

# Department of English

Department of English  
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The Department of English at Carnegie Mellon engages students in the important study of reading and writing as intellectual activities embedded in historical, cultural, professional, technological, and literary practices. Working with experts in their areas, students become effective writers and analysts of various kinds of texts in a range of media, from traditional print documents to film, multimedia, and on-line texts. Faculty use distinctive methods of studying texts, but all share a deep commitment to working in small and intense workshops and seminars to help students learn to become experts in analyzing existing texts, and in producing original and distinctive work of their own.

The English Department offers a B.A. in English, a B.A. in Creative Writing, a B.A. in Professional Writing, and a B.S. in Technical Writing and Communication. All four majors are structured to allow students to balance liberal and professional interests. Students in the English B.A. focus on the production and interpretation of print texts and other media in their social and cultural contexts. Students in the Creative Writing B.A. focus on analyzing and learning to produce poetic and narrative forms. Students in the Professional Writing B.A. focus on analyzing and producing non-fiction for a variety of professional contexts. Students in the Technical Writing B.S. focus on integrating writing with technical expertise in a chosen area of concentration. In addition to the four majors, the department offers a minor in English and strongly encourages non-majors in the campus community to join us in English courses, beginning with offerings at the 200-level.

Students also get involved in a range of complementary activities, including a reading series of distinguished writers of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction; publishing, editing, and marketing through involvement with *The Oakland Review* and The Carnegie Mellon University Press; writing and editorial positions on the student newspaper, *The Tartan*, and other campus publications. We also offer a strong internship program that places student writers in media, non-profit, arts, corporate, and technical internships before they graduate. The end of every year culminates in a gala event to celebrate our students and their writing achievements in literary, academic, and professional writing. For this event, known as the Pauline Adamson Awards, we invite a well-known writer to do a public reading and then present and celebrate student writing awards in over a dozen categories, all judged anonymously by writing professionals from outside the university.

## Majoring in English: The Four English Degree Options

The department of English offers students four different majors:

- The B.A. in English
- The B.A. in Creative Writing
- The B.A. in Professional Writing
- The B.S. in Technical Writing & Communication

Students who wish to broaden their experience with English courses may do so by taking more than the minimum requirements for each major or by combining two of the majors within the department for a double major in English. Common combinations include a BA in Professional Writing with an additional BA in Creative Writing; a BA in Creative Writing with an additional B.A. in English; or a B.A. in English with an additional BA in Professional Writing. Consult the English Department and the section below on "Completing an Additional Major in English" for further detail.

All of the English majors may also be combined with majors and minors from other Carnegie Mellon departments and colleges. English Department advisors can help you to explore the available options and to choose a major or combination of programs that is appropriate for your interests and goals.

## How the Curriculum is Structured

In addition to Dietrich College requirements, English majors complete 11 to 12 courses (99 to 114 units) specifically related to their chosen major within English and structured as indicated below. Please note that courses taken to fulfill requirements in other major or minor programs may not be applied to requirements for any of the English Department majors or minors.

Core Requirements for the Specific Major (7 to 9 courses, 63 to 81 units)

Complete seven to nine courses.

The Core Requirements differ for each major and are designed explicitly to provide both breadth and depth within the specific major the student has chosen.

English Electives (3 to 4 courses, 27 to 36 units)

Complete three to four elective courses.

Elective Courses for the major are designed to add breadth to each student's study within English and to provide experience with the range of approaches to reading and writing available within the department. Students in all English majors are encouraged to sample widely from the Department's offerings.

## The B.A. in English

The B.A. in English (EBA) at Carnegie Mellon builds on, and also extends the rich tradition of literary and rhetorical study by teaching texts as part of a complex web of historical conditions and relationships; by teaching both major literary texts and public and non-fiction documents; and by teaching film, television, and other storytelling media alongside more conventional texts.

The B.A. in English draws from the artistic and research strengths of the Department's faculty in Literary and Cultural Studies, Rhetoric, and Creative Writing. EBA students learn the research skills and writing strategies to enable them to analyze the language and texts of other writers and to report their research in effective texts of their own. Such training can prepare students for graduate work in literature, cultural studies, or rhetoric, and also for careers in law, business, or government, which require similar skills in interpretation, research, and writing.

## Curriculum

### Requirements

- Interpretive Practices: Introduction to Critical Reading (76-294): this course grounds students in literary and cultural theory and trains them in writing interpretations of texts. It is a pre-requisite for 400-level courses.
- Research in English (76-394): this course offers training in gathering information systematically; using critical commentary; making evidence-based arguments; assessing print and electronic materials; and conducting interviews and surveys. It is highly recommended that students take it in their junior year.
- Survey of Forms (76-26x)
- One course in Rhetoric. Courses that fulfill the Rhetoric requirement focus explicitly on language and discourse as objects of study and emphasize the relationships of language, text structure, and meaning within specific contexts.
- Two 300-level EBA core courses.
- Two 400-level seminars, designed to introduce students to the functioning of texts within specific cultural and rhetorical contexts.
- Three electives: one at the 200-level and two at the 300- or 400-level.

Note: Two of the 300- and 400-level courses must feature a specific historical period, and one of these "period" courses must have a pre-1900 focus.

## English B.A. Sample Curriculum

As a department, we recommend beginning the major in the sophomore year if possible. Students in Dietrich College may declare a major as early as mid-semester of the spring of their first year and begin major requirements the following fall. Interpretive Practices: Introduction to Critical Reading

(76-294) should generally be taken in the sophomore year and before Research in English (76-394).

