

M.A. Professional Writing Spring 2024 Course Descriptions

Course Information	Concentration	Certificate
PRWR 6000/001 Intro to Professional Writing TH 6:30-9:15 PM with Dr. Christopher Palmer Register for this class: CRN 11265	All (Core Course)	N/A
<p>This course introduces students to the three MAPW concentrations, focusing on key issues, theories, stylistic conventions, and research methods specific to each field and those that cut across all three concentrations. Students engage in reading and discussion, practice with rhetorical grammar and style, critique and application of research methodologies, and writing and revision strategies essential to professional writers' work. Students build foundations for completing program requirements and course work within their concentration and support areas.</p>		
PRWR 6255/001 Grant & Proposal Writing T 6:30-9:15 PM with Dr. Jeanne Law Register for this class: CRN 11278	Applied Writing	Professional Writing for International Audiences
<p>This course engages students in the process of grant and proposal writing for both public and private sector applications. Students will research and draft government, NGO, and Institutional grants as well as work with community partners to model best practices for personal and professional grant-writing.</p>		
PRWR 6470/001 Poetry Writing I M 6:30-9:15 PM with Dr. Ralph Wilson Register for this class: CRN 11266	Creative Writing	Creative Writing, Professional Writing for International Audiences
<p>PRWR 6470/001 is a poetry writing workshop that engages students in poetry writing, as well as the thoughtful reading of the work of their peers. The course will also include analysis of the work of famous and successful poets. Depending on the interest of students, the composition of lyrics for musical works may also be included as a module in the course.</p>		
PRWR 6500/001 Composition Theory and Pedagogy T 3:30-6:15 PM with Dr. Kim Haimés-Korn Register for this class: CRN 11268	Composition and Rhetoric	Professional Writing for International Audiences
<p><i>Of all disciplines, composition is best positioned to begin to put together the large, important, and multi-dimensional story of writing.</i> — Charles Bazerman, "The Case for Writing Studies as a Major Discipline"</p> <p>In this course students will explore the theory and pedagogy that have shaped the teaching of contemporary college writing and learn about the history of Composition and Rhetoric as a discipline. We will examine student-centered</p>		

instruction, writing process theories, current methods of assessment, technologies of writing, multimodal composition, and other important advances in order to produce curricular design for composition classes. Students also develop a teaching portfolio that includes shaping a teaching philosophy, creating an academic teaching blog, and the curation of teaching artifacts.

Note: This course is required for all teaching assistants, and recommended to be taken with PRWR 7800 Teaching Assistant Practicum I.

PRWR 6520/001 Creative Nonfiction Writing I

W 6:30-9:15 PM with Dr. Amanda Pratt
Register for this class: **CRN 17561**

Applied Writing,
Creative Writing

Creative
Writing,
Professional
Writing for
International
Audiences

This seminar and workshop course in the writing of creative or literary nonfiction introduces the fundamental theories and techniques. Memoir, biography, travel writing, lyric essay, nonfictional novel and other genres may be studied. Small group critique, one-to-one conferences and peer revision techniques may be used.

Note: May be repeated for up to 6 credits.

PRWR 6570/W01 Writing for Social Media

Online with Dr. Laura McGrath
Register for this class: **CRN 11269**

Applied Writing

Professional
Editing and
Publishing

In this course, students explore social media technologies and study their application in professional practice. Through our examination of and engagement with social media, including social media strategy, blogs and microblogs, social networking, media sharing sites, etc., we investigate theories of social and digital media and consider how these technologies disrupt social norms, impact our process of identity construction, reshape communication, and foster cultural change. Students gain experience planning and creating content for social media.

PRWR 6750/001 Teaching Writing to Speakers of Other Languages

M 3:30-6:15 PM with Dr. Meishan Chen
Register for this class: **CRN 11267**

Composition
and Rhetoric

Professional
Writing for
International
Audiences

PRWR 6750 provides both theoretical background and teaching practice not only for students who are interested in teaching writing in general, but also for anyone wanting to learn more about working on professional writing with non-native speakers of English. With a rapidly growing immigrant population, more and more institutions and organizations are seeking out candidates with an ESL component in their professional writing training. To make as many students benefit from this course as possible, this course integrates extensive discussions on rhetorical theories and corpus-driven (computer-assisted) teaching approaches that can be used in most teaching contexts. It offers strategies for how to teach writing to non-native speakers of English in multiple contexts including (but not limited to) creative writing, applied writing, academic writing, and writing for non-profit organizations. The class also emphasizes skills transferable beyond educational

contexts, such as working with computer databases, leading writing instructional workshops, and communicating with speakers from different linguistic backgrounds in a variety of workplace settings.

One of the highlights of this class is that students will choose a genre/topic they project themselves to teach in the future, and under the guidance of the professor, design and tailor a lesson plan and course syllabus for the course. For example, if students plan to teach creative writing or descriptive writing, they will learn how to use a digital corpus to analyze language (lexical choice, discourse structures, etc.) in sample pieces of writing and how to train their future students to use those language features in their own writing.

