assessment strategies are used in AVU4U at TIOS:

Assessment for Learning		Assessment as Learning		Assessment of Learning	
Quizzes	✓	Journal	✓	Tests	
Tests		Exit and Entrance Cards		Presentations	
Presentations		Written Reflection	✓	Journals	
Journals	✓	Self/Peer assessment	✓	Essays	
Essays		Logs	✓	Models	
Models				Projects	✓
Projects	✓			Demonstrations	✓
Demonstrations	✓			Conferencing	
Conferencing				Questioning	
Questioning				Independent Study Assignment	✓
Independent Study Assignment	✓			Art Exhibits	
Art Exhibits				Researching	✓
Researching	✓			Reading Aloud	
Reading Aloud				Problem Solving (process focused)	✓
Problem Solving (process focused)	✓			Debates	
Debates				Work Sheets	✓
Work Sheets	✓			Role Playing	
Role Playing				Direct Instruction	
Direct Instruction					

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROGRAM PLANNING:

Instructional Approaches

Teachers at TIOS are expected to:

- clarify the purpose for learning;
- help students activate prior knowledge;
- differentiate instruction for individual students and small groups according to need;
- explicitly teach and model learning strategies;
- encourage students to talk through their thinking and learning processes;
- provide many opportunities for students to practise and apply their developing knowledge and skills;
- apply effective teaching approaches involve students in the use of higher-level thinking skills;
- encourage students to look beyond the literal meaning of texts and artistic works;
- encourage students to rehearse, practice, apply, skills and strategies, and to make



their own choices.

Teachers use a variety of instructional and learning strategies best suited to the particular type of learning. Students have opportunities to learn in a variety of ways:

- individually;
- cooperatively;
- independently with teacher direction;
- through investigation involving hands-on experience;
- through examples followed by practice;
- by using concrete learning tools;
- by encouraging students to gain experience with varied and interesting applications of the new knowledge. Rich contexts for learning open the door for students to see the “big ideas” of mathematics that will enable and encourage them;
- to reason mathematically throughout their lives.

Teaching Approaches

It is critical that teachers emphasize the impact that technology has not only on society but everyday life. If possible, teachers should include guest speakers and field trips to help students expand their horizons about technology. Teachers are encouraged to help students push their boundaries and discover mediums, and styles that are foreign to them. These experiences can help students better understand the styles and media with which they are using and studying.

Further, it is essential that students have the opportunity to build on their skills by establishing the fundamentals in a variety of ways. Students should be provided with examples of a variety of strategies to produce their work in a way that is most fitting for their own personal style.

Program Considerations for Students with Special Education Needs

Teachers must incorporate appropriate strategies for instruction and assessment to facilitate the success of students with special education needs in their classrooms. These strategies stem from the beliefs as laid out in *Special Education Transformation: The report of the Co-Chairs with the Recommendations of the Working Table on Special Education, 2006*:

- All students can succeed.
- Universal design and differentiated instruction are effective and interconnected means of meeting the learning or productivity needs of any group of students.
- Successful instructional practices are founded on evidence-based research, tempered by experience.
- Classroom teachers are key educators for a student's literacy and numeracy development.
- Each student has his or her own unique patterns of learning.
- Classroom teachers need the support of the larger community to create a learning environment that supports students with special education needs.
- Fairness is not sameness.

Teachers must plan their program that recognize the diversity of students' learning styles, needs, and responses, so students can have performance tasks that respect their abilities so they can derive the greatest possible benefit from the teaching and learning process.



Teachers must be mindful of three types of accommodations for students:

- Instructional Accommodations: changes in teaching strategies, including styles of presentation, methods of organization, or use of technology and multimedia
- Environmental Accommodations: changes that the student may require in the classroom and/or school environment, such as preferential seating or special lighting.
- Assessment Accommodations: changes in assessment procedures that enable the student to demonstrate his or her learning, such as allowing additional time to complete tests or assignments, or permitting oral responses to test questions

No modifications to course expectations are made at this school.

Program Considerations for English Language Learners

TIOS Teachers will use appropriate strategies for instruction and assessment to facilitate the success of the English language learners in their classrooms. These strategies include (but are not limited to):

- modification of some or all of the subject expectations depending on the level of English proficiency;
- use of a variety of instructional strategies (e.g., extensive use of visual cues, graphic organizers, scaffolding;
- previewing of textbooks;
- pre-teaching of key vocabulary;
- peer tutoring;
- strategic use of students' first language;
- use of a variety of learning resources (e.g., visual material, simplified text, bilingual dictionaries and materials that reflect cultural diversity;
- use of assessment accommodations (e.g., granting of extra time); and
- use of oral interviews, demonstrations or visual representations or tasks requiring completion of graphic organizers and cloze sentences instead of essay questions and other assessment tasks that depend heavily on proficiency in English.

