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.

Requirements for the Public and Professional Writing Certificate

Writing course; choose one of the following courses
ENGCMP 0400 Written Professional Communication
ENGCMP 0401 Written Professional Communication: Topics in Diversity
ENGCMP 0410 Writing for the Legal Professions
ENGCMP 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 any level from the list.
ENGCMP 0415 Writing and Anxiety
ENGCMP 0425 Digital Humanity
ENGCMP 0430 Public Communication of Science and Technology
ENGCMP 0432 Writing for Environmental Advocacy
ENGCMP 0435 The Public Athlete
ENGCMP 0440 Critical Writing
ENGCMP 0450 Research Writing
ENGCMP 0500 Topics in Composition
ENGCMP 0510 Narratives of the Workplace
ENGCMP 0515 Persuasive Writing in Advertising
ENGCMP 0520 Integrating Writing and Design
ENGCMP 0521 Writing with Data
ENGCMP 0530 Writing for the Sciences
ENGCMP 0535 Writing in the Health Science Professions
ENGCMP 0540 Introduction to Disability Studies
ENGCMP 0550 Topics in Public and Professional Writing
ENGCMP 0560 Writing Arguments
ENGCMP 0565 Writing Places
ENGCMP 0570 Topics in Black Rhetoric and Public Writing
ENGCMP 0600 Introduction to Technical Writing
ENGCMP 0610 Composing Digital Media
ENGCMP 0620 Theories of Writing and Teaching
ENGCMP 0641 Writing for Change
ENGCMP 0712 Critical Making
ENGCMP 1099 Language of Policy and Power: Topics in Diversity
ENGCMP 1100 Language of Business & Industry
ENGCMP 1101 Language of Science and Technology
ENGCMP 1102 Language of Medicine
ENGCMP 1103 Public Relations Writing
ENGCMP 1104 Corporate Storytelling
ENGCMP 1111 Professional Writing in Global Contexts
ENGCMP 1112 Professional Uses of Social Media
ENGCMP 1120 History and Ethics of Advertising and Fundraising
ENGCMP 1151 Professional Editing in Context
ENGCMP 1200 Advanced Topics in Composition
ENGCMP 1210 Tutoring Peer Writers
ENGCMP 1220 Art of the Essay
ENGCMP 1250 Advanced Topics in Public and Professional Writing
ENGCMP 1270 Projects in Black Rhetoric
ENGCMP 1400 Grant Writing for Nonprofits
ENGCMP 1410 Advanced Research and Documentary Writing
ENGCMP 1420 Writing Proposals for Business
ENGCMP 1430 Usability Testing in Technical Writing
ENGCMP 1510 Writing with Style
ENGCMP 1551 History and Politics of the English Language
ENGCMP 1552 Language, Literacy, and Learning

ENGCMP 1900 Internship: Public and Professional Writing
ENGCMP 1902 Independent Study in PPW
ENGCMP 1903 Service-Learning Seminar in PPW

ENGCMP 1906 Professional Experience: Writing, Editing, or PR
ENGCMP 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-Professional-Writing/ppw-Certificate for more details. Questions about the certificate can be addressed to the director, Dana Nowlin-Russell (ppw@pitt.edu).