Throughout the semester, students will have ample opportunities to choose a genre/topic they plan to teach in the future, and under the professor's guidance, students will design course syllabi, build lesson plans, discuss and try out various grading options, adopt teaching methods that are driven by empirical studies and first-hand teaching experience, and get feedback for their teaching demonstration from both professor and peers.

By the time students leave the class, they will be better equipped with rhetorical theories and practical, inclusive strategies for teaching students at all levels of English proficiency, including native speakers, how to write. And they will have stronger skills applicable to a range of professional writing jobs that require knowledge of writing and working with people from linguistically diverse backgrounds.

PRWR 7460/001 Fiction Writing II
W 6:30-9:15 PM with Dr. Andy Plattner
Register for this class: **CRN 11270**

Creative Writing

Creative Writing,
Professional Writing for International Audiences

Prerequisite: Admission to the MAPW program and PRWR 6460, or permission of the graduate program director.

This seminar and workshop course in fiction writing builds on the theories and techniques learned at the introductory level with an emphasis on manuscript production and professionalization. Students may build portfolios, engage in long-term writing projects, prepare cover-letters and/or develop other sustainable projects. Small-group critique, one-on-one conferences and peer revision techniques may be used in addition to workshop.

Note: May be repeated for up to 6 credits.

PRWR 7600/001 Practical Internship
TBA with Dr. Tamara Powell
Register for this class: **CRN 11277**

*Dependent on internship

If you are interested in earning graduate-level course credit for an internship, please reach out to the instructor. Your internship needs to be cleared before you can register for this opportunity.

<p>PRWR 7800/001 Teaching Assistant Practicum I W 3:30-4:30 PM with Dr. Laura Howard Register for this class: CRN 11271</p>	<p>Composition and Rhetoric</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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This course is for graduate students of the MAPW Teaching Assistant program. This course is a 1-hour practicum that covers FYC teaching guidelines, course design, and learning-centered teaching best practices.

<p>PRWR 7900/001 Special Topics: Writing for Young Adults M 6:30-9:15 PM with Dr. Aaron Levy Register for this class: CRN 11275</p>	<p>Applied Writing, Creative Writing</p>	<p>Creative Writing, Professional Writing for International Audiences</p>
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Exploration of a specifically designed topic.
Note: This course is repeatable.

<p>PRWR 7900/002 Special Topics: Writing the Rom Com T 6:30-9:15 PM with Professor Mitchell Olson Register for this class: CRN 11282</p>	<p>Creative Writing</p>	<p>Creative Writing, Screen and TV Writing, Professional Writing for International Audiences</p>
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Students will explore the genre conventions of romantic comedy films and scripts while developing their own original romcom screenplays.
Note: This is a workshop-style course and prior screenwriting coursework is preferred, but exceptions may be made at the instructor's discretion.

<p>PRWR 7900/W01 Special Topics: Feminist Rhetorics Online with Dr. Letizia Guglielmo Register for this class: CRN 11276</p>	<p>All Concentrations</p>	<p>Creative Writing, Professional Writing for International Audiences</p>
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This course invites students to examine and to theorize the rhetorical strategies of women and other marginalized rhetors throughout history, with a focus on feminist rhetorical theory as a foundation for this analysis. We will explore the significant body of work disrupting dominant Western rhetorical theory and practice in which scholars in rhetoric and women's studies demonstrate how

feminist interventions and acts of interruption foreground issues of gender, race, sexuality, class, and ability, uncover exclusions and silences, create spaces for women's stories and voices, and challenge assumptions of how and when women and other marginalized groups contribute to and shape public discourse. Course assignments and engagement with course texts will reveal feminist rhetoric's role in fostering and facilitating participation in ongoing movements for change, including acts of resistance through digital and social media.

PRWR 7960/001 MAPW Capstone Project

TBA with Dr. Aaron Levy

Register for this class: **16776**

All Concentrations

N/A

A project designated as a thesis, portfolio or practicum and accompanied by a rationale for its purpose and design that involves electronic and/or print media and is relevant to the student's concentration in professional writing. After submitting an approved capstone proposal, the candidate works under the direction and advice of two faculty members to produce the project. The candidate must submit the capstone project at least two weeks before either 1) a discussion about the project with the faculty committee, or 2) a public presentation about the project or a reading from the project for an audience of faculty and peers.

Note: The candidate will consult with the capstone committee chair and committee member about which option to choose.

STVW 7490/001 Screenwriting II

TH 6:30-9:15 PM with Professor Albert Lee

Register for this class: **CRN 11272**

Creative Writing

Creative Writing, Screen and TV Writing

This course explores advanced screenwriting concepts such as genre conventions, scene dynamics, integration of theme, and advanced rewriting practices. Students will develop or revise an original screenplay and will participate in table readings, workshopping, and peer review. Students will also engage in critical story analysis and will study and practice skills such as pitching and marketing finished works.

Note: May be repeated for up to 6 credits.