

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

ENGCOMP 0400 Written Professional Communication
ENGCOMP 0401 Written Professional Communication: Topics in Diversity
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 any level from the list.

ENGCOMP 0415 Writing and Anxiety
ENGCOMP 0425 Digital Humanity
ENGCOMP 0430 Public Communication of Science and Technology
ENGCOMP 0432 Writing for Environmental Advocacy
ENGCOMP 0435 The Public Athlete
ENGCOMP 0440 Critical Writing
ENGCOMP 0450 Research Writing
ENGCOMP 0500 Topics in Composition
ENGCOMP 0510 Narratives of the Workplace
ENGCOMP 0515 Persuasive Writing in Advertising
ENGCOMP 0520 Integrating Writing and Design
ENGCOMP 0521 Writing with Data
ENGCOMP 0530 Writing for the Sciences
ENGCOMP 0535 Writing in the Health Science Professions
ENGCOMP 0540 Introduction to Disability Studies
ENGCOMP 0545 Writing for Accessibility
ENGCOMP 0550 Topics in Public and Professional Writing

ENGCOMP 0560 Writing Arguments
ENGCOMP 0565 Writing Places
ENGCOMP 0570 Topics in Black Rhetoric and Public Writing
ENGCOMP 0600 Introduction to Technical Writing
ENGCOMP 0610 Composing Digital Media
ENGCOMP 0620 Theories of Writing and Teaching
ENGCOMP 0641 Writing for Change
ENGCOMP 0712 Critical Making
ENGCOMP 1099 Language of Policy and Power: Topics in Diversity
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 Corporate Storytelling
ENGCOMP 1111 Professional Writing in Global Contexts
ENGCOMP 1112 Professional Uses of Social Media
ENGCOMP 1120 History and Ethics of Advertising and Fundraising
ENGCOMP 1130 Projects in Digital Composition
ENGCOMP 1151 Professional Editing in Context
ENGCOMP 1200 Advanced Topics in Composition
ENGCOMP 1207 Writing Machines
ENGCOMP 1210 Tutoring Peer Writers
ENGCOMP 1220 Art of the Essay
ENGCOMP 1250 Advanced Topics in Public and Professional Writing
ENGCOMP 1270 Projects in Black Rhetoric
ENGCOMP 1400 Grant Writing for Nonprofits
ENGCOMP 1401 Writing for Fundraising and Development
ENGCOMP 1402 Grant Writing for Research
ENGCOMP 1410 Advanced Research and Documentary Writing

ENGCOMP 1420 Writing Proposals for Business
ENGCOMP 1430 User Research and Reporting
ENGCOMP 1510 Writing with Style
ENGCOMP 1520 Revising with Play and Purpose
ENGCOMP 1551 History and Politics of the English Language
ENGCOMP 1552 Language, Literacy, and Learning
ENGCOMP 1900 Internship: Public and Professional Writing

ENGCOMP 1901 UTA in Teaching and Tutoring Writing
ENGCOMP 1902 Independent Study in PPW
ENGCOMP 1903 Service-Learning Seminar in PPW
ENGCOMP 1906 Professional Experience: Writing, Editing, or
PR
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-Professional-Writing/ppw-Certificate for more details. Questions about the certificate can be addressed to the director, Dana Nowlin-Russell (ppw@pitt.edu).