

WRTC Fall 2024 Course Overview

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FALL 2024 COURSE OFFERINGS

Below, you'll see the **WRTC Major/Minor Courses offered for Fall 2024**, including what's being offered, when, and how each class will be taught.

BY CONCENTRATION (CATALOG YEAR PRIOR TO 23-24)¹

COURSES FULFILLING CORE REQUIREMENTS (offered every semester)

WRTC 200: Intro to WRTC studies — MWF 12:40 – 1:30 Jay Varner
WRTC 200: Intro to WRTC studies — TT 9:35 – 10:50 Michael Hickman
WRTC 300: Professional Editing — MWF 10:20 – 11:10 Karen McDonnell
WRTC 300: Professional Editing — TT 11:10 – 12:25 Kevin Jefferson
WRTC 301: Language, Law and Ethics — MWF 12:40 - 1:30 Karen McDonnell
WRTC 301: Language, Law and Ethics — TT 12:45 - 2:00 Susan Ghiaciuc
WRTC 316: Research Methods in WRTC — MW 5:00 – 6:15 Alex Parrish *REPLACES WRTC 201
WRTC 316: Research Methods in WRTC — TT 3:55 – 5:10 Mollie Stambler *REPLACES WRTC 201
WRTC 495: Internship — Online Jen Almjeld
WRTC 496: Capstone — MWF 11:30-12:20 Scott Lunsford

COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING (offered every semester)

WRTC 480: Writing in Business and Industry — MWF 11:30 – 12:20 Lori Beth DeHertogh
WRTC 488: Writing in the Health Sciences — TT 2:20 – 3:35 Mollie Stambler

CROSS-OVER ELECTIVE (offered every semester)

WRTC 420: Feminist Rhetoric — MW 1:50 – 3:05 Jen Almjeld
WRTC 470: Disability Rhetorics — TT 9:35 – 10:50 Susan Ghiaciuc
WRTC 328: JMURJ — TT 12:45 - 2:00 Kevin Jefferson
WRTC 328: RhetTech — W 1:50-2:40 Anna Maria Johnson
WRTC 314: Writing in the Public Sphere — TT 11:10 - 12:25 Elisabeth Gumnior
WRTC 326: Environmental Communication and Advocacy — TT 5:30-6:45 Shelley Aley

WR ELECTIVES (offered every three semesters)

WRTC 332: Digital Storytelling — MW 1:50-3:05 Ja'La Wourman
WRTC 338: Sound Writing — MWF 9:10-10:00 Scott Lunsford
WRTC 433: Animal Rhetorics — MW 3:25-4:40 Alex Parrish *REQUIRES COURSE DIRECTIVE
WRTC 434: Advanced Popular Writing — TT 3:55-5:10 Heather Comfort

TSC ELECTIVES (offered every three semesters)

WRTC 350: Foundations of Tech Comm — MW 3:25 – 4:40 Cynthia Martin *OFFERED EVERY SEMESTER
WRTC 352: Online Design — TT 2:20-3:35 Angela Crow
WRTC 400: Advanced Editing — MWF 10:20-11:10 Scott Lunsford *REQUIRES COURSE DIRECTIVE
WRTC 462: Government Writing — M 5:20-7:50 Sean McCarthy

¹ If you are not sure which catalog year (and thus which curriculum) you are under, go to course requirements in MyMadison. Your catalog year will be noted next to the WRTC major requirements (e.g. 21-22 or 23-24).

BY TRACK (CATALOG YEAR 23-24)

COURSES FULFILLING CORE REQUIREMENTS (offered each semester)

WRTC 200: Intro to WRTC studies — MWF 12:40 – 1:30 Jay Varner
WRTC 200: Intro to WRTC studies — TT 9:35 – 10:50 Michael Hickman
WRTC 300: Professional Editing — MWF 10:20 – 11:10 Karen McDonnell
WRTC 300: Professional Editing — TT 11:10 – 12:25 Kevin Jefferson
WRTC 301: Language, Law and Ethics — MWF 12:40 - 1:30 Karen McDonnell
WRTC 301: Language, Law and Ethics — TT 12:45 - 2:00 Susan Ghiaciuc
WRTC 316: Research Methods in WRTC — MW 5:00 – 6:15 Alex Parrish
WRTC 350: Foundations of Tech Comm — MW 3:25 – 4:40 Cynthia Martin
WRTC 316: Research Methods in WRTC — TT 3:55 – 5:10 Mollie Stambler
WRTC 495: Internship — Online Jen Almjeld
WRTC 496: Capstone — MWF 11:30-12:20 Scott Lunsford

COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING (offered every fall semester)

WRTC 480: Writing in Business and Industry — MWF 11:30 – 12:20 Lori Beth DeHertogh
WRTC 488: Writing in the Health Sciences — TT 2:20 – 3:35 Mollie Stambler

CULTURALLY-ENGAGED COURSES (offered every fall semester)

WRTC 420: Feminist Rhetoric — MW 1:50 – 3:05 Jen Almjeld
WRTC 470: Disability Rhetorics — TT 9:35 – 10:50 Susan Ghiaciuc

ELECTIVES: PROFESSIONAL WRITING AND PUBLISHING (offered every three semesters)