Sophomore Year	Junior Year	
Fall	Fall	Spring
76-294 Interpretive Practices: Introduction to Critical Reading	76-26x Survey of Forms	76-3xx 300-level EBA Course*
	76-394 Research in English	76-3xx/4xx Rhetoric Course
	76-3xx/4xx Rhetoric Course	76-2xx/3xx/4xx English Elective
	76-2xx/3xx/4xx English Elective	Elective
	Elective	Elective
	Elective	

Senior Year	
Fall	Spring
76-4xx 400-level Seminar**	76-4xx 400-level Seminar**
76-3xx 300-level EBA Course*	76-3xx/4xx English Elective
76-3xx/4xx English Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

\* Interpretive Practices: Introduction to Critical Reading (76-294) is a prerequisite for 300-level EBA courses

\*\*Interpretive Practices: Introduction to Critical Reading (76-294) is a prerequisite and Research in English (76-394) is a pre- or co-requisite for 400-level seminars.

## The B.A. in Creative Writing

Carnegie Mellon is one of a small number of English departments in the country where undergraduates can major in Creative Writing. In the Creative Writing major (CW), students develop their talents in writing fiction, poetry, screenwriting, and creative nonfiction. While studying with faculty members who are writers, Creative Writing majors read widely in literature, explore the resources of their imaginations, sharpen their critical and verbal skills, and develop a professional attitude toward their writing. Students also have the opportunity to work with other nationally known poets and fiction writers through the department's Visiting Writers series. The CW program is made up of faculty and students who have an intense commitment to their work. Students who do not exhibit a high level of commitment and promise in the introductory classes will not be encouraged to continue in the major.

Beginning with the Dietrich College requirements, the curriculum for Creative Writing majors is designed to broaden the students' intellectual backgrounds and encourage their analytical abilities. English courses beyond the Creative Writing core requirements provide additional practice in the careful reading, writing and understanding of literary texts.

Students in the Creative Writing major are required to take two of the introductory Survey of Forms courses, ideally in their sophomore year. Choices include: Survey of Forms: Poetry (76-265), Survey of Forms: Fiction (76-260), Survey of Forms: Screenwriting (76-269), and Survey of Forms: Creative Nonfiction (76-261). In order to proceed into the upper level courses in the major (and in each of the genres), students must do well in these introductory courses (receive a grade of A or B). In their junior and senior years, Creative Writing majors take four workshops in fiction, poetry, screenwriting, or nonfiction. At least two of the workshops must be taken in a single genre. In the writing workshops, students develop their critical and verbal abilities through close writing and analysis of poems, stories, and other literary forms. Their work is critiqued and evaluated by peers and the faculty. Students may write a Senior Project or Honors Thesis (if they qualify for Dietrich College honors) under the supervision of a faculty member during their senior year.

Carnegie Mellon also offers Creative Writing majors various extracurricular opportunities for professional development. For example, they may work as interns with the Carnegie Mellon University Press, which is housed in the English Department. The Press publishes scholarly works, and books of poetry and short stories by both new and established American writers. Students may help edit and submit their work for publication to *The Oakland Review*, a Carnegie Mellon University-sponsored annual journal, and *Dossier*, the literary supplement to *The Tartan* (the student newspaper). Students also have opportunities to read their works in a series of readings by student writers held in the Gladys Schmitt Creative Writing Center and to hear nationally known authors as part of the Carnegie Mellon Visiting Writers series. Additionally, the English Department (in cooperation with the Carnegie Mellon University Press) offers prizes for students each year in the writing of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and screenwriting. These include the Pauline Adamson Awards, the Academy of American Poets Prize, the Carnegie Mellon University Press Prizes in poetry and fiction, the Family Friendly Programming Forum Scholarships in Film, and the Topol Award in

Creative Writing/Fiction. In addition, the Gladys Schmitt Scholarship Fund and the Gladys Schmitt Student Enhancement Fund provide support for creative writing majors to attend writing conferences and festivals.

Because the Creative Writing program provides a disciplined atmosphere in which to study and write, it appeals especially to students who are as concerned with their personal growth as with vocational goals. Nevertheless, the extracurricular writing activities and a variety of writing internships available on and off campus can provide Creative Writing majors with valuable experiences for planning their future. After graduation, many Creative Writing majors go on to graduate writing programs and to careers in teaching, publishing, public relations, advertising, TV and film, or freelance writing and editing.

## Curriculum

In addition to satisfying all of the Dietrich College degree requirements for B.A. candidates, Creative Writing majors must complete 11 courses in the following areas:

### Creative Writing Core (7 courses, 63 units)

Survey of Forms Courses (2 courses, 18 units):

		Units
76-260	Survey of Forms: Fiction *	9
76-261	Survey of Forms: Creative Nonfiction *	9
76-262	Survey of Forms: Nonfiction	9
76-265	Survey of Forms: Poetry *	9
76-269	Survey of Forms: Screenwriting *	9

\* A student must receive a grade of A or B in the Survey of Forms class in a specific genre in order to be eligible to enroll in a workshop of that genre. A student who receives a grade of C in a Survey of Forms course may enroll in a related workshop only with the permission of the workshop professor. A student who receives a D or R in Survey of Forms may not take a workshop in that genre.

