Technical Communication

Technical Communication Major Requirements

Technical Communication majors must take 34-36 credits within the major and 6 hours in a designated area of concentration related to technology, science, or design (an acceptable minor will also fulfill this requirement). Majors develop advanced skills in multiple aspects of technical communication and apply their knowledge of technical communication to a specific discipline.

ENGL 310  Rhetorical Analysis  3
ENGL 314  Technical Communication  3
ENGL 350  Rhetorical Traditions  3
ENGL 487  Internship in Business, Technical, and Professional Communication  1-3

Choose 3:
(30 points)

(Note: Students planning to take ENGL 415 Business and Technical Editing in the future should take ENGL 220 Descriptive English Grammar for 3 of these credits.)

ENGL 220  Descriptive English Grammar
ENGL 302  Business Communication
ENGL 309  Report and Proposal Writing
ENGL 312  Biological Communication
ENGL 313  Rhetorical Website Design
ENGL 332  Visual Communication of Quantitative Information

Choose 5:
(15 points)

ENGL 411  Technology, Rhetoric, and Professional Communication
ENGL 415  Business and Technical Editing
ENGL 416  Visual Aspects of Business and Technical Communication
ENGL 418  Seminar in Argumentation
ENGL 477  Seminar in Technical Communication
ENGL 529  Multimedia Content Management
ENGL 542  Production Processes for Technical Documents
ENGL 549  Multimedia Design in Professional Communication

Designated Area of Concentration (DAC) in technical, scientific, or design field  6

Total Credits  40-42

Designated Area of Concentration Courses

The Designated Area of Concentration (DAC) is a student-designed grouping of related courses in a technical, scientific, or design field that will meet the student’s professional or academic interests. Courses for the 6-credit DAC must be taken outside the English Department and approved by the Technical Communication Program Adviser. A second major or a minor in areas such as computer science, social science, natural science, entrepreneurial studies, design studies, engineering studies, or another technical, scientific, or design field may substitute for the DAC.

See also the 4-year plan of study grid for Technical Communication showing courses by semester.

Technical Communication Minor Requirements

The department offers a minor in Technical Communication, which students may earn by completing the following:

ENGL 314  Technical Communication  3

Choose 4:
(12 points)

ENGL 302  Business Communication
ENGL 309  Report and Proposal Writing
ENGL 310  Rhetorical Analysis
ENGL 312  Biological Communication
ENGL 313  Rhetorical Website Design
ENGL 332  Visual Communication of Quantitative Information
ENGL 350  Rhetorical Traditions

or with the appropriate prerequisites

ENGL 411  Technology, Rhetoric, and Professional Communication

Total Credits  15

Nine of the 15 credits must be 300 level or above and students must earn a grade of C (not C-) or higher in each course taken in the minor. Up to 6 of the 15 credits taken for the minor may be used to meet other degree program requirements. Students may design their minor programs around their own interests but are encouraged to work with the Technical Communication Program Adviser.

Note: Students should check the ISU catalog to be sure that they meet prerequisites if they intend to register for 400+ courses.