WRTC 328: JMURJ — TT 12:45 - 2:00 Kevin Jefferson *offered every semester, 1-3 credits in fall
WRTC 328: RhetTech — W 1:50-2:40 Anna Maria Johnson *offered every semester, 1 credit in fall
WRTC 332: Digital Storytelling — MW 1:50-3:05 Ja’La Wourman
WRTC 400: Advanced Editing — MWF 10:20-11:10 Scott Lunsford
WRTC 434: Advanced Popular Writing — TT 3:55-5:10 Heather Comfort

ELECTIVES: INCLUSIVE DESIGN (offered every three semesters)

WRTC 338: Sound Writing — MWF 9:10-10:00 Scott Lunsford
WRTC 352: Online Design — TT 2:20-3:35 Angela Crow

ELECTIVES: WRITING FOR LAW AND SOCIETY (offered every three semesters)

WRTC 314: Writing in the Public Sphere — TT 11:10 - 12:25 Elisabeth Gumnior
WRTC 462: Government Writing — M 5:20-7:50 Sean McCarthy

ELECTIVES: HEALTH AND SCIENCE WRITING (offered every three semesters)

WRTC 326: Environmental Communication and Advocacy — TT 5:30-6:45 Shelley Aley
WRTC 433: Animal Rhetorics — MW 3:25-4:40 Alex Parrish

WRTC Fall 2024 Course Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Online, Asynchronous	495 Almjeld	495 Almjeld	495 Almjeld	495 Almjeld	495 Almjeld
9:10- 10:00 MWF	338 Lunsford		338 Lunsford		338 Lunsford
9:35- 10:50 TT		200 Hickman 470 Ghiaciuc		200 Hickman 470 Ghiaciuc	
10:20- 11:10 MWF	300: McDonnell 400: Lunsford		300: McDonnell 400: Lunsford		300: McDonnell 400: Lunsford
11:10- 12:25 TT		300: Jefferson 314: Gumnior		300: Jefferson 314: Gumnior	
11:30- 12:20 MWF	480: DeHertogh 496: Lunsford		480: DeHertogh 496: Lunsford		480: DeHertogh 496: Lunsford
12:40- 1:30 MWF	200: Varner 301: McDonnell		200: Varner 301: McDonnell		200: Varner 301: McDonnell
12:45- 2:00 TT		301: Ghiaciuc 328 JMURJ: Jefferson		301: Ghiaciuc 328: JMURJ Jefferson	
1:50- 2:40 W			328 RhetTech: Johnson		
1:50- 3:05 MW	332: Wourman 420: Almjeld		332: Wourman 420: Almjeld		
2:20- 3:35 TT		352: Crow 488: Stambler		352: Crow 488: Stambler	

3:25– 4:40 MW	350: Martin 433: Parrish		350: Martin 433: Parrish		
3:55-5:10 TT		316: Stambler 434: Comfort		316: Stambler 434: Comfort	
5:00– 6:15 MW	316: Parrish		316: Parrish		
5:30- 6:45 TT		326: Aley		326: Aley	
5:20- 7:50 M	462: McCarthy				

WRTC Course Descriptions

Please read the official University Catalogue Description for WRTC course on the WRTC website. Below, you'll see descriptions from the professor teaching each class; in these descriptions, they elaborate on the course description and offer particulars for their sections. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask your advisor!

CORE COURSES

WRTC 200 Intro to Studies in WRTC

MWF 12:40-1:30/Jay Varner

TT 9:35-10:50/Michael Hickman

Overview:

In this class, you'll get to dip your toe into all things WRTC! You'll learn just enough about the issues, topics, and skills we teach to design your perfect path through the major or minor program. You'll also do a passion project—something you want to do for your own growth and development as a writer—all semester long!

Projects/tasks:

The projects in WRTC 200 are all about you. In one major assignment, you will design your perfect path through the major or minor including which classes you will take, your dream internship and other professional development goals, the extracurricular and co-curricular opportunities you'll take on—it'll be space to dream big.

A huge part of the 200, though, is your course project. Have you dreamed of a website or blog you could put together? An activist writing project that would live across platforms? An idea for an amazing app? 200 is the place to dream big, roll up your sleeves, and give it a go in a supportive environment of professors and peers.

Why you would take it:

Just getting started in your WRTC journey? This class is going to give you the lay of the land and build your confidence so that you will be ready to take on other classes in the major. It'll also give you your first strong portfolio piece.

WRTC 300 Professional Editing

MWF 10:20-11:10/Karen McDonnell

TT 11:10-12:25/Kevin Jefferson

Overview:

The best ideas are lost on an audience if the expression of those ideas is unclear. WRTC 300 assists students in honing their grammar skills and writing style. At the same time, students learn tricks of the trade, including hard copy markup, electronic editing tools, style guides, and more!

Projects/tasks:

You'll edit a variety of documents, which may include Wikipedia articles, movie reviews, instruction sets, or user manuals. The semester culminates in a project that requires students to comprehensively edit a longer document, create a cover and table of contents, apply original styles for headings, and add creative commons-licensed photos.

Why you would take it:

This is a required core course in the WRTC major and minor, but beyond that, students love the hands-on nature of the coursework. Students leave class feeling confident in their writing abilities and prepared to embark on a career in editing or publishing if desired.

WRTC 301 Language, Law and Ethics

MWF 12:40-1:30/Karen McDonnell

TT 12:45-2:00/Susan Ghiaciu

Overview:

The power of law hinges on argument, context, and interpretation. From daily decisions in