Reading in Forms (1 course, 9 units):

		Units
76-362	Reading in Forms: Fiction	9
76-363	Reading in Forms: Poetry	9
76-364	Reading in Forms: Fiction	9

Four Creative Writing Workshops (4 courses, 36 units)

Complete four Creative Writing workshops, at least two in a single genre. Workshops in all genres may be taken more than once for credit, except for Literary Journalism and Magazine Writing.

		Units
76-360	Literary Journalism Workshop	9
76-365	Beginning Poetry Workshop	9
76-375	Magazine Writing	9
76-460	Beginning Fiction Workshop	9
76-462	Advanced Fiction Workshop	9
76-465	Advanced Poetry Workshop	9
76-469	Screenwriting Workshop	9

English Electives (4 courses, 36 units)

Complete four additional courses from the English Department's offerings. Two of the four English Electives must be courses that are designated as fulfilling the literature requirement and focus on close reading of literary texts. Please consult the list of courses published each semester by the Department for current offerings. English Electives may include any course offered by the Department. Additionally, English Electives can include no more than one course at the 200 level. The remaining English Electives must be at the 300 or 400 level. In choosing Electives, students are encouraged to sample courses from across the Department.

## Creative Writing B.A. Sample Curriculum

This plan is presented as a two-year (junior-senior) plan for completing major requirements. Its purpose is to show that this program can be completed in as few as two years, not that it should or must be. In fact, as a department, we recommend beginning the major in the sophomore year if possible. Students in Dietrich College may declare a major as early as mid-

semester of the spring of their first year and begin major requirements the following fall.

Junior		Senior	
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
76-26x Survey of Forms	76-26x Survey of Forms	76-3xx/4xx Creative Writing Workshop	76-3xx/4xx Creative Writing Workshop
76-36x Reading in Forms	76-3xx/4xx Creative Writing Workshop	76-3xx/4xx Creative Writing Workshop	76-3xx/4xx English Elective
76-2xx/3xx/4xx English Elective	76-3xx/4xx English Elective	76-3xx/4xx English Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective

## The B.A. in Professional Writing

Professional Writing (PW) combines a professional education with a strong foundation in rhetorical studies. The major prepares students for successful careers as writers and communications specialists in a range of fields, including but not limited to: editing and publishing, government, law, journalism, the non-profit sector, education, public and media relations, corporate communications, advocacy writing, and the arts.

The PW major includes 12 courses: 9 PW Core Requirements + 3 English Electives. The 9 Core Requirements include foundations courses in genre studies, editing, and argument, plus a cluster of advanced rhetoric and specialized writing courses, all designed to closely integrate analysis and production. Through special topics courses—journalism, web design, advocacy writing, document design for print, science writing, public relations and corporate communications, writing for multimedia—students can pursue specializations while working with faculty who are both experts and practicing professionals in these fields. PW majors also gain experience in working on team- and client-based projects and receive focused support to develop a portfolio of polished writing samples to use in applying for internships and employment. Through English Electives in Rhetoric, Creative Writing, and Literary and Cultural Studies, students gain additional practice in the careful reading, writing, and analysis of both literary and non-fictional texts and important insights into how texts function in their historical and contemporary contexts. As a capstone experience, senior PW majors have the opportunity to complete a Senior Project or, upon invitation from the college, a Senior Honors Thesis in Rhetoric or Professional Writing. PW students can also apply for research grants through the Undergraduate Research Office to work on independent research projects with faculty.

While the major appeals to students with strong professional interests, both core and elective requirements develop the broad intellectual background one expects from a university education and prepare students to either enter the workplace or pursue graduate study in fields as diverse as communications, law, business, and education. PW majors also have the opportunity to apply for the Department's accelerated MA in Professional Writing, the MAPW 4+1, which allows them to complete the degree in 2 semesters instead of the usual 3. Because the major in Professional Writing is deliberately structured as a flexible degree that allows a broad range of options, PW majors should consult closely with their English Department advisors on choosing both elective and required courses and in planning for internships and summer employment.

Various opportunities for writers to gain professional experience and accumulate material for their writing portfolios are available through campus publications, department-sponsored internships for academic credit, and writing-related employment on and off campus.

PW majors also have the option of taking writing internships for academic credit during their junior or senior year and are also strongly encouraged to seek professional internships throughout their undergraduate years and during their summers. Opportunities in public and media relations, newspaper and magazine writing, healthcare communication, publishing, technical writing, public service organizations, and writing for the web and new media illustrate both internship possibilities and the kinds of employment that Professional Writing majors have taken after graduation.

All PW students are encouraged to enroll in the English Department's 3-unit course, Professional Seminar (76-300), which meets once a week during the fall term and provides majors with the opportunity to meet and network with practicing professionals in a range of communications fields.

## Curriculum

In addition to satisfying all of the Dietrich College degree requirements for B.A. candidates, Professional Writing majors must fulfill 12 requirements in the following areas:

### Professional Writing Core (9 courses, 81 units)

Complete nine courses.

