PROFESSIONAL WRITING M.S.

Degree: Master of Science
https://www.towson.edu/cla/departments/english/gradwriting/

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The program provides advanced study and practice in writing techniques and style, principles/techniques of editing, and the functions of written communication within the professional/occupational setting. Courses aim to develop the communication skills of people seeking to enter or to advance in occupations requiring extensive writing and/or the analysis and reporting of data. Students may choose from tracks in creative writing, journalistic writing, technical writing and scientific communication, teaching writing, and writing for the nonprofit sector. Students who would rather design their own route through the program may choose "no track."

Accelerated Bachelor's-Master's Program

Students may also earn credit toward an M.S. in Professional Writing through the Department of English's accelerated bachelor's to master's program. This program allows students to take graduate courses as undergraduates and have the units count toward both degrees. Prospective applicants should contact the program director for details.

Please see the Undergraduate Catalog for information on the accelerated bachelor's-master's program.

Requirements
Admission Requirements

Application deadlines and a full listing of materials required for admission can be found on the website.

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
PRWR 611	RHETORIC	3
PRWR 612	RHETORICAL GRAMMAR	3
PRWR 617	EDITING	3
PRWR 797	INTERNSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL WRITING	3
Select one from the following:		3
PRWR 615	STYLE	
PRWR 623	TECHNICAL WRITING AND INFORMATION DESIGN [1]	
PRWR 641	THEORY OF CREATIVITY	
PRWR 691	METHODS AND RESEARCH FOR PROFESSIONAL WRITING	
Electives: 12 units of PRWR 600/700 courses, chosen with advisor (may include 6 units of thesis)		12
Track coursework or additional electives (tracks listed below)		9
Total Units		**36**

[1] Students may use PRWR 623, Technical Writing and Information Design, to fulfill only one program requirement: for the common core, the track, or as an elective.

Tracks

Declaring a track is optional. Students should consult with the Program Director if they wish to change their track.

Creative Writing

Code	Title	Units
Select three of the following:		9
PRWR 647	WRITING POETRY (3-6 units)	
PRWR 651	WRITING SHORT FICTION (3-6 units)	
PRWR 653	WRITING THE NOVEL (3-6 units)	
PRWR 705	WRITING CREATIVE NON-FICTION (3-6 units)	
Total Units		**9**

Journalistic Writing

Code	Title	Units
Select three of the following:		9
PRWR 625	DESIGN LAYOUT AND PRODUCTION	
PRWR 705	WRITING CREATIVE NON-FICTION	
PRWR 713	FREELANCE WRITING	
PRWR 730	WRITING REVIEWS	
PRWR 731	SCIENCE AND ITS PUBLIC AUDIENCE	
MCOM 502	LITERARY JOURNALISM	
Total Units		**9**

Technical Writing and Scientific Communication

Code	Title	Units
Select three of the following:		9
PRWR 623	TECHNICAL WRITING AND INFORMATION DESIGN	
PRWR 624	FOUNDATIONS IN TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION	
PRWR 625	DESIGN LAYOUT AND PRODUCTION	
PRWR 628	DESIGNING CONTENT FOR THE WEB	
PRWR 731	SCIENCE AND ITS PUBLIC AUDIENCE	
Total Units		**9**

Teaching Writing

Code	Title	Units
Select three of the following:		9
PRWR 621	BUSINESS WRITING	
PRWR 625	DESIGN LAYOUT AND PRODUCTION	
PRWR 627	CULTURAL RHETORICS AND LITERACIES	
PRWR 633	TEACHING COLLEGE COMPOSITION	
Total Units		**9**

Writing for the Nonprofit Sector

Code	Title	Units
Select three of the following:		9
PRWR 619	GRANT AND COMMUNITY WRITING	
PRWR 621	BUSINESS WRITING	
PRWR 628	DESIGNING CONTENT FOR THE WEB	
PRWR 629	CONTENT STRATEGY AND WRITING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE	
MCOM 551	PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	
Total Units		**9**

Portfolio

All students in Professional Writing are required to complete a written master's degree portfolio as a qualifying exam. The portfolio must be submitted between completion of 12 to 18 units of degree work. If deemed unsatisfactory, the portfolio may be resubmitted once. A second failure results in dismissal from the program.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate ability to focus on a topic, deliver sound, reasonable evidence to support or develop that topic; clearly and logically organize the work and show evidence of craft.
2. Demonstrate flexibility in a range of writing styles as well as sentence and paragraph-level command of language.
3. Demonstrate line-level competence with grammar, punctuation and vocabulary.