

Tech and Prof Comm/Scientific & Medical Writing • Bachelor of Science

Why Choose Technical & Professional Communication?

Technical and Professional Communication students learn the history and future of writing, edit technical manuals, understand the elements of writing technical documents and develop project planning skills. In addition, they analyze technical journals, books, magazines and speeches.

All TPC students identify a 'content specialty concentration,' a 21-credit grouping of courses that builds on their interest in a specific career area. While many TPC students enter the program with an associate degree in a technical area-for example, electronics or plastics technology-many develop their technical specialty based on an established area of expertise in the field of technical communication.

A wide variety of content specialty concentrations are possible, including electronics, automotive technology, computer information systems, plastics technology, medical writing, applied mathematics, visual communication, technical training and applied biology. These concentrations are not, however, the only areas of specialty allowed by the program; students are encouraged to work with their advisors to select the best grouping of courses for their professional interests. The content specialty gives students a specialized background and typically opens the door to their first professional job.

Get a Great Job

Technical and professional communication is a combination of writing, organizing and communicating information. Students gain an understanding of communication media, technical and expository writing, desktop publishing, verbal communication and a chosen technical or professional specialty.

Job opportunities continue to grow for graduates of this program. Nearly every industry needs employees who can communicate technical and professional information effectively to its customers and clients. Jobs also are expanding into marketing, advertising and public relations fields.

Admission Requirements

First year student admission is open to high school graduates (or equivalent) who demonstrate academic preparedness, maturity and seriousness of purpose with educational backgrounds appropriate to their chosen program of study. High school courses and grade point average, ACT composite score, and ACT reading and mathematics subscores will be considered in the admission and placement process. Transfer students must have at least 12 credits at the time of application with a minimum 2.0 overall GPA including an English and mathematics course, or they must provide their high school records and ACT scores for admission review.

Graduation Requirements

The Technical and Professional Communication program leads to a bachelor of science degree. Graduation requires a minimum 2.0 GPA overall and at least 120 credits including completion of all general education requirements as outlined on the General Education website. Students also must present a satisfactory portfolio for graduation.

Required Courses

Credit Hours

General Education

This degree requires completion of the General Education requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree. Details of these requirements are delineated on the General Education website. Courses listed below as program/major required courses with the indicators: C, S, Z, R, G, may also be used to satisfy some of these general education requirements.

Program

ENGL 311	Advanced Technical Writing	3
ENGL 323	Proposal Writing	3
ENGL 325	Advanced Business Writing	3
COMM 121	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
COMM 332	Persuasive Speaking	3
COMM 336	Technical & Professional Presentation	3
PTEC 153	Electronic Pagination	2
ENGL 280	Special Topics in Tech Com (must take at least 3 times)	1
ENGL 380	History of Rhetoric & Style	3
ENGL 411	Prof Technical Communication	3
ENGL 491	Tech Communication Internship	4-8
ENGL 499	Tech Communication Seminar	3

Program Electives Total of 15 Credits

PORTFOLIO APPROVAL

Content Specialty Concentration: 21 credit minimum

BIOL 109	Basic Human Anatomy/Physiology*Z	4
OR		
BIOL 205	Human Anatomy/Physiology*Z	5
BIOL 300	Pathophysiology*Z	3
CHEM 114	Intro to General Chemistry*Z	4
CHEM 124	Intro to Organic & Biochemistry*Z	3
MRIS 102	Orientation to Medical Vocabulary	1
MRIS 222	Health Info Science 1	3
CCHS 101	Orientation - Health Care	3

* Other concentrations are possible. Course selection should be designed with faculty advisor.

Minimum credit hours required for B.S. degree: 120



More Information

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

C O L L E G E O F A R T S & S C I E N C E S