Foundations Courses (4 courses, 36 units):

76-26x	Survey of Forms (Nonfiction, Fiction, Poetry, or Screenwriting)	9
76-271	Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing	9
76-373	Argument	9
76-390	Style	9

Rhetoric Requirement (1 course, 9 units):

Complete one course from a set of varied offerings in Rhetoric as designated each term by the English Department. Rhetoric courses focus explicitly on language and discourse as objects of study and emphasize the relationships of language, text structure, and meaning within specific contexts. Courses include but are not limited to the following:

		Units
76-301	Internship	Var.
76-359	Planning and Testing Documents	9
76-360	Literary Journalism Workshop	9
76-384	Race, Nation, and the Enemy	9
76-386	Language & Culture	9
76-388	Topics in Digital Humanities: Coding for Humanities	9
76-389	Rhetorical Grammar	9
76-395	Science Writing	9
76-396	Non-Profit Advocacy: Genres, Methods, and Issues	9
76-415	Mediated Power and Propaganda	9
76-419	Media in a Digital Age	9
76-474	Software Documentation	9
76-476	Rhetoric of Science	9
76-494	Healthcare Communications	9

Advanced Writing/Rhetoric Courses (4 courses, 36-42 units):

Complete four courses from a set of varied offerings in Advanced Writing/Rhetoric as designated each term by the English Department. Options include all courses that fulfill the Rhetoric requirement, plus additional courses in specialized areas of professional writing. Students should select courses in consultation with their English Department advisor or the Director of Professional and Writing. Courses include but are not limited to the following:

		Units
76-301	Internship	Var.
76-302	Writing in the Disciplines	9
76-359	Planning and Testing Documents	9
76-360	Literary Journalism Workshop	9
76-372	News Writing	9
76-375	Magazine Writing	9
76-378	Literacy: Educational Theory and Community Practice	9
76-386	Language & Culture	9
76-389	Rhetorical Grammar	9
76-391	Document & Information Design	12
76-395	Science Writing	9
76-396	Non-Profit Advocacy: Genres, Methods, and Issues	9
76-415	Mediated Power and Propaganda	9
76-419	Media in a Digital Age	9
76-425	Science in the Public Sphere	9
76-472	Multimedia Storytelling in a Digital Age	9
76-476	Rhetoric of Science	9
76-474	Software Documentation	9
76-476	Rhetoric of Science	9
76-481	Introduction to Multimedia Design	12
76-487	Web Design	12
76-491	Rhetorical Analysis	9
76-494	Healthcare Communications	9

### English Electives (3 courses, 27 units):

Complete three courses from any of English Department's offerings (exceptions include 76-270, which is designed for non-majors). One may be at the 200 level or above; the remaining two must be at the 300 or 400 level. Two must be courses designated as Text/Context Electives, which focus on the relationship between texts and their cultural and historical contexts.

## Professional Writing B.A. Sample Curriculum

This plan is presented as a two-year (junior-senior) plan for completing major requirements. Its purpose is to show that this program can be completed in as few as two years, not that it should or must be. In fact, as a department, we recommend beginning the major in the sophomore year if possible. Students in Dietrich College may declare a major as early as mid-semester of the spring of their first year and begin major requirements the following fall.

Junior		Senior	
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
76-271 Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing	76-26x Survey of Forms	76-3xx/4xx Advanced Writing/Rhetoric Course	76-3xx/4xx Advanced Writing/Rhetoric Course
76-390 Style	76-373 Argument	76-3xx/4xx Advanced Writing/Rhetoric Course	76-3xx/4xx Advanced Writing/Rhetoric Course
76-2xx/3xx/4xx English Elective	76-3xx/4xx Rhetoric Course	76-3xx/4xx English Elective	76-3xx/4xx English Elective
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective

## The B.S. in Technical Writing & Communication

The B.S. in Technical Writing & Communication (TWC) is one of the oldest undergraduate technical communication degrees in the country with a history that stretches back to 1958. The degree is specifically designed to prepare students for successful careers involving scientific, technical, and computer-related communication, including writing and designing for digital media.

Today's technical communicators have the strong backgrounds in technology, communication, and design needed to enter a broad range of information-based fields, and do work that both includes and goes well beyond writing documents for print distribution. The expanding range of options includes positions that involve organizing, managing, communicating, and facilitating the use of both technical and non-technical information in a range of fields and media.

Technical communicators develop and design web sites, explain science and technology to the public, develop print and multimedia materials, develop information management systems, design and deliver corporate training, and develop support systems for consumer products ranging from software for word processing or personal finances to complex data management systems.

The B.S. in TWC recognizes the important changes taking place in communication-based careers and includes two distinctive "tracks," one in Technical Communication (TC) and one in Scientific and Medical Communication (SMC). Both tracks begin with a common core of foundation courses in print and on-line communication as well as a shared set of prerequisites in math, statistics, and computer programming. The two tracks differ in the set of theory/specialization courses beyond the core, with each track including a specialized set appropriate to its focus.

In both tracks, TWC students work on real projects for actual clients, learn group interaction and management skills, and develop a flexible repertoire of skills and strategies to keep up with advances in software and technology. Above all, they focus on developing structures and information strategies to solve a broad range of communication and information design problems.

TWC students are able to draw on exceptional resources on and off campus to enhance their education. Most obvious are the course offerings of Carnegie Institute of Technology, the Mellon College of Science, and the School of Computer Science. Additional course offerings in business, organizational behavior, policy and management, psychology, history, and design are also encouraged. As a capstone experience, Seniors have the opportunity to complete a Senior Project or, upon invitation from the college, a Senior Honors Thesis. TWC students can also apply for grants and fellowship through the Undergraduate Research Office to work on independent research projects with faculty.

While the major appeals to students with strong professional interests, both core and elective requirements develop the broad intellectual background one expects from a university education and prepare students to either enter the workplace upon graduation or pursue graduate study in fields as diverse as communications, business, instructional design, information design, education, and science and healthcare writing.

Various opportunities for writers to gain professional experience are available through campus publications, department-sponsored internships for academic credit, and writing-related employment on and off campus. TWC students have the option of doing internships for academic credit during their junior or senior year and are encouraged to pursue a series of internships throughout their 4 years and during their summers.

