



**Autumn Quarter 2018**  
**WRD Courses Eligible for Credit in**  
**the WRD Major and**  
**Professional Writing Minor**

### **WRD 204, Technical Writing**

**Major Elective; PW Minor Elective**

LPC, TTH 9:40-11:10 ***Professor Lisa Dush***

LOOP, MW 10:10-11:40 ***Flourice Richardson***

LOOP, MW 11:50-1:20 ***Flourice Richardson***

ONL, ***Lauren Hahn***

In this course, students learn to communicate and interpret specialized information for readers' practical use. The course highlights the action-orientated goals of technical writing and the importance of accurately communicating information to users. The course provides an overview of key issues related to technical writing such as usability, audience analysis, designing pages and screens, effective collaboration with peers, interpreting and presenting data, and writing clearly and persuasively. Students learn to write, revise and present common technical writing genres such as instructions, tutorials, manuals, reports, product/process descriptions, proposals, and oral presentations.

### **WRD 206, Professional Writing**

**Major Elective; PW Minor Requirement**

***Alan Ackmann, MFA***

LOOP, MW 1:00-2:30

In WRD 206, you will learn the fundamentals of professional writing, including audience analysis, genre norms, concise, action-oriented prose, and document design, with a special focus on how workplace writing differs from academic writing. Through assignments that ask you to explore the genres of professional writing, the course provides a solid foundation that you can build on as you develop specializations in your professional fields and prepare for work beyond school. Documents produced may include memos, emails, letters, resumes, short reports, proposals, online texts, and collaborative projects.

## **WRD 240, Argumentative Writing**

Major Elective; PW Minor Elective

*Professor Jason Kalin*

LPC, MW 11:20-12:50

Arguments are both *what* we think and *how* we think, and sometimes, *how* we think is more important than *what* we think. In this course, we will examine *how* to think argumentatively to find ways to open spaces for change—changes of mind, changes in ways of talking and relating to one another. You will learn how to analyze and create strong arguments by studying major theories of argumentation and applying them to contemporary texts and issues. You will experiment with rhetorical strategies as your write arguments that will function persuasively in different contexts. By interrogating your own argumentative techniques, you will learn how to become more sophisticated readers and writers of the arguments that shape our lives and our world.

## **WRD 264, Language, Self, and Society**

Major Elective; PW Minor Elective

Liberal Studies SCBI Domain credit (*non-WRD majors only*)

*Professor Jason Schneider*

LPC, MW 1:00-2:30

The way we use language reveals a great deal about who we are, what we believe, and the social groups with which we feel affiliated. Moreover, it shapes our everyday interpersonal interactions and positions us in relation to larger ideological forces. In this course we will explore the interplay of language, self, and society through readings, discussions, presentations, and writing assignments. By the end of the class, you will have a range of new perspectives through which to analyze the role of language in your own life and the world around you.

## **WRD 284, Sports Writing in America: Myths, Memories, Heroes, and Villains**

WRD Major Elective; PW Minor Elective;

Liberal Studies AL Domain credit (*non-WRD majors only*)

*Justin Staley*

LPC, TTH 9:40-11:10

The influence of sports as an American institution is far-reaching and powerful. This modern form of myth, tribalism, and religion often serves as a microcosm of society as a whole. In this course, you will read, analyze, and discuss multiple genres of writing including reporting, memoir/nonfiction, profile, and argument, on a wide range of sports and sports figures. In exploring writers' pursuits of narratives on and off the field, of both heroes and villains, we will reflect on the ways that sports have both reported on and impacted American society through the lenses of cultural, social, racial, and economic issues throughout America's history. You will develop greater insight into how writers create compelling narratives and posit effective arguments, and by writing in these genres, you will explore the role of sports in your own life, as well as part of the wider cultural institution in America.

## **WRD 285, Truth in Disguise: The Rhetoric of Satire**

**online!**

**WRD Major Elective; PW Minor Elective**

**Liberal Studies AL Domain credit (*non-WRD majors only*)**

***Justin Staley***

This course focuses on satire as a rhetorical device used to persuade, convince, inform, and provoke change or action. Drawing on multiple media such as television shows, editorial cartoons, newspapers, magazines, and literature, students will explore satirical commentary on social and political issues such as race, religion, health, and gender to explore how absurd representations of reality call into question what we take to be real, true, or natural. From Jonathan Swift and Mark Twain to Stephen Colbert, South Park, and Charlie Hebdot, satire has long held the power to inform contemporary issues through the use of irony, sarcasm, and ridicule. By reading and composing satire with attention to rhetorical context and genre awareness, you will develop the ability to think critically about and respond meaningfully to satire as argument across a range of media and modes.