Environmental Education and Technological Education

Acting Today, Shaping Tomorrow: A Policy Framework for Environmental Education in Ontario Schools outlines an approach to environmental education that recognizes the needs of all Ontario Students and promotes environmental responsibility in the operations of all levels of the education system.

The goals outlined are surrounded around: teaching and learning, student engagement and community connections, and environmental leadership. By promoting the study of issues and solutions, the engagement of practicing and promoting environmental leadership and stewardship, and the importance of leadership through responsible promotion of environmentally safe and secure practices.

Using nature as a starting point for inspiration and creativity, students can draw on this historic source and how it has been reflected in a variety of ways. Teachers should design activities and lessons, which allow students to draw their inspiration from nature and incorporate natural materials in to their works, or incorporate their works in to nature.

Equity & Inclusion



At Toronto International Oslife School, our mission is to inspire academic excellence for students and strong confidence for parents.

The following statements of belief are excerpted from the Peel District School Board document entitled *Empowering Modern Learners (Addendum 2020)* and help us to shape a foundation that determines our school's belief system about our students.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring that each student is represented and reflected in the learning experiences and learning environments we provide. This means that teachers and administrators at TIOS celebrate and value unique student interests, backgrounds, cultures and prior experiences. Our beliefs as a staff are founded on the following belief system that we bring to classrooms every day:

- We must actively confront inequities and barriers that uphold racism and other forms of oppression so learners of all identities are empowered through education that embraces their identities and lived experiences.
- Each learner is curious, competent and able to take an active role in his or her own learning.
- Effective educators empower all learners to achieve personal excellence by being open, flexible and responsive to their needs.
- A positive, innovative learning environment empowers all of us to grow through rich, authentic relationships both locally and globally.
- Together as a community of families, educators and leaders, we share responsibility to inspire our modern learners to be active, critically engaged, global citizens.

Culturally responsive pedagogy and modern digital tools offer unprecedented opportunities to empower historically under-served learners by providing barrier-free access to information and learning networks. This access generates new opportunities for learners to explore their passions, share their voices and consider diverse perspective.

Being an educator that embodies Modern Learning is more about the journey than the destination. As we acknowledge our past and commit to a new future, we will focus on instructional strategies that take in consideration student learning needs, and assessment practices that are equitable, transparent and focus on student achievement. Our classroom must foster critical thought, adaptability and innovation and understanding that these concepts look different and have different implications for each learner.

Literacy, Mathematical Literacy, and Inquiry/Research Skills

TIOS emphasizes the importance of the following:

- using clear, concise communication in the classroom involving the use of diagrams, charts, tables, and graphs
- emphasizing students' ability to interpret and use graphic texts.
- acquiring the skills to locate relevant information from a variety of sources, such as books, newspapers, dictionaries, encyclopedias, interviews, videos, and the Internet.
- learning that all sources of information have a particular point of view
- learning that the recipient of the information has a responsibility to evaluate it, determine its validity and relevance, and use it in appropriate ways.

Specifically, students in Technological Education will use mathematical literacy skills by way of charts, diagrams, tables and graphs to represent and communicate ideas and concepts for



their works. They will also need to apply these skills, for instance, while constructing architectural scale diagrams.

The Role of Technology

Information and communications technologies (ICT) tools are used in many ways:

- Students use multimedia resources, databases, Internet websites, digital cameras, and word-processing programs.
- Students use databases, spreadsheets, dynamic geometry and statistical software, graphing software, computer algebra systems, and so on in order to quickly navigate through complex problems, to see the effect of dynamic data on their values and trends, and to see a graphical representation of data.
- They use technology to collect, organize, and sort the data they gather and to write, edit, and present reports on their findings.
- Students are encouraged to use ICT to support and communicate their learning. For example, students working individually or in groups can use computer technology and/or Internet websites to gain access to museums and archives in Canada and around the world.
- Students use digital cameras and projectors to design and present the results of their research to their classmates.
- The school plans to use ICT to connect students to other schools and to bring the global community into the classroom.
- Students are made aware of issues of Internet privacy, safety, and responsible use, as well as of the potential for abuse of this technology, particularly when it is used to promote hatred.

Career Education

Students are given opportunities to develop career-related skills by:

- applying their skills to work-related situations;
- exploring educational and career options;
- developing research skills;
- developing key essential skills such as reading text, writing, computer use, measurement and calculation, and problem solving;
- practising expository writing;
- learning strategies for understanding informational reading material;
- making oral presentations;
- working in small groups with classmates to help students express themselves confidently and work cooperatively with others.