All TWC students are encouraged to enroll in the English Department's 3-unit course, Professional Seminar (76-300), which meets once a week during the fall term and provides majors with the opportunity to meet and network with practicing professionals in a range of communications fields.

### The Technical Communication (TC) Track

The Technical Communication track (TC) prepares students for careers in the rapidly changing areas of software and digital media. Students learn the fundamentals of visual, verbal, and on-line communication as well as the technical skills needed to design, communicate, and evaluate complex communication systems and to manage the interdisciplinary teams needed to develop them. Students become fluent in both print-based and electronic media across a variety of information genres and learn to design information for a range of specialist and non-expert audiences. The TWC/TC major can be pursued as a primary major within Dietrich College or as a secondary major for students in other Colleges with an interest in combining their specialized subject matter knowledge with strong writing and communications skills. Graduates of this track are likely to follow in the footsteps of previous TWC students from Carnegie Mellon who are currently employed as web designers, information specialists, technical writers, and information consultants in a range of technology and communication-based organizations including Salesforce.com, IBM, Oracle, Microsoft, Apple, and HP Vertica.

### The Scientific and Medical Communication (SMC) Track

The Scientific and Medical Communication track (SMC) is designed for students who seek careers that focus on communication and information design problems in health, science, and medicine. It should appeal to students with interests in the health care professions, science and public policy, patient education, scientific journalism and related fields. Like the TC track, the SMC track is designed to provide both the technical and the communication skills needed to analyze and solve complex communication problems. Students learn the fundamentals of visual, verbal, and on-line communication as well as the technical skills needed to design, communicate, and evaluate complex information systems and to manage the interdisciplinary teams needed to develop them. Students become fluent in both print-based and electronic media across a variety of information genres and learn to design information for a range of specialist and non-expert audiences. The TWC/SMC major can be pursued as a primary major within Dietrich College or as a secondary major for students in other Colleges, such as MCS, with an interest in science or medicine.

## Curriculum

All Technical Writing & Communication majors must satisfy the Dietrich College requirements for the B.S. degree, and a set of 3 to 4 prerequisite courses in calculus, statistics, and computer science. All prerequisites should be completed by the beginning of the fall semester, junior year. Prerequisites may double count toward Dietrich College Requirements or requirements for other majors or minors.

### Mathematics Prerequisite (1 course, 10 units):

Complete one of the following:	Units
21-111 Differential Calculus	10
21-112 Integral Calculus	10
21-120 Differential and Integral Calculus	10
21-127 Concepts of Mathematics	10

### Statistics Prerequisite (1 course, 9 units):

36-201 Statistical Reasoning and Practice	9
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### Computer Science Prerequisites (1 - 2 courses\*, 10 - 22 units):

Students in the Technical Communication track must complete two required Computer Science courses: Units

15-110	Principles of Computing	10
15-112	Fundamentals of Programming and Computer Science	12

Students in the Scientific and Medical Communication track complete one required Computer Science course:

15-110	Principles of Computing	10
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15-110 Principles of Computing is designed for students with little or no prior programming experience and is appropriate for students in both the SMC and TC tracks. 15-112 Fundamentals of Programming and Computer Science prepares students in the TC track for all other advanced Computer Science courses.

Beyond these prerequisites, students in both TC and SMC tracks take a common set of 5 TWC Core Requirements in writing, communication, and information design. To complement these foundations courses, TWC students take a set of 3 Theory/Specialization courses specific to either TC or SMC. In addition, students in the SMC track take a series of 3 courses in the natural sciences or engineering relevant to their areas of interest, while TC students take 3 electives in management, technology, and social issues.

**TWC Core Requirements (5 courses, 51 units):**

76-26x	Survey of Forms (Nonfiction, Fiction, Poetry, or Screenwriting)	9
76-271	Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing	9
76-390	Style	9
76-391	Document & Information Design *	12
76-487	Web Design **	12

\* prerequisite = 76-271 Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing

\*\*prerequisite = 76-271 Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing + 76-391 Document & Information Design

**Theory/Specialization Courses (3 courses, 27 units):**

Complete 3 courses to deepen your area of speciality and complement your chosen track (TC or SMC) in the major. One must be chosen from among courses designated as Recommended Options for TWC majors. Theory/Specialization courses, including those marked as Recommended Options, are advertised by the English Department on a semester-by-semester basis. TWC students should select courses in consultation with their faculty advisor.

Recommended courses include but are not limited to the following:

76-319	Environmental Rhetoric	9
76-359	Planning and Testing Documents	9
76-361	Topics in Digital Humanities: Corpus Rhetorical Analysis	9
76-388	Topics in Digital Humanities: Coding for Humanities	9
76-395	Science Writing	9
76-419	Media in a Digital Age	9
76-425	Science in the Public Sphere	9
76-428	Visual Verbal Communication	9
76-474	Software Documentation	9
76-476	Rhetoric of Science	9
76-481	Introduction to Multimedia Design *	12
76-491	Rhetorical Analysis	9
76-494	Healthcare Communications	9

Additional Options include but are not limited to the following:

76-301	Internship	Var.
76-302	Writing in the Disciplines	9
76-318	Communicating in the Global Marketplace	9
76-319	Environmental Rhetoric	9
76-325	Intertextuality	9
76-340	American English	9
76-351	Rhetorical Invention	9
76-355	Leadership, Dialogue, and Change	9
76-359	Planning and Testing Documents	9
76-360	Literary Journalism Workshop	9
76-361	Topics in Digital Humanities: Corpus Rhetorical Analysis	9
76-372	News Writing	9
76-375	Magazine Writing	9

