

Old Writing Major (for catalog year prior to Fall 2012)

The undergraduate major in writing comprises two emphases: professional writing and creative writing. The B.A. in writing offers students a 42-credit major that focuses on rhetoric, document production, and workplace writing as well as creative writing experience in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. All writing students are encouraged to consider working toward the "Distinction in Writing" honor.

All Writing majors will need 42 credits:
12 from the core + 27 from the track + 3 from the capstone

Core Requirements (12 credits):
WRT 200 Introduction to Professional Writing
WRT 210 Writing with Style
WRT 219 Introduction to Creative Writing
ENG 226 American Literature II

Creative Writing Emphasis (for catalog years prior to Fall 2012)

Creative writing students learn to create original works of poetry, creative nonfiction, and fiction. Students in the creative writing track learn to recognize and describe various poetic and prose forms, to analyze the creative work of others, including both professional writers and fellow students, and to reflect on their own developing personal aesthetic.

This emphasis is designed for students seeking to improve their creative writing skills, with a desire to pursue graduate education, to enhance a love and appreciation of literature, to write independently, or to improve their writing skills for a teaching career of which creative writing may be a part.

Students practice several genres of creative writing at the undergraduate level, namely fiction, creative nonfiction, or poetry. Students typically find careers as teachers, editors, grant writers, program administrators, freelance journalists, or authors.

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Literature (9 credits):

Any 200-level lit courses

Take the Three Courses in Two of the Three Genre Groups:

1. Poetry

WRT 320 Intermediate Poetry Workshop

ENG 320 Studies in Poetry

WRT 420 Advanced Poetry Workshop

2. Fiction

WRT 330 Intermediate Fiction Workshop

ENG 330 Studies in Fiction

WRT 430 Advanced Fiction Workshop

3. Nonfiction

WRT 360 Intermediate Nonfiction

ENG 360 Studies in Nonfiction

WRT 460 Advanced Nonfiction Workshop

WRT 495 Genre and Writing (Capstone)

Explores the historical and ideological boundaries that define conventional writing genres: poetry and prose; fiction and non-fiction; literary fiction and genre fiction; academic writing and professional writing; text and hypertext; and so on. The course considers disciplinary and professional influences on genre definition as well as various ethnic, gender, and economic conceptualizations of genre.

Professional Writing Emphasis (for catalog years prior to Fall 2012)

Professional writing students are taught to generate a wide range of nonfiction prose appropriate for a wide range of rhetorical situations. Writing majors in the professional writing track gain practice in literary writing, persuasive writing, and informational writing. Students become sophisticated analysts of communication situations and self-reflective about their own rhetorical skills. By graduation, professional writing students will feel confident writing and designing pamphlets, newsletters, magazines, Web pages, presentations, and a variety of other forms and genres.

This emphasis is designed for students seeking careers in writing, publishing, or other fields in which specialized skills in written communication are required. Many students combine the professional writing emphasis with a minor in a professional area such as advertising and public relations, business, computer science, English, information systems, or international relations. Students are encouraged to create major-minor combination that suits their own interests and career plans. Graduates typically find careers as editors, grant writers, program administrators, technical writers, freelance writers, teachers, and authors.

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Rhetoric and Design (6 credits):
COM 203 Argument & Analysis
WRT 251 Document Production and Design

Internship (3 credits):
WRT 490

Professional Writing (9 credits):
WRT 350 Business Communication
WRT 351 Writing for the World Wide Web
WRT 360 Intermediate Nonfiction

Professional Emphasis (9 credits): choose one triplet
1. English (ENG 225, ENG 261, ENG 313)
or 2. Journalism (CJR 236, CJR 256, CJR 270)
or 3. Public Relations (CAP 220 & 321, CJR 256)

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