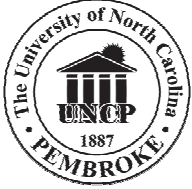


Why YOU Should Minor in Writing.

Department of English and Theatre
University of North Carolina at Pembroke



Writing and Your Career

Not only are good writing skills integral to your success in a variety of academic fields of study: writing is a vital career skill. In fact, it is estimated that:

approximately 90 percent of today's business communication takes place electronically.... [...] As a result, virtually every employee must be a writer—whether or not they are prepared for the task at hand. And the fact is, many are not (Kozel).

A 2008 study sponsored by the American Association of College and Universities surveyed employers to determine how colleges should assess and improve student learning. One third of executives surveyed found that “only half...or fewer applicants” have the “full set of skills and knowledge needed to succeed in entry-level positions at their company” (2). The study goes on to reveal that 37% of applicants were ranked as “not well prepared” in terms of their writing skills (4).

A minor in writing can therefore be an extremely useful complement to a major in any field, preparing students for a career in any academic or professional field.

The Writing Minor

The Minor in Writing invites students to explore both the practical and theoretical aspects of writing. The core course is ENG 3700, which introduces students to writing studies. The special topics courses reflect the wide-ranging expertise of our composition and rhetoric faculty. The courses listed as options for electives let students pick and choose among the areas of professional, journalistic, public discourse, and creative genres, or concentrate on one or more areas.

Come visit with us to explore how a minor in writing might help equip you for the future!

Sources:

Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc. “How Should Colleges Assess and Improve Student Learning?: Employers’ views on the Accountability Challenge.” *AACU.org*. American Association of Colleges and Universities. 09 Jan. 2008. Web. 30 Aug. 2010.

Kozel, Bill. “The High Cost of Poor Writing Skills.” *ManageSmarter*. Sales and Marketing Management Magazine. 16 Oct. 2009. Web. 30 Aug. 2010.

Minor in Writing Course Requirements:

Required Courses:

ENG 3700 Advanced Composition **and** one of the following:
ENGS 4090-4129 Special Topics in Composition and Rhetoric (numbers vary)
ENG 4550 Directed Studies Seminar

Options for 12 additional hours:

Creative Writing:

ENG 2780 Writing Poetry I
ENG 2790 Writing Fiction I

Theory:

ENG 2990 Writing Center Theory and Practice
ENG 3570 History of Rhetoric

Public Discourse:

ENG 3580 Professional Writing
ENG 3590 Creative Nonfiction

Journalistic Writing:

JRN 2600/PRE 2600 News Writing and Reporting
JRN 3050 Feature Writing
JRN 3090 Editorial Writing
MCM 2400 Writing for the Media

Composition and Rhetoric Faculty

Dr. MJ Braun Writing Minor Advisor	mary.braun@uncp.edu	Dial 114A 521-6814
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Dr. Cynthia Miecznikowski	cynthia.miecznikowski@uncp.edu	Dial 249

Mass Communication Faculty

Dr. Anthony Curtis; Dr. Judith Curtis; Dr. George Harrison; Dr. Jamie Litty

Creative Writing Faculty

Dr. Karen Helgeson; Jennifer Key