



Professional Writing

This interdisciplinary program prepares you to write accurate, clear, non-academic prose for a variety of audiences and situations. It teaches you how to research and analyze a wide range of topics, manage social media for professional purposes, and write and design readable, compelling documents, both in print and online. Because technology has become central to professional writing and publishing, the program is designed to encourage facility with a range of platforms and applications.

Major Requirements

Six courses from two or more departments:

- ENG 201: Professional Writing
- ENG 301: Advanced Professional Writing
- One course from Group 1
- Three courses from Group 1 or Group 2 (a pre-approved internship or editorship can take the place of one of these courses)

Group 1 courses teach foundational skills:

CIS 271, CIS 275, COM 101, ENG 202, ENG 203, ENG 301

Group 2 courses focus on specialized contexts:

BIO 350 (when designated), CIS 245, COM 351, COM 381, and others as designated

Concentration Requirements

Four courses from two or more departments:

- ENG 201: Professional Writing
- One course from Group 1
- Two courses from Group 1 or Group 2 (a pre-approved internship or editorship can take the place of one of these courses)

Group 1 courses teach foundational skills:

CIS 271, CIS 275, COM 101, ENG 202, ENG 203, ENG 301

Group 2 courses focus on specialized contexts:

BIO 350 (when designated), CIS 245, COM 351, COM 381, and others as designated

Program Website

washjeff.edu/professional-writing

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Beyond the Classroom

Students have many opportunities for research, internships, conferences, and networking beyond the classroom that give them an advantage to prepare for life after W&J.

Internships & Editorships

- Internship, Brandt Street Press
- Internship, Duncan & Miller Glass Museum
- Internship, Main Street Farmer's Market
- Internship, Questeq
- Internship, Washington Co. Historical Society
- Editorship, Red & Black
- Editorship, Wooden Tooth Review

Careers

- Copywriter
- Editor
- Marketing and communications specialist
- Researcher
- Social media manager
- Technical writer

Successful Alumni

- Associate editor, Electrical Contractor (trade journal)
- Communications specialist, UPMC
- Offline captioner, VITAC
- Research analyst, DiscoverOrg
- Senior HR communications specialist, Intel

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