Bachelor of Arts in English Writing

Students majoring in English Writing from the University of Colorado Denver can now complete all of the required courses for the BA degree online.

Program Description:
The Department of English’s Writing Major offers students the knowledge and skills necessary to write well in a number of contexts including nonprofit organizations, industry, and academia. This is accomplished not only through a combination of traditional and new media courses, but also through the service learning and internship opportunities provided for students. The flexible and interdisciplinary nature of this degree will prepare students to enter graduate school or pursue a career in education, law, editing, professional writing and other areas.

Degree Requirements:
Students majoring in writing must present a total of 39 hours for the major (excluding ENGL 1010, 1020, and 2030), of which 27 hours must be earned in upper division courses. None of the required 39 hours may be taken on a pass/fail basis. Only courses completed with a grade of C (2.0) or above may be counted toward the major. At least 15 upper division hours of the student’s work in writing must be taken from the Downtown Denver Campus English faculty. Students planning to major in writing must consult with an advisor as soon as possible.

Required Courses:

**ENGL 2070 - Grammar, Rhetoric, and Style**
3 credit hours
Teaches the basics of English grammar in order to develop a rhetorical and stylistic confidence in reading and writing. The approach is more descriptive than prescriptive. The course teaches students how to evaluate the grammatical choices of established writers and how to develop flexibility in the grammatical choices they make in their own writing.

**ENGL 2154 - Introduction to Creative Writing**
3 credit hours
An online introduction to the basic building blocks of poetry and fiction. Students will not only discuss how to write, but also compose, present, and then discuss their own work as well as that of their peers, in an online workshop environment.

**ENGL 3084 - Advanced Composition**
3 credit hours
Focuses on the rhetorical examination and production of visual and textual documents in such areas as politics, education, art, culture and advertising. Equal focus on developing individual student writing skills at advanced levels.

**ENGL 3154 - Technical Writing (Can be taken in lieu of ENGL 3170)**
4-3 credit hours
This course presents an introduction to the writing of technical documents with emphasis on the way technical writers solve communication problems considering purpose, audience, and message. Students will learn to move accurately from data to assertion, to anticipate and control reader response, and to design documents using both verbal and visual rhetoric. The intention is to enable students to write clearly not only for readers who share their technical expertise but
also for readers in other fields. Students taking this 3000-level course are expected to be proficient writers.

**ENGL 3170 - Business Writing (Can be taken in lieu of ENGL 3154)**

**3 credit hours**
This course presents an introduction to the writing of technical documents with emphasis on the way technical writers solve communication problems considering purpose, audience, and message. Students will learn to move accurately from data to assertion, to anticipate and control reader response, and to design documents using both verbal and visual rhetoric. The intention is to enable students to write clearly not only for readers who share their technical expertise but also for readers in other fields. Students taking this 3000-level course are expected to be proficient writers.

**ENGL 3160 - Language Theory**

**3 credit hours**
This online course provides an introduction to linguistic theory for upper division undergraduates. It covers theories on language acquisition and language understanding, showing how understanding of language can improve our own writing and how linguistics can help critique literary texts. It discusses topics such as phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, discourse analysis, animal and human language, and language, society and culture. The course requirements include active participation in online class discussion, synthesis papers/exams, and a term paper.

**ENGL 4180 - Argumentation and Logic**

**3 credit hours**
In Argumentation and Logic students explore the history of logic and its role in argumentation, study various types of logical structures, and analyzes current uses of argumentation with attention to writing arguments on current public issues.

**ENGL 4190 - Special Topics in Rhetoric & Writing**

**3 credit hours**
Focuses on particular issues in rhetoric as they pertain to reading and writing, including language and gender, language and culture, and language of political action. Topic varies each semester.

**Senior Seminar in Writing:**

**ENGL 4991 - Senior Seminar in Writing**

**3 credit hours**
Students focus on rhetorical studies through extensive reading, writing, discussion, and reflection upon their own literacy practices. Students produce individual and collaborative writing projects for a final portfolio.

**Advanced Coursework:** (5 courses) (15 hours)
(3000/4000 level) Students pursuing a General Writing degree may choose from all writing courses offered in the English Department (e.g., Poetry Workshop, Internship, Senior Writing Project, etc.). Students may also use approved transfer courses or courses from other departments to fulfill this requirement. Students pursuing a concentration in Professional Writing must take English 3154 Technical Writing or English 3170 Business Writing as well as English 3939 Internship and English 4995 Senior Writing Project.

**Program Contact:**
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