C areer
E nhancement
C ompetencies

TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

Introduction:
This career enhancement competency draws together courses that will prepare students for careers as writers in business, industrial, and professional settings. Technical Communicators work with diverse groups and are often responsible for project planning and project management. To perform these tasks, they must possess skills in writing, editing, and visual design, as well as in print and electronic publishing. Because technical communicators work in almost every field, students who choose this CEC may want to consider developing a concentration in a second area, such as computer science, chemistry, environmental studies, electronics, or medicine. This CEC is especially appropriate for Communication and English majors and minors.

Course Distribution:

I. To develop skills in verbal, visual, and digital technical communication, choose four courses:
- ❑ COM 160   Introduction to Mass Communication
- ❑ COM 161   Media Writing and Presentation*
- ❑ COM 165   Reporting I*
- ❑ COM 240   Introduction to Visual Communication* (prerequisite COM 161)
- ❑ ENG 239   Multimodal Composition
- ❑ ENG 249   Technical and Professional Writing I
- ❑ ENG 349   Technical and Professional Writing II
- ❑ ENG 350   Visible Rhetoric
- ❑ ENG 351   Hypertext
- ❑ ENG 353   Technical Editing

I1. To develop skills in oral, small group, and interpersonal communication, choose two courses:
- ❑ COM 123   Interpersonal Communication
- ❑ COM 223   Small Group Processes
- ❑ COM 227   Organizational and Professional Speaking*
- ❑ COM 229   Foundations of Organizational Communication*

III. To enhance communication skills with study in language and ethics, choose one course:
- ❑ COM 226   Classical Rhetoric*
- ❑ COM 367   Ethical Problems in Mass Communication (Communication majors only)
- ❑ COM 370   Psychology of Language (Communication majors only)
- ❑ ENG 243   The Grammatical Structure of English
- ❑ ENG 244   Applied Grammar and Usage for Writers
- ❑ ENG 283   Rhetorical Theory and Applications* (English majors only)
- ❑ ENG 342   Sociolinguistics
- ❑ ENG 343   Cross-Cultural Aspects in TESOL* (English majors only)
- ❑ PHI 236   Values and the Environment
- ❑ PHI 238   Rights and Wrongs [Gen Ed: OC-H]

IV. To contextualize classroom experiences, choose an internship in Technical Communication through your major or minor department (minimum three hours).

Total Hours: 24

*(*Students interested in Communication classes that are major-blocked need to go to Fell 450 to put their name on a wait list. After majors have had a chance to register, the students on the wait list will be notified by e-mail of their status. Prerequisites will be waived for some Communication courses in the CEC.)*