

# English (ENGL)

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## **ENGL 6400. Advanced Editing. 3 Hours.**

Advanced practice in editing technical documents. Focuses on working with clients to create user-friendly documents, especially changing technical language into audience-appropriate, inclusive language, integrating visuals (photos, drawings, graphs, diagrams, animation, and charts), and using design to enhance audience understanding. Required for the M.A. in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Rewrite technical language into user-friendly and inclusive language. 2. Edit technical documents on a variety of platforms using appropriate software such as Word and Photoshop. 3. Integrate photographs, drawings, diagrams, animation, and charts to increase users' understanding of technical documents. 4. Devise audience-aware documents that demonstrate a strong command of grammar, syntax, diction, writing conventions, and design. Prerequisites: Admission into the graduate program in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric.

## **ENGL 6401. Research Methods in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. 3 Hours.**

Survey of research methods that apply to contemporary practices in technical writing and digital rhetoric. Explores contemporary issues and studies related to TWDR contexts, including usability studies, technorhetoric, rhetorical function of networks, digital theorization of agency, etc. Required for the M.A. in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Evaluate research critically based on its goals, methods, and/or theories. 2. Apply principles of effective technical writing and digital rhetoric to the analysis of contemporary issues and practices in the industry, academe, government, and other organizations. 3. Evaluate a range of research designs used to address particular research questions. 4. Synthesize a body of published research on a particular issue and design a proposal. Prerequisite: Admission into the graduate program in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric.

## **ENGL 6402. Critical Theories in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. 3 Hours.**

An introduction to rhetorical theories and controversies in the field of technical writing and digital rhetoric. Explores theoretical approaches and critical issues in workplace settings, including histories, ethical praxis, user-centered design practices, writing across cultures, interdisciplinary boundaries, writing/working in digital environments, etc. Required for the M.A. in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Analyze foundational theories and concepts in rhetoric. 2. Demonstrate knowledge of rhetorical concepts by applying them to contemporary issues in workplace settings. 3. Employ rhetorical theories in argumentation tactics in technical writing and digital rhetoric. 4. Contrast theoretical approaches to disciplinary, cultural, and environmental issues and contexts. Prerequisite: Admission into the graduate program in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric.

## **ENGL 6460. Special Topics in Digital Rhetoric. 3 Hours.**

A Special Topics in Digital Rhetoric course provides MA students with the opportunity to investigate a wide range of topics in digital rhetoric that students will encounter and compose within. This course will explore theories and foundations for digital rhetoric, exploring models of digital rhetoric and how these digital artifacts are rhetorically composed. Topics vary. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Analyze digital rhetoric theories. 2. Practice with technologies and literacies connected with digital rhetoric theories. 3. Apply digital rhetoric to workplace communication. 4. Develop researched presentations individually and collaboratively. 5. Compose written, digitally-based final projects. Prerequisite: Admission into the graduate program in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric.

## **ENGL 6470. Special Topics in Writing Technologies. 3 Hours.**

A Special Topics in Writing Technologies course provides MA students with the opportunity to encounter a wide range of writing technologies within technical and professional writing. This course will survey particular writing technologies with a focus on how these technologies originated, how they function in a professional and technical setting, and how they impact stakeholders and audiences. Topics vary. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Analyze various technologies and mediums used for communication. 2. Determine community needs for communication through technological mediums. 3. Employ varied technological software. 4. Create documentation and communicate through various technologies for a client and/or stakeholder. 5. Devise usability studies for technological communication. Prerequisite: Admission into the graduate program in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric.

## **ENGL 6480. Special Topics in Technical Writing. 3 Hours.**

Advanced writing and research in the field of technical writing in professional contexts. Topics vary. May focus on theories of effective design, usability testing, plain language, graphics use and design, editing for specific fields, or current trends. Produces technical documents suitable for multiplatform publication. Repeatable with different course content. Required for the M.A. in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Apply theory to research topics in technical writing. 2. Adapt content across platforms and media. 3. Produce technical artifacts through common software tools such as Dreamweaver, InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, HTML editors, PowerPoint, Word and Excel. 4. Devise audience-aware documents that demonstrate a strong command of grammar, syntax, diction, writing conventions, and design. Prerequisite: Admission into the graduate program in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric.