76-378	Literacy: Educational Theory and Community Practice	9
76-386	Language & Culture	9
76-388	Topics in Digital Humanities: Coding for Humanities	9
76-389	Rhetorical Grammar	9
76-391	Document & Information Design	12
76-395	Science Writing	9
76-396	Non-Profit Advocacy: Genres, Methods, and Issues	9
76-419	Media in a Digital Age	9
76-420	The Cognition of Reading and Writing: Introduction to a Social/Cognitive Process	9
76-425	Science in the Public Sphere	9
76-428	Visual Verbal Communication	9
76-472	Multimedia Storytelling in a Digital Age	9
76-474	Software Documentation	9
76-475	Law, Performance, and Identity	9
76-476	Rhetoric of Science	9
76-481	Introduction to Multimedia Design	12
76-484	Discourse Analysis	9
76-487	Web Design	12
76-491	Rhetorical Analysis	9
39-605	Engineering Design Projects	12

**Electives (3 courses, 27 units):**

TWC majors take 3 courses outside of English to deepen their area of specialty in their track. Typically, students in the SMC track select courses in the natural sciences, psychology, and social and decision sciences, or (for example) healthcare-related courses in the Heinz School. Students in the TC track typically select courses from engineering, design, HCI, computer science, math or statistics. Students should work with their faculty advisor and the Program Director to select courses that are meaningful for their track.

**TWC Sample Curriculum**

This plan is presented as a five-semester (spring of sophomore year through senior year) plan for completing major requirements. Its purpose is to show that this program can be completed in as few as five semesters not that it should or must be. In fact, as a department, we strongly recommend beginning the major in the fall of the sophomore year if possible. The five-semester time frame is needed because of sequencing issues related to the required core courses. The plan does not include the 4 prerequisite courses, which should be completed by the junior year.

Sophomore Year		Junior Year	
Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall
76-271 Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing*	76-391 Document & Information Design*	76-3xx/4xx Theory/Specialization Course	
76-390 Style	76-26x Survey of Forms	Technical Communication Elective	
Elective	Technical Communication Elective	Elective	
Elective	Elective	Elective	
Elective	Elective	Elective	

Senior Year	
Fall	Spring
76-487 Web Design*	76-3xx/4xx Theory/Specialization Course
76-3xx/4xx Theory/Specialization Course	Technical Communication Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

\* These courses must be taken in the sequence indicated. 76-271 is offered all semesters and therefore can be taken fall or spring of sophomore year. 76-271 is a prerequisite for 76-391, and 76-271 + 76-391 are the prerequisites for 76-487. 76-391 and 76-487 are offered only in the fall semesters.

## Completing an Additional Major in English

Students with interests that include more than one of the department's majors have the option of completing an additional major within the department. Students may combine any of the B.A. degrees or combine the B.S. in Technical Writing and Communication with either the B.A. in English or the B.A. in Creative Writing. Students may not combine the Professional Writing and the Technical Writing & Communication majors because so many of the courses overlap.

Students majoring in two or more English Department degrees must fulfill the Core Requirements for the Major for both programs. The Survey of Forms core requirement, common to all 4 majors, needs to be taken only once but can count toward both majors. Similarly, the English Electives need to be taken only once and can count toward both majors with the understanding that a student must complete the number of English Electives required by the program with the higher number of Electives. For example, a student combining the B.A. in English with the Creative Writing major would take the 4 English Electives required for Creative Writing.

Because the Survey of Forms course and the English Electives are allowed to double count toward both majors, students who are already majoring in one of the English degrees can generally add a second major within the department by completing 6 to 8 additional courses. For example, a student who has fulfilled all 11 requirements for the BA in English can complete the additional major in Creative Writing by adding the 6 courses of the Creative Writing Core beyond the first Survey of Forms requirement: one additional Survey of Forms course, one Reading in Forms course, and 4 Writing Workshops. Because sequencing of courses can become an issue when doing multiple majors, students are strongly advised to consult closely with their English Department advisors about the sequence of their courses.

## Completing a Secondary Major in English

Students in other departments who wish to complete a secondary major in the English Department should contact the Academic Coordinator in the English Department Office to file a secondary major application form and be assigned to an English Department advisor. Secondary majors in the four English degrees are required to complete all requirements for the chosen major. Additionally, courses taken to fulfill requirements within the primary major may not double count for requirements within the chosen English Department major. The only exceptions to this rule are the TC electives for the TWC/TC degree and the Natural Science and Engineering requirements for the TWC/SMC degree. In planning schedules for a secondary major, it is critically important that students consult with both departments in which they are majoring to be sure that all requirements for graduation can be met.

## Minor in English

The English Department also offers minors in Creative Writing, English Studies, Professional Writing, and Technical Writing. The minors require a minimum of five courses (45 units), plus completion of (or credit for) Interpretation and Argument (76-101) or an equivalent requirement. The minors in English are available to all undergraduate students except English majors, who may not both major and minor in English.

Courses taken to fulfill requirements in other major or minor programs may not be applied to English minor requirements (and vice versa).

Courses that meet the various requirements are advertised on a semester-by-semester basis. Full descriptions are available each semester from the English Department main office. We also publish a document titled "What Counts for What for Minors," which indicates which courses offered in a given term fulfill specific requirements in each of the minor concentrations.

