

Technical Communication

Department of English and Technical Communication

The Technical Communication degree, housed in the Department of English and Technical Communication, offers you an entry into a growing profession that communicates information about the purpose and operation of human tools and systems. Many technical communicators work at the interface of technical experts and product users. Technical communicators provide an essential service to national and global societies by facilitating technology transfer.

You should bring to the program a love of writing and a curiosity about technology. The interdisciplinary nature of the Missouri S&T degree enables you to acquire the qualifications you need to be competitive and flexible in an ever-changing technological environment. When you graduate, you will have a solid technical background in computer-enhanced information systems, an understanding of how organizations function, and strong communication skills.

You will study both the theory and practice of communication in written, oral, and nonverbal forms. Specifically, you will learn how to produce a variety of technical documents in print and digital forms. You will gain experience with the process of project management in a user community and become adept in audience analysis, needs assessment, document design, and team building.

In Missouri S&T's unique environment, you will have opportunities to work alongside engineers and scientists in undergraduate research and design projects. At Missouri S&T, you will work with first-class faculty, associate with excellent students from around the country and world, and benefit from the world-class technology the Technical Communication Department has to offer.

Scholarship Information

Freshman scholarships are automatically awarded based on high school transcripts and ACT/SAT scores. No separate application is necessary. Several \$500-\$1000 scholarships for freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors, and transfer students are available. Contact the department for more information.

Degree Options and Minors

Bachelor of Science, Technical Communication
Bachelor of Arts, English
Bachelor of Arts, English, Secondary Education
Master of Science, Technical Communication
Master of Arts, English, cooperative with UMSL
Minor, Technical Communication
Minor, American Studies
Minor, Literature
Minor, Writing
Minor, Literature and Film

Student Organizations and Undergraduate Research

Research opportunities are available Missouri S&T's Opportunities for Undergraduate Research Experience program. The faculty's research interests include visual communication, proposal writing, the diffusion of technology, technical marketing communication, communication networks, international technical communication, and the history of rhetoric and technical communication.

Entry-Level Job Titles

Technical Writer/Editor	Web Content Manager
Technical Communicator	Publication Specialist
Product Marketing Manager	Content Developer
Instructional Designer	Medical Forms Specialist

Co-op and Internship Availability

Co-op and intern programs are available to students pursuing a B.S. in Technical Communication. These programs provide students with the opportunity to integrate their classroom studies with learning through productive work experiences in a field related to students' academic or career goals.

Departmental Contact Information:

1.573.341.4681	236 Humanities Social Sciences
http://english.mst.edu	techcom@mst.edu
Program Director:	Dr. David Wright
Department Chair:	Dr. Kristine Swenson

Faculty

Associate Professors:

Ed Malone, Ph.D., Southern Illinois
Kathryn Northcut, Ph.D., Texas Tech

Assistant Professors:

David Wright, Ph.D., Oklahoma State

Assistant Teaching Professor:

Olivia Burgess, Ph.D., Texas A&M University

Emeritus Professors:

Elizabeth Cummins, Ph.D., Illinois
Gene Doty, M.A., Emporia State University
John Morgan, M.A., University of Kansas

Detailed information on course equivalencies, acceptable credits for elective coursework, grade requirements and prerequisites is available from Missouri S&T's Registrar's Office at <http://registrar.mst.edu>.

Bachelor of Science

Technical Communication..... 126 credit hours

General Education Requirements, 42 credit hours

Engl 1120: 3
Engl 1600 (co-listed with Tech Com 1600): 3
Engl 1211, 1212, 1221, 1222, etc. (select one): 3
Speech 1185: 3
Psych 1101: 3
Biology 1113, 2223, 2233, 2263 (select one): 3
Chemistry, Geology, or Physics: 3
Math 1140: 3
Math or Statistics: 3
History 1100, 1200, 1300, 1310 (select one): 3
Micro Economics 1100: 3
Political Science 1200: 3
Humanities, Art, Theatre, etc. (select two courses): 6

Major Requirements, 33 credit hours

Tech Com 2540: Layout and Design: 3
Tech Com 2560: Practicum in Tech Com: 3
Tech Com 5620: Research Methods in Tech Com: 3
Engl 2410: Theory of Written Communication: 3
Tech Com 3440: Theory of Visual Tech Com: 3
Tech Com 4410: Theory and Practice of Tech Com (capstone): 3
Tech Com electives which may include Engl 3560 and/or 3302: 15

Interdisciplinary Requirements, 36 credit hours

In consultation with his or her advisor, students will select 36 hours of interdisciplinary courses from two of the areas listed below, with no fewer than 15 credit hours per area. At least 12 of the 36 hours must come from upper level courses. Each student's course selections must be approved by the Technical Communication Committee of the Department of English and Technical Communication.

Areas of Interdisciplinary Study:

- Biological Sciences
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Education
- Engineering Management
- English
- Finance
- One foreign language
- Geology
- History
- Information Science and Technology
- Management and Information Systems
- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Speech and Media Studies
- Statistics
- Any area of engineering

Free Electives, 15 credit hours

To reach the minimum number of credit hours needed to graduate, you will need to complete at least fifteen additional credit hours beyond the general education, major, and interdisciplinary requirements.