Duluth Campus

Writing Studies B.A.

English Linguistics and Writing Studies

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2017
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 38 to 41
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

The major in writing studies explores writing as a field of inquiry: its production, its circulation, its uses, and its role in the development of individuals, professional communities, and societies. The major begins with the history of writing practices, genres, systems of production and distribution. It uses the tools of qualitative, quantitative, and humanistic research to advance those explorations. It culminates in a practical examination of writing in traditional and emerging technologies.

The writing curriculum synthesizes 1) knowledge and experience with writing technologies from a liberal arts, as well as a technical, perspective; 2) practice in applying principles of rhetoric, design, cultural theory, and creative thinking to the production of professional writing projects; and 3) communities and other audiences. Students develop writing skills relevant to professional situations (document design and delivery, the development of varied writing techniques, and persuasive argument) with an understanding of writing's ethical and social implications. They also think reflectively and critically about their role as writers for professional and civic life. Students are encouraged to participate in UMD-sponsored internships in professional writing, corporate communication, editing, and publishing.

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.

Required prerequisites

Introductory Requirement (1 cr)

Transfer students with 24 or more credits and current University of Minnesota Duluth students who change colleges to College of Liberal Arts are exempt from this requirement. New first-year students with 24 or more PSEO credits may request to be waived from this requirement.

UST 1000 - Learning in Community (1.0 - 2.0 cr)

General Requirements

The Board of Regents, on recommendation of the faculty, grants degrees from the University of Minnesota. Requirements for an undergraduate degree from University of Minnesota Duluth include the following:

1. Students must meet all course and credit requirements of the departments and colleges or schools in which they are enrolled including an advanced writing course. Students seeking two degrees must fulfill the requirements of both degrees. However, two degrees cannot be awarded for the same major.
2. Students must complete all requirements of the Liberal Education Program.
3. Students must complete a minimum of 120 semester credits.
4. At least 30 of the last 60 degree credits earned immediately before graduation must be awarded by UMD.
5. Students must complete at least half of their courses at the 3xxx-level and higher at UMD. Study-abroad credits earned through courses taught by UM faculty and at institutions with which UMD has international exchange programs may be used to fulfill this requirement.
6. If a minor is required, students must take at least three upper division credits in their minor field from UMD.
7. The minimum cumulative UM GPA required for graduation will be 2.00 and will include only University of Minnesota coursework. A minimum UM GPA of 2.00 is required in each UMD undergraduate major and minor. No academic unit may impose higher grade point standards to graduate.
8. Diploma, transcripts, and certification will be withheld until all financial obligations to the University have been met.

© 2005 by the Regents of the University of Minnesota
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
Information current as of March 28, 2024

Program Requirements

Students majoring in Writing Studies must complete a minor or second major in a field other than professional writing or information design.

Required Core (12 cr)

WRIT 1506 - Literacy, Technology and Society [LE CAT, HUMANITIES] (3.0 cr)
WRIT 2506 - Theories of Writing Studies (3.0 cr)
WRIT 4200 - Writing and Cultures (3.0 cr)
WRIT 4250 - New Media Writing (3.0 cr)

Advanced Writing Requirement (3 cr)

WRIT 31xx - Adv Writing (3 cr)

Required Capstone (1 cr)

WRIT 4506 - Capstone Course: Senior Portfolio Preparation (1.0 cr)

Writing Electives (15 cr)

Take 15 credits from the following list. Most WRIT 1xxx-4xxx courses apply here. (This excludes WRIT 1120 and 31xx.) WRIT 4197-Internship may be repeated for a total of 6 credits.
Take 15 or more credit(s) from the following:

- WRIT 1006 - Journal and Memoir Writing [LE CAT] (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 2595 - Special Topics: (Various Titles to be Assigned) (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4100 - Introduction to Grant Writing and Project Planning (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4197 - Internship in Writing (1.0 - 3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4220 - Document Design and Graphics (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4230 - Web Design and Digital Culture (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4260 - Visual Narrative and Analytical Design (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4300 - Research Methods for the Study of Writing (3.0 cr)
- WRIT 4591 - Independent Study (1.0 - 3.0 cr)

Related Field Electives (6-9 cr)

Take any 2-3 1xxx-4xxx level courses in COMM, ENGL, FMIS, JOUR, LING or TH, totaling at least 6 credits.
COMM 1xxx-4xxx
or ENGL 1xxx-4xxx
or FMIS 1xxx-4xxx
or JOUR 1xxx-4xxx
or LING 1xxx-4xxx
or TH 1xxx-4xxx

© 2005 by the Regents of the University of Minnesota
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
Information current as of March 28, 2024