## English Studies Minor

Complete 6 courses, including Interpretation and Argument (76-101) as a prerequisite.

		Units
76-101	Interpretation and Argument (or credit for equivalent course)	9
76-294	Interpretive Practices: Introduction to Critical Reading (prerequisite for 300- and 400- level courses)	9

76-3xx	Two 300-level courses in Literature, Cultural Studies, or Rhetoric	18
76-xxx	One additional 300/400 level seminar in Literature, Cultural Studies, or Rhetoric*	9
76-xxx	200-level or above English Elective**	9

\* Note that at least some 400-level seminars have Research in English (76-394) as a pre- or co-requisite. Students planning to take a 400-level seminar to fulfill this requirement should plan to take Research in English (76-394) as one of their 300-level courses.

\*\* The English Elective may be any course offered by the English Department.

## Creative Writing Minor

Complete 6 courses, including Interpretation and Argument (76-101) as a prerequisite.

		Units
76-101	Interpretation and Argument (or credit for equivalent course)	9
76-26x	One Survey of Forms Course	9
76-xxx	Two 300/400 level Fiction, Poetry, or Screenwriting Workshop Classes	18
76-3xx	One Reading in Forms Course	9
76-2xx	One 200-level or above English Elective	9

\* A student must receive a grade of A or B in the Survey of Forms class in order to be eligible to enroll in a workshop of that genre. A student who receives a grade of C in a Survey of Forms course may enroll in a related workshop only with the permission of his or her workshop professor. A student who receives a D or R in Survey of Forms may not take a workshop in that genre.

## Humanities Analytics Minor

Faculty co-advisors: David Kaufer and Christopher Warren

The human experience that is traditionally at the core of a humanities education is being dramatically transformed by the emergence of big data, digital platforms, computational thinking, and digital connectivity. Spurred by such developments, the minor in Humanities Analytics (HumAn), offered by the Department of English, will train students in the processes involved in analyzing, digitizing, quantifying, and visualizing different types of humanities and cultural phenomena, including printed books, manuscripts, historical records, art, music, and film. The HumAn minor trains students to work with cultural objects (like texts, film, historical records, etc.) but also to turn words and images into data; to move from one cultural object (like a Victorian novel, for instance) to a corpus consisting of tens of thousands of other novels published in the same period, and to combine close reading with distant reading (aggregating and analyzing massive amounts of data) for maximum insight and accuracy.

Students will develop a broad technical understanding of state-of-the-art computer-assisted methods for humanistic study, such as: social network analysis, text analysis and data mining, topic modeling, classification techniques, and visualization. Students will also investigate the histories and historical contexts of such methods, learning to consider their applicability in specific domains. Finally, students will learn to turn a critical eye on the corpora and infrastructures that increasingly underpin humanistic research.

The minor is open to students across multiple colleges and degree programs, and will enrich their education in distinct ways and complement their primary majors. For example, students with a primary major in a humanities or social science department will learn the foundational methods used in the computational analysis of text. Students with a primary major in a non-humanities field will use technology as a lens into cultural history and will develop skills for making humanities knowledge visible and appealing. The minor will bridge divides not only between the "digital/technological" and the "humanistic," but also between the qualitative and quantitative, between theory and applications, critiquing and making.

Specific career paths available to a student graduating with a HumAn minor might include:

- the publishing industry
- the entertainment industry
- the GLAM sector (digital curating for galleries, libraries, archives, and museums)
- data journalism
- digital approaches to cultural heritage
- LODLAM (Linked Open Data for Libraries, Archives, and Museums)

## Curriculum

Required Courses 6 courses/54 units

Two required courses:		Units
76-294	Interpretive Practices: Introduction to Critical Reading	9
76-4xx	Course to be announced Fall 2018	9

Two core courses from the following:

76-388	Topics in Digital Humanities: Coding for Humanities	9
76-419	Media in a Digital Age	9
76-425	Science in the Public Sphere	9
76-429	Early Modern Theatre, Conversion, & Digital Humanities	9
76-483	Corpus Analysis in Rhetoric	9

Electives 2 courses/15-24 units

Note: Additional courses not on this list may also be approved as electives; please speak with the faculty advisor.

### List A: For Humanities (English, History, Modern Languages, Philosophy) majors

Two elective courses relevant to digital and analytics methods		Units
05-391	Designing Human Centered Software	12
05-434/11-344	Machine Learning in Practice	12
11-441/741	Machine Learning for Text Mining <sup>1</sup>	9
15-104	Introduction to Computing for Creative Practice	10
15-110	Principles of Computing	10
16-223	Introduction to Physical Computing	10
18-090	Twisted Signals: Multimedia Processing for the Arts	10
19-713	Policies of Wireless Systems	12
36-201	Statistical Reasoning and Practice	9
36-202	Methods for Statistics and Data Science	9
36-315	Statistical Graphics and Visualization <sup>3</sup>	9
36-350	Statistical Computing <sup>3</sup>	9
48-095	Spatial Concepts for Non-Architects I	Var.
48-120	Digital Media I	6
51-229	Digital Photographic Imaging	9
53-451	Research Issues in Game Development	10
60/62-142	Digital Photography I	10
60-427	Advanced CP/ETB: Special Topic	10
62-150	IDEATe: Introduction to Media Synthesis and Analysis	10

<sup>1</sup> Course is very mathematical, and is therefore appropriate only to students with such a preparation.

<sup>2</sup> Non-architecture majors require instructor permission to enroll.

