



Twin Cities Campus

Scientific and Technical Communication M.S.

Writing Studies Department

College of Liberal Arts

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

Department of Writing Studies, 214 Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Drive SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612-624-3445; fax: 612-624-3617)

Email: WRIT@umn.edu

Website: <http://cla.umn.edu/writing-studies>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Length of program in credits: 30
- This program requires summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Science

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The master's of science in scientific and technical communication focuses on applying basic theory and research to the practice of scientific and technical communication in the workplace.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)
- partially online (between 50% to 80% of instruction is online)

Prerequisites for Admission

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
 - Internet Based - Total Score: 79
 - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
 - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
 - Paper Based - Total Score: 550
- IELTS
 - Total Score: 6.5
- MELAB
 - Final score: 80

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Plan C: Plan C requires 21 major credits and 9 credits outside the major. There is no final exam. A capstone project is required.

Capstone Project: The capstone course (WRIT 8505), this is the final course necessary to complete the degree requirements. The course is primarily for students seeking the MS in scientific and technical communication, but is also suitable for graduate students in any program who want structured support to write an extended project report. Classes are conducted in a "writers' workshop" format, during which each student receives feedback and support for his or her individual research report writing.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with adviser approval.

Required Courses

Take the following courses for a total of 18 credits:

[WRIT 5001](#) - Foundations and Futures of Technical Communication (3.0 cr)



[WRIT 5112](#) - Information Design: Theory and Practice (3.0 cr)
[WRIT 5561](#) - Editing and Style for Technical Communicators (3.0 cr)
[WRIT 8505](#) - Professional Practice (3.0 cr)
[WRIT 5671](#) - Visual Rhetoric (3.0 cr)
[WRIT 4501](#) - Usability and Human Factors in Technical Communication (3.0 cr)

Electives

Take at least 3 credits of electives, in consultation with the advisor.

Electives

Take 3 or more credit(s) from the following:

- WRIT 4xxx

Related Field Competency Area

Take at least 9 credits outside the Department of Writing Studies, in consultation with the director of graduate studies.

Possible areas of study include, but are not limited to:

Health sciences
International technical communication
Food science and nutrition
Technical communication and software engineering
Technical communication and environmental science
Technical communication and law