What courses will I take?

The Department of English offers a range of undergraduate courses in Professional and Public Writing, including editing; document design; a variety of topics courses in language study, writing, and culture; and rhetorical practices and theory. Our classes offer numerous opportunities for collaborative creative work, and often offer opportunities to work with clients both within and outside of the university. As part of your work in the Public and Professional Writing track, you will develop a diverse portfolio of work to help you obtain employment after graduation.

For more information, please visit www.cla.auburn.edu/english or contact Betsy Panhorst panhoec@auburn.edu 9030 Haley Center 334.844.9026

Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer
What is Professional and Public Writing?

Professional and Public Writing is all about communication and audience. We train you to consider the many elements that make up a communication situation and help you understand the implications of workplace communication practices.

In our track, you’ll learn how to successfully research complex technical and professional information, then present that work effectively. In addition, we’ll help you learn how to catch and keep an audience’s attention, motivate your readers to take action, and create documents that solve real-world problems, as well as practice critical problem-solving skills.

What opportunities does Professional and Public Writing provide?

Students in our Public and Professional Writing track work with specialists in the rhetoric of science and technology, workplace communication, sustainability, web design, research methods, and cultural rhetorics, among others.

We nurture excellence in our academic community at all levels through the English Club, presentations by emerging and national scholars, and social events that foster connections between undergraduates and faculty, as well as graduate students at the masters and PhD levels.

What can I do with this degree?

Students majoring or minoring in Auburn’s Professional and Public Writing track build vital skills such as editing, researching, designing, analyzing, and composing. Auburn’s undergraduate program in Professional and Public Writing prepares students for communication in the professional world as a whole, and especially for working in the following fields:

- Publishing
- Law
- Technical Communication
- Design
- Advertising
- Public Relations
- Social Media Marketing
- Non-profit
- Education

Professional and Public Writing graduates are not limited to these fields. In today’s workplace, efficient communication is the cornerstone of virtually every career field, and our graduates have nearly limitless opportunities in many areas.

“The Professional and Public Writing major not only introduces and helps cultivate many different kinds of writing, but the curriculum also allows room to explore exactly what kind of writing you enjoy and want to pursue.”

- Kristen Keeter
  Digital Content Manager,
  WALB (Albany, GA)