## **WRD 288, Community Digital Storytelling**

**WRD Major Elective; PW Minor Elective; Earns EL credit in Liberal Studies for WRD majors and minors;  
Earns EL major credit for WRD majors**

***Professor Lisa Dush***

**LPC, TTH 1:00-2:30**

This course teaches the theory and practice of community-based digital storytelling, a workshop process in which participants create first-person video stories for personal reflection and community action.

Students first learn the digital storytelling process by producing their own digital stories: you will write and revise a short and meaningful personal narrative, audio record your story, gather related photographs, and combine these materials into a 2-3 minute video using video editing software (no prior knowledge of digital editing is required). As a course that satisfied DePaul's Experiential Learning requirement, WRD 288 then sends you into Chicago to help the clients of a nonprofit organization to craft and produce their own digital stories, an experience that will provide opportunities to further develop both your new story-making skills and your understanding of the digital storytelling process.

## **WRD 291, The Scientific Research Poster**

**two credit hours!**

**WRD Major Elective; PW Minor Elective**

***Flourice Richardson***

**LPC, TH 2:40-4:10**

An introduction to the poster as a mode for presenting scientific research in conference settings. In-class workshops will step students through the poster writing and design process, including modules on project planning, the composition and organization of written content, data visualization, fundamentals of visual design and how to talk about your poster with conference attendees. Students may design a poster from their own research or from published research in the field.

## **WRD 301, Writing in Workplace Contexts**

**WRD Major Requirement; PW Minor Elective**

**Professor Timothy Elliott**

**LPC, TTH 2:40-4:10**

In this course you will study writing in professional contexts in order to form a broader understanding of the many purposes and forms of writing across a wide variety of workplaces. You will investigate writing at a workplace of your choice and write a formal document reporting your findings. Class topics include writing and the knowledge economy, contemporary workplace writing practices, the ethics of workplace writing, research methods for doing site research and discussion of how the methods of writing researchers are applicable to the daily practices of workplace writers.

## **WRD 306, Rhetorical Traditions**

**Major Requirement; PW Minor Elective**

**Professor Antonio Ceraso**

**LPC, TTH 11:20-12:50**

Rhetorical Traditions is a historical survey course that guides you through the major statements and positions in the history of rhetoric. Starting with Greek rhetoric, the course will track the Western tradition of rhetorical thought and education down to the present. The course will also ask students to investigate challenges and undercurrents to "mainstream" rhetorical history: we will look at alternative rhetorical traditions that have until recently been ignored or downplayed in the history of rhetoric (women's rhetoric, non-Western rhetoric). While the course material will ask that we cast our net back decades, centuries, and even millenia, we will still try to keep our focus on the current-day application of rhetorical concepts.

## **WRD 321, Writing in the Legal Profession**

**online!**

**WRD Major Elective; PW Minor Elective**

**Andrea Yelin**

This online course explores the role of writing, thinking, and problem-solving in legal contexts. Students will gain an understanding of the principles involved in writing effective narrative and persuasive prose for a variety of legal purposes, and be able to apply these principles to their own writing. This course is for any student considering a career as an attorney or as a paralegal. The instructor teaches at a law school and will be able to answer your questions about legal education. You will learn how to read and brief cases and to summarize statutes. The course will walk you through case analysis. You will learn how to draft a legal memo, to write objectively and persuasively, and to create simple contracts. Consider this course a preview of legal writing in the law school environment.

## **WRD 398, Internship**

**WRD Major Elective; Professional Writing Minor Elective**

**Arranged**

Ready for a challenge? Take your writing into the workplace. Doing an internship can help you explore career options, build your professional portfolio, and give you a head start in a job search. This independent study course will help you explore the connections between WRD and the world by examining the relationship between your WRD courses and the rhetorical challenges you encounter as a professional writer. Coursework will ask you to document your internship experience, analyze your writing, expand your

professional network, and create a portfolio that will communicate the value of your internship experience to a professional audience.

Any internship opportunity that coincides with your role as a WRD major or Professional Writing minor is eligible to be coordinated for course credit with WRD 398, Internship. If you're interested in looking ahead to a summer internship, arrange a meeting with Professor Vandenberg [pvandenb@depaul.edu](mailto:pvandenb@depaul.edu).