

PROFESSIONAL WRITING (MS)

Department Website (<https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/academics/masters-degrees/ms-in-professional-writing.html>)

NYSED: 36034 **HEGIS:** 0699.00 **CIP:** 09.9999

Program Description

MS in Professional Writing students develop their creative abilities with a focus on dynamic careers across a range of industries and evolving fields. Our curriculum encourages students to leverage new technologies while they confidently craft content that has measurable impact. Our master's degree prepares graduates for full-time, part-time, and freelance writing careers in sectors that include: technology, education, finance, nonprofit/fundraising, marketing/advertising, government, medical/healthcare/wellness, science/environment/energy, and corporate communications.

Fully online and 36 credits, the MS in Professional Writing pairs the convenience of learning from any location with the quality of an NYU graduate degree. Real-world assignments in core and elective courses allow students to build a comprehensive, digital writing portfolio before they graduate. Every class has multiple real-world assignments that could be included in a digital writing portfolio.

Mirroring the increasingly digital, global, and collaborative work environment of today's professional world, the MS in Professional Writing brings together faculty members, students, and guest lecturers as part of an interactive, online educational community. Our master's degree in professional writing offers a weekly guided structure that keeps students on track through our flexible workshop-model curriculum.

Admissions

Admission to master's programs at the NYU School of Professional Studies requires the completion of a U.S. bachelor's degree or its international equivalent. Admissions decisions are made through a holistic review process. Visit the SPS Admissions website (<https://www.sps.nyu.edu/homepage/admissions/admissions-criteria-and-deadlines/graduate-programs.html>) for detailed application requirements and deadlines.

Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 36 credits, comprised of the following:

Course	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		
PWRT1-GC 1000	Principles of Professional Writing	3
PWRT1-GC 1005	Writing for Digital Spaces	3
PWRT1-GC 1010	Business and Organizational Writing	3
PWRT1-GC 1015	Style and Rhetoric	3
PWRT1-GC 1020	Document Design and Data Storytelling	3
PWRT1-GC 1025	Principles of Information Architecture	3
Electives		
Select four of the following:		12

PWRT1-GC 3000	Health and Medical Writing
PWRT1-GC 3005	Promotional Writing
PWRT1-GC 3010	Independent Study in Professional Writing
PWRT1-GC 3015	Technical Writing
PWRT1-GC 3020	Writing for Science and the Environment
PWRT1-GC 3025	Writing Proposals and Grants
PWRT1-GC 3030	Writing for Finance
PWRT1-GC 1011	Digital and Organizational Storytelling
PWRT1-GC 1021	Media Production for Professional Writers
PWRT1-GC 3035	Writing and Social Science Research
PWRT1-GC 3040	Persuasive Public Policy Writing

Additional Major Requirements

PWRT1-GC 3900	Portfolio/Thesis Requirement	3
PWRT1-GC 3905	Internship	3
or PWRT1-GC 3910	Directed Study	
Total Credits		36

Core Requirements

Core courses build your professional writing foundation by focusing on writing and editing skills; design and digital contexts; and reaching target audiences while measuring your impact.

Electives

Elective courses provide an extensive and nuanced understanding of industry specific styles, supporting your personal, professional writing goals.

Internship or Directed Study

You can opt to complete either a professional Internship or a mock-freelance directed study as part of your required course work.

Thesis Project and Digital Writing Portfolio

In your final semester, you will complete a thesis project and a digital writing portfolio. Both assignments showcase your applied writing skills and proven abilities.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
PWRT1-GC 1005	Writing for Digital Spaces	3
PWRT1-GC 1010	Business and Organizational Writing	3
PWRT1-GC 1000	Principles of Professional Writing	3
Professional Writing Elective		3
Credits		12
2nd Semester/Term		
PWRT1-GC 1020	Document Design and Data Storytelling	3

PWRT1-GC 1025	Principles of Information Architecture	3
PWRT1-GC 1015	Style and Rhetoric	3
Professional Writing Elective		3
Credits		12
3rd Semester/Term		
PWRT1-GC 3910 or PWRT1-GC 3905	Directed Study or Internship	3
PWRT1-GC 3900	Portfolio/Thesis Requirement	3
Professional Writing Elective		3
Professional Writing Elective		3
Credits		12
Total Credits		36

professional-studies/academic-policies/)e (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/professional-studies/academic-policies/>).

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will:

1. Plan, craft, and revise targeted copy that incorporates writing principles and techniques, including consideration for style, tone, rhetoric, grammar, information hierarchy, clarity, cohesion, and consistency.
2. Produce content and documentation across a variety of digital and traditional formats that maintains professionalism and aligns to various industry standards and expectations.
3. Develop and adhere to style guides and best-practices for a range of original content (self-editing), including copyediting, graphical editing, narrative storytelling, and persuasive presentation of information.
4. Articulate and advocate for style guide and best-practices for a range of content produced by others (editing existing content), including copyediting, graphical editing, narrative storytelling, and persuasive presentation of information.
5. Draft, revise, and advocate for linguistic and rhetorical shifts to best reach niche and novice audiences.
6. Track and evaluate the impact of communication projects before making revision/recommending alternate strategies for improving effectiveness.
7. Write clear and cohesive narratives that accurately report data and research findings across a range of document types.
8. Employ rhetorical strategies to increase persuasiveness and motivate audience response/action.
9. Articulate and apply professional writing practices to visual and verbal design processes.
10. Produce multimodal documents and media that demonstrate appropriate design sensibilities and information hierarchy/architecture.
11. Serve as project lead and group member in various collaborative communication projects, including setting project deadlines for self and others; managing universal edits and version control; arranging to work with subject matter experts; and adjusting to unexpected delays.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

School of Professional Studies Policies

Additional academic policies can be found on the School of Professional Studies academic policy pag (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/>