Twin Cities Campus

Scientific and Technical Communication Minor

Writing Studies Department

College of Liberal Arts

Link to a list of faculty for this program.

Contact Information:
Department of Writing Studies, 215 Nolte Center, 315 Pillsbury Dr SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455; (612-624-3445; fax: 612-624-3617)
Email: WRIT@umn.edu
Website: https://cla.umn.edu/writing-studies

- Program Type: Graduate minor related to major
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2020
- Length of program in credits (Masters): 6
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.

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 Scientific and Technical Communication minor is available for masters-level students enrolled in other University graduate programs. Courses train students to apply basic theory and research-driven approaches to create and adapt content to solve complex problems in technical and scientific communication. The minor offers online courses in areas such as editing and style, writing with digital technologies, information design, and international professional communication. Coursework emphasizes collaboration with workplace professionals through client projects, virtual and global teamwork, mentorships, and emerging technologies and enables students to develop unique strengths in digital, usability, and/or science/health/medical communication.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- completely online (all program coursework can be completed online)

Prerequisites for Admission

Special Application Requirements:
Students interested in the minor are strongly encouraged to confer with their major field advisor and director of graduate studies, and the Scientific and Technical Communication director of graduate studies, regarding feasibility and requirements.
Research master's and PhD students interested in rhetorical theory and history, technical communication, technology and culture, digital and new media studies, and writing pedagogy are encouraged to pursue the Rhetoric, Technical and Scientific Communication minor.

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

Program Requirements

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

At least a grade of B must be earned for each course applied to the minor. The minimum GPA is 3.00.

Coursework (6 credits)

Core Course (3 credits)

Take 3 credits of the following:

WRIT 5112 - Information Design: Theory and Practice (3.0 cr)

Electives (3 credits)

Take 3 credits of electives. Courses can be from the following list or others with approval of the director of graduate studies

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 4664W - Science, Medical, and Health Writing [WI] (3.0 cr)
WRIT 5561 - Editing and Style for Technical Communicators (3.0 cr)
WRIT 5662 - Writing With Digital Technologies (3.0 cr)

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WRIT 8505 - Professional Practice (3.0 cr)

Program Sub-plans

Students are required to complete one of the following sub-plans.
Students may not complete the program with more than one sub-plan.

Masters

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