Twin Cities Campus

Technical Communication Certificate

Writing Studies Department

College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Undergraduate credit certificate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2022
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 8
- Degree: Technical Communication Certificate

The certificate in technical communication provides students with proficiency in four areas of technical communication: written, oral, visual, and digital. Students take at least two required upper division courses and complete a capstone project as part of one of the courses. The courses are designed to teach students practical skills for communicating complex technical information to a variety of audiences and to complement their career plans.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements including writing and liberal education courses. For more information about University-wide requirements, see the liberal education requirements.Required courses for the major or minor in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward the major or minor (including transfer courses).

Program Requirements

At least 8 credits in the certificate must be taken at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus.

Students may earn a BS, a minor, or a certificate in technical writing and communication, but none of these may be combined.

Core Course

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 4 credit(s) from the following:

- WRIT 3562W - Technical and Professional Writing [WI] (4.0 cr)

  or WRIT 3562V - Honors: Technical and Professional Writing [WI] (4.0 cr)

Elective

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 3 credit(s) from the following:

- WRIT 3257 - Technical and Professional Presentations (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 3441 - Editing, Critique, and Style (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 3577W - Rhetoric, Technology, and the Internet [TS, WI] (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 3671 - Visual Rhetoric and Document Design (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 3672W - Project Design and Development [WI] (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4431W - Science, Technology, and the Law [CIV, WI] (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4501 - Usability and Human Factors in Technical Communication (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4562 - International Professional Communication (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4573W - Writing Proposals and Grant Management [WI] (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4662W - Writing With Digital Technologies [WI] (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4664W - Science, Medical, and Health Writing [WI] (3.0 cr)

Capstone Project

Students take the capstone project concurrently with the WRIT elective that they take for the certificate program. The project should be developed in consultation with the instructor of the selected elective course, who will also evaluate the project. All work should be completed within the same semester. If necessary, an outside reader with subject matter expertise will be invited to also provide input. The capstone project extends an assignment in the selected course to (1) to further develop and reflect on what students have learned through their certificate coursework and (2) to provide them with a tangible product that can be used for job applications. Project formats include a paper, report, podcast, video, scientific poster, or electronic presentation. Students can consult the department advisor for details.

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Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 1 credit(s) from the following:
- WRIT 4999 - Technical Writing and Communication Capstone (3.0 cr)

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