Health and Safety in the Arts Program

In Technological Education, there may be various substances that are toxic and must be monitored and stored properly when not in use. In tech shops, there must be appropriate routines in place to help students avoid injury.

In any case, health and safety is critical in Technological Education programs and must be followed closely to ensure that no students suffer injury at any point during their studies.

Financial Literacy

Through various courses in Technological Education, it is worthwhile for the teacher to discuss financial concepts where applicable. From basics such as the cost of materials to more complex issues dealing with the “why” (i.e.: “Why are materials becoming more



expensive? Why do computers cost what they do?”), students can make better financial decisions in relation to artistic endeavours.

Further, some expectations throughout courses in Technological Education can be connected to further workplace skills, some of which are not even connected to the tech at all, but instead by using metacognitive and critical thinking skills to better develop their employability and retainability skills.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism occurs when someone presents the work of others as their own. This would include copying large amounts of text from the Internet or other written texts without crediting the original author. Plagiarism also occurs when someone copies the work of other students, pretending it to be their own. Surprisingly, the third instance of plagiarism occurs when a student copies an assignment from one course for use in a different course, pretending it to be original work. All three of these instances constitute plagiarism and are very serious breaches of academic honesty.

In many post-secondary institutions, students who are found to be guilty of academic dishonesty (plagiarism) are forced to withdraw from the course and/or the university.

At TIOS, we consider the issue of academic honesty to be very important. Since our goal is to inspire academic excellence for students, we believe that academic honesty is an important lesson to learn during high school. For this reason, teachers in each course will review the correct methods of footnoting sources so that students can avoid any suspicion of copying from outside sources. Using someone else's ideas to support your own is not the crime – but when you pretend that someone else's ideas are yours, that becomes the problem! Teachers throughout Ontario have access to online software that easily detects plagiarism, so it is important for students to pay careful attention to this issue.

As outlined in *Growing Success*, students must understand that the tests/exams they complete and the assignments they submit for evaluation must be their own work and that cheating and plagiarism will not be condoned.

- **Responsibilities of TIOS Students:** When the teacher asks you to use your own words and ideas, it means that you should use your own words and your own ideas. You must demonstrate to the teacher that you are capable of submitting work that is your own. When a teacher asks to put your ideas into your own words, it does not mean that there is a correct answer for the assignment. It means that you have to come up with your own ideas to give to the teacher.
- **Responsibilities of TIOS Teachers:** Teachers will help students avoid plagiarising by using some of the following strategies:
 - defining the term “plagiarism” and reminding students of the policy when setting out an assignment;
 - giving students examples of what plagiarism looks like;
 - emphasizing the importance of using process skills to arrive at a product;
 - teaching students research skills so they can avoid plagiarising: note taking, paraphrasing, summarizing;
 - teaching students organizational skills: finding and organizing information to build understanding of a topic;



- teaching students how to make an outline for a report or research essay;
- having students keep a learning log to reflect on what they learned through the process: how research and organizational skills helped with the project, how could the product be improved, how can the research and organizational skills be improved;
- assessing the process steps: notes, outline, summary, bibliography, drafts, etc.; and/or
- informing students of the consequences of plagiarism.

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty at TIOS

Students found to have plagiarized assignments at TIOS will be subject to a series of escalating consequences:

- Instance #1: When plagiarism has been detected, the teacher will discuss the matter with the student. Both parents and the Principal will be informed of the details and the student will have the opportunity of redoing the assignment in a way that avoids plagiarism.
- Instance #2: When plagiarism is detected a second time, the student will receive a mark of zero for the assignment. Parents and the Principal will once again be informed and the Principal will note this in their school records.
- Instance #3: Repeat instances of plagiarism may result in withdrawal from the course and/or the school without refund of tuition. Similarly, students who are guilty of cheating on tests or examinations will receive a mark of zero on the test or examination and these details will also be noted in their school records.

Appeal

- A student may appeal the teacher's decision to the Principal after discussion with the teacher.

Late Assignments

Students are responsible for providing evidence of their achievement of the overall expectations within the time frame specified by the teacher and in a format approved by the teacher. There are consequences for not completing assignments for evaluation or for submitting those assignments late.

Resources

- Color and Light: A Guide for the Realist Painter by James Gurney
Art Supplies
- Moodle Website
- Dictionaries, Thesaurus etc.
- Various Daily Newspapers, Magazines, and Periodicals (Audio and Video material) CBC, The Fifth Estate, etc.
- Various Internet Resources:
 - OWL English Purdue
 - The University of Toronto Library
 - The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
 - The Toronto Star
 - The Globe and Mail

