TECHNICAL 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 Department of English offers an 18-credit minor leading to a Technical Writing certificate to all students, regardless of major or college, who want to do concentrated work in technical writing.

What is Technical Writing?

The Minor in Technical Writing responds to the growing need in business, industry, and government for people who can communicate the results of technical work at a level of competence substantially above that usually found in beginning professionals. Indeed, industry and government leaders testify repeatedly that professional success depends both on excellent professional work and on the powerful communication of that work. This 18-credit minor provides all undergraduate students, regardless of college or major, the opportunity for concentrated work in technical writing.

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).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 418</td>
<td>Advanced Technical Writing and Editing</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
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<tr>
<td>Select 3-6 credits from the following: 3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS 452</td>
<td>Organizational Communication Theory and Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS 452W</td>
<td>Organizational Communication Theory and Research</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 470</td>
<td>Rhetorical Theory and Practice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 471</td>
<td>Rhetorical Traditions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 472</td>
<td>Current Theories of Writing and Reading</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 473</td>
<td>Rhetorical Approaches to Discourse</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 474</td>
<td>Issues in Rhetoric and Composition</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>STS/PHIL 407</td>
<td>Technology and Human Values</td>
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<tr>
<td>STS/PHIL 433</td>
<td>Ethics in Science and Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Select 6-9 credits from the following: 6-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 415</td>
<td>Advanced Nonfiction Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 416</td>
<td>Science Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 417</td>
<td>The Editorial Process</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supporting Courses and Related Areas 1

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better
Select 0-3 credits 0-3

1 Some courses in this category may have prerequisites that are not required in the minor.

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/)

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising
814-865-2545
Use the Liberal Arts Majors and Minors web page (https://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors/) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program

harrisburg

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