

# PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL WRITING MINOR

**Banner Code:** PTW

## Academic Advising

4200 Horizon Hall  
Fairfax Campus

Website: [english.gmu.edu/programs/la-minor-la-ptw](http://english.gmu.edu/programs/la-minor-la-ptw)

This minor provides students with opportunities to learn and apply advanced strategies for writing academic, professional, and civic documents. Students examine the theoretical, interdisciplinary, and professional aspects of writing and develop their expository, persuasive, organizational, and stylistic skills through close analysis of rhetorical situations and the features and approaches of successful writing. The strong communication and analytical skills developed while earning this minor contribute to student success in a wide variety of professional careers as well as graduate education.

The minor is a valuable asset for students interested in working in media organizations, trade and professional associations, and non-profit organizations related to the arts, schools, and social change. It is also beneficial to students interested in careers in business, science, engineering, accounting, and many others that demand strong writing and communication skills for promotion and advancement.

## Admissions & Policies

## Policies

Eight credits of coursework must be unique to the minor and students must complete all coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.00. For policies governing all minors, see AP.5.3.4 Minors (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/#ap-5-3-4>).

## Requirements

(Formerly: FW)

## Minor Requirements

Total credits: 15

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

### Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ENGH 388	Professional and Technical Writing	3
Total Credits		3

### Capstone Experience

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following:		3
ENGH 487	Advanced Technical Writing	

ENGH 459	Internship (with permission of minor coordinator)	
Total Credits		3

## Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Students must take 3 electives: either 3 ENGH courses, or 2 ENGH courses and 1 elective from outside the department.		9

### English Courses

ENGH 375	Web Authoring and Design	
ENGH 376	Rhetoric and New Media	
ENGH 380	Introduction to Writing and Rhetoric	
ENGH 382	Rhetoric of the Essay	
ENGH 386	Editing for Audience, Style, and Voice	
ENGH 393	Forms of Nonfiction	
ENGH 399	Creative Nonfiction Writing	
ENGH 483	Technical Editing	
ENGH 484	RS: Writing Ethnography (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
ENGH 485	Document Design	
ENGH 486	RS: Writing Nonfiction for the Public (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
ENGH 488	Topics in Writing and Rhetoric	
ENGH 489	Proposal Writing and Development	

### Interdisciplinary Courses

AVT 395	Writing for Artists	
AVT 396	Writing for Designers	
COMM 309	Writing across the Media	
COMM 320	Business and Professional Communication	
COMM 401	Interpersonal Communication in the Workplace	
COMM 435	Digital Communication	
COS 300	Professional Preparation for STEM Disciplines	
PSYC 406	Psychology of Communication (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
PSYC 427	Community Engagement for Social Change (Mason Core) ( <a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
GAME 332	RS: Story Design for Computer Games	
HEAL 372	Health Communication	
Total Credits		9