<sup>3</sup> This course has prerequisites.

### List B: For Non-Humanities majors

Two elective courses relevant to broad Humanities expertise		Units
76-325	Intertextuality	9
76-373	Argument	9
76-385	Introduction to Discourse Analysis	9
76-394	Research in English	9
76-444	History of Books and Reading: Media before "New Media"	9
76-472	Multimedia Storytelling in a Digital Age	9
76-476	Rhetoric of Science	9
76-491	Rhetorical Analysis	9
76-786	Language and Culture	Var.
79-200	Introduction to Historical Research & Writing	9
79-305	Moneyball Nation: Data in American Life	9
80-180	Nature of Language	9
80-280	Linguistic Analysis	9
80-381	Meaning in Language	9
80-383	Language in Use	9
82-282	Community Service Learning	Var.
82-283	Language Diversity & Cultural Identity	9

82-383	Second Language Acquisition: Theories and Research	9
82-480	Social and Cognitive Aspects of Bilingualism	9

## Professional Writing Minor

Complete 6 courses, including Interpretation and Argument (76-101) as a prerequisite.

		Units
76-101	Interpretation and Argument (or credit for equivalent course)	9
76-270	Writing for the Professions	9
or 76-271	Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing	
76-xxx	Two 200/300 level Core Writing Course *	18
76-xxx	Two 300/400 level Advanced Writing/Rhetoric Courses	18
76-xxx	One 200-level or above English Elective **	9

\* Courses for PW minors in these areas are advertised by the English Department each semester.

\*\* The English Elective may be any course offered by the English Department.

## Technical Writing Minor

Complete 6 courses, including Interpretation and Argument (76-101) as a prerequisite.

		Units
76-101	Interpretation and Argument	9
76-270	Writing for the Professions	9
or 76-271	Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing	
76-xxx	Two 300-level Core Writing Courses *	18
76-xxx	Two 300/400 level Recommended Theory/Specialization Courses *	18
76-xxx	One 300/400 level Technical Communication Elective	9

\* Courses for TW minors in these areas are advertised by the English Department each semester.

\*\*To fulfill this requirement, courses can come from the "additional" OR "recommended" options list of theory/specialization courses listed for Technical Writing majors in the English Department's "What Counts for What?" document.

## Senior Honors Thesis

Seniors in all four majors in the English Department who meet the necessary requirements are invited by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Dietrich College) to propose and complete a Senior Honors Thesis during their final year of study. The thesis may focus on research and/or original production in any of the areas offered as a major within the Department. To qualify for the Dietrich College Honors Program, students must have a cumulative Quality Point Average of at least 3.50 in their major and 3.25 overall at the end of their junior year and be invited by Dietrich College to participate. Students then choose a thesis advisor within the Department and propose and get approval from Dietrich College for a Senior Honors Thesis. The Honors Thesis is completed over the two semesters of the senior year (9 units each semester) under the direction of the chosen advisor. By successfully completing the thesis, students earn 18 units of credit and qualify for graduation with "College Honors."

Creative Writing majors participating in the Senior Honors Thesis program may petition to have one semester of their thesis work count as one of their Workshop course requirements. Students interested in this option should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

## Internship Program

Qualified students in all four of the Department's degree programs have the option of doing a professional internship for academic credit during their junior or senior years. These opportunities help students explore possible writing-related careers as well as gain workplace experience. Each internship is arranged, approved, and overseen by the Department's Internship Coordinator. Particular attention is given to matching students to internship sites of specific interest to them. Students have interned in a wide variety of communications-related positions including placements

at local radio, television, and print publications; museums, theaters, and cultural organizations; non-profit and public service organizations; public relations, advertising, and marketing firms; software and technology companies; new media organizations; and hospitals and healthcare communication organizations.

To be eligible for an internship, students must have a Quality Point Average of 3.0 or better and credit for at least one writing course (including Survey of Forms) beyond Interpretation and Argument (76-101). Internships generally carry 3-12 units of credit. A 9-unit internship is the standard and requires a minimum of 120-140 hours (8-10 hours per week over a 15-week term) of work at the internship site during the term. In addition, interns complete a reflective journal and a series of short research and writing assignments relevant to the specific internship. Students doing an internship for credit must be registered for the internship during the term (including summer) when they are working at the internship site. Majors in the Department may count one 9-12 unit internship for one of their degree requirements, generally an English elective.

## The Accelerated MA in Professional Writing: MAPW 4+1

The MAPW 4+1 is a special program under which Carnegie Mellon students (usually majors or minors in the English department or BHA or BHS students with relevant coursework) can qualify to complete the MA in Professional Writing in 2 semesters instead of the usual 3. Students apply for admissions during their junior or senior year and, following admission and evaluation of their transcripts, may receive credit for up to four courses, or one full semester of work toward the MA requirements. The degree has a professional focus, combines intensive work in both writing and visual design, and prepares students for a range of communications careers. The coursework and career options most commonly pursued by students in the degree include

- Writing for New Media, including web design and information design
- Writing for Print Media, including Journalism
- Editing & Publishing
- Technical writing, including instructional design
- Science, Technology, and Healthcare Writing
- Public & Media Relations / Corporate Communications / Nonprofit Communication

Students interested in applying to the 4+1 program should consult the Director of the MAPW program early in their junior year for further details and advice on shaping undergraduate coursework to qualify for this option. Detailed information on the program and relevant financial aid is available at <http://english.cmu.edu/> under the tab for the MAPW.

## Faculty

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