**ENGL 6820. Practicum in Teaching College Composition. 3 Hours.**

Introduction to teaching writing, designed specifically for Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) teaching in the English Department. Focuses on theory and practice of teaching writing, specifically ENGL 1010 and 2010, but also prepares graduate instructors for further teaching responsibilities. Required of new GTAs in English. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Create effective lesson plans for English 1010 and 2010. 2. Create effective assignments for English 1010 and 2010. 3. Rewrite syllabus and course materials from fall semester in preparation for spring semester. 4. Analyze and reflect on observations of the class of a seasoned instructor. 5. Create a teaching philosophy pertaining to the teaching of composition. 6. Analyze pedagogical and composition theories. 7. Develop teaching techniques and theories. 8. Design lesson plans that incorporate technology to support student learning. Prerequisite: Acceptance as a graduate teaching assistant for the English Department.

**ENGL 6900. Professional Internship. 3 Hours.**

Internship in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric provides MA students with on-the-job training as technical and digital writing practitioners. During this internship, students will perform tasks in a professional environment, regularly meet with a faculty mentor, exhibit a portfolio of job tasks, and reflect on the experience within the portfolio. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Negotiate a work plan and/or project with a business supervisor and faculty mentor. 2. Perform tasks designated in internship work plan and/or project. 3. Conduct regular meetings with business supervisor and faculty mentor. 4. Organize work materials into a portfolio. 5. Present portfolio and a summative reflection on the experience. Prerequisites: Must have at least 12 hours of graduate coursework credit in the technical writing and digital rhetoric degree to enroll.

**ENGL 6920R. Directed Readings in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. 1-3 Hours.**

Individual study under supervision of a professor to pursue a special interest with more breadth and/or depth than traditional coursework offers. The primary purpose of this course is to prepare for a thesis, internship, and/or portfolio; however, the course may be taken for any reason. The program director will approve a contract devised between the student and professor. May be repeated up to 6 credits, but only 3 credits can be applied to MA requirements. Students writing a thesis must complete 3 credits of ENGL 6900. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Summarize the topic to be explored in a brief essay. 2. Plan a reading list with professor (and other advisors as needed) that explores a special interest with breadth and/or depth. 3. Justify the type(s) of work(s) to be submitted (e.g., exam, essay, annotated bibliography, literature review) and masterfully meet expectations according to professor assessment. 4. Apply new knowledge to short- and long-term academic and/or professional goals. Prerequisites: Admission into the graduate program in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric; and instructor permission required.

**ENGL 6971. Professional Portfolio in Technical Writing and Digital Rhetoric. 3 Hours.**

A digital compilation of significant work used to evaluate student performance and professional development. A master's portfolio demonstrates the academic and professional growth of a student in the TWDR program and may include student reflections, writing samples, professional projects, classroom examinations, bibliographies, etc. Must have at least 12 hours of graduate coursework credit in the technical writing and digital rhetoric degree to enroll in the class. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Evaluate one's academic and professional growth with selected artifacts and critical reflections based on TWDR's program learning outcomes. 2. Integrate user-centered designs and/or organization principles into digital portfolios. 3. Demonstrate basic, technological, and ethical literacies competent for entering the workforce or doctoral programs in rhetoric, technical communication, and related fields. Prerequisites: Must have at least 12 hours of graduate coursework credit in the technical writing and digital rhetoric degree to enroll.

**ENGL 6972R. Master's Thesis. 1-3 Hours.**

Supervised research that first focuses on preparing and formally proposing a viable research project (first semester), and then focuses on researching, writing, analyzing, and editing a well-focused thesis (second semester). Must take 3 or more credits over at least two semesters as approved by the graduate committee chair. **\*\*COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** At the successful conclusion of this course, students will be able to: 1. Propose a well-focused research project that investigates a current question or problem in technical writing and/or digital rhetoric. 2. Construct a literature review. 3. Employ ethical and rigorous research methods to conduct primary research for the thesis. 4. Analyze findings and thoroughly discuss their implications for technical writing and/or digital rhetoric. 5. Compose a quality thesis worthy of publication. 6. Defend the thesis to the graduate committee's satisfaction. Prerequisite: Must have at least 12 hours of graduate coursework credit in the technical writing and digital rhetoric degree to enroll; and have 3 credits of ENGL 6920R (Grade B or higher and/or can be enrolled concurrently).