



Pitt

Kenneth P. Dietrich
School of Arts and Sciences

Public and Professional Writing Certificate

www.Composition.Pitt.edu

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Overview

Writing plays a crucial role in the lives of people after they leave college as they work, volunteer, attend professional schools, and advocate for themselves and others. The Public and Professional Writing (PPW) Certificate focuses on writing that serves professional goals or the public interest (or both). We invite students from across the University to focus on writing as a way to develop the critical writing, learning, and thinking skills necessary to all sectors of American professional life—private, nonprofit, and government.

Students who know that they will write extensively as professionals in law, medicine, the sciences, social work, public policy, international relations, business, or other fields are good candidates for the PPW Certificate, as are students who are interested in advocacy and activism. Students contemplating graduate work should also find the course of study leading to the PPW Certificate useful. The courses will allow students to work on significant writing projects in a range of venues. Students who have finished the Certificate should have a compelling portfolio of work that they can show to prospective employers.

The certificate program requires 18 credits, described as follows. Satisfactory completion of the certificate satisfies the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences requirement of a related area.

Requirements for the Public and Professional Writing Certificate

Writing course; choose one of the following courses

- ENGCOMP 0400 Written Professional Communication
- ENGCOMP 0410 Writing for the Legal Professions
- ENGCOMP 0420 Writing for the Public

Electives; choose five of the following courses

Students must take at least two 1000-level courses from the following list. The remaining courses may be at the 400-, 500-, 600-, or 1000-level.

- ENGCOMP 0510 Narratives of the Workplace
- ENGCOMP 0515 Persuasive Writing in Advertising
- ENGCOMP 0520 Integrating Writing and Design
- ENGCOMP 0530 Writing for the Sciences
- ENGCOMP 0535 Writing in the Health Science Professions
- ENGCOMP 0550 Topics in Public and Professional Writing
- ENGCOMP 0560 Writing Arguments

- ENGCOMP 0600 Introduction to Technical Writing
- ENGCOMP 0610 Composing Digital Media
- ENGCOMP 0641 Writing for Change
- ENGCOMP 1100 Language of Business & Industry
- ENGCOMP 1101 Language of Science and Technology
- ENGCOMP 1102 Language of Medicine
- ENGCOMP 1103 Public Relations Writing
- ENGCOMP 1104 Creative Corporate Writing
- ENGCOMP 1111 Professional Writing in Global Contexts
- ENGCOMP 1112 Professional Uses of Social Media
- ENGCOMP 1151 Professional Editing in Context
- ENGCOMP 1250 Advanced Topics in Public and Professional Writing
- ENGCOMP 1400 Grant Writing
- ENGCOMP 1410 Advanced Research and Documentary Writing
- ENGCOMP 1900 Internship: Public and Professional Writing
- ENGCOMP 1902 Independent Study in PPW
- ENGCOMP 1903 Service-Learning Seminar in PPW
- ENGCOMP 1910 Bridge Seminar

Grade Requirements

A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in each course that counts toward the certificate.

Satisfactory/No Credit Option

There is no limit to the number of courses that can be taken on the S/NC basis for this certificate.

For more information

Visit the certificate's Web page at www.Composition.Pitt.edu/Undergraduate/Public-And-Professional-Writing for more details. Questions about the certificate can be addressed to the director, Jean Grace (JGrace@pitt.edu).