

# PROFESSIONAL WRITING, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

## Program Description

The minor in Professional Writing is intended to prepare students from all degree programs within the Berks College (with the exception of the major in Professional Writing) to write effectively in a variety of workplace and academic settings. Theory courses provide the necessary background to help students understand and appreciate the larger issues surrounding the writing and reading of texts. At the same time, practice-oriented courses draw upon the strategies and techniques of practicing writers outside and inside of the University, including workshops, peer conferencing, collaborative writing, portfolio preparation, and internships.

Students may not count courses used to satisfy General Education Writing/Speaking Skills.

## What is Professional Writing?

If you enjoy expressing thoughts and ideas through the written word, the minor in Professional Writing may be right for you. Professional Writing involves the use of precise language to convey information in a way that is easily understood by its intended audience, and it may be used to inform, persuade, instruct, or encourage action.

## Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18

### Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
ENGL 211W	Introduction to Writing Studies	3
<b>Additional Courses</b>		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 15 credits of the following:		15
CAS 214W	Speech Writing	
COMM 260W	News Writing and Reporting	
COMM 320	Introduction to Advertising	
COMM 370	Public Relations	
ENGL 110	Newswriting Practicum	
ENGL 212	Introduction to Fiction Writing	
ENGL 213	Introduction to Poetry Writing	
ENGL 215	Introduction to Article Writing	
ENGL 250	Peer Tutoring in Writing	

ENGL 415	Advanced Nonfiction Writing
ENGL 416	Science Writing
ENGL 417	The Editorial Process
ENGL 418	Advanced Technical Writing and Editing
ENGL 419	Advanced Business Writing
ENGL 420	Writing for the Web
ENGL 421	Advanced Expository Writing
ENGL 471	Rhetorical Traditions
ENGL 472	Current Theories of Writing and Reading
ENGL 473	Rhetorical Approaches to Discourse
ENGL 474	Issues in Rhetoric and Composition
ENGL 480	Communication Design for Writers
ENGL 491	The Capstone Course in Professional Writing
ENGL 495	Internship
ENGL 497	Special Topics

## Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

## Berks

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## Contact

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<http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/english/request-information> (<http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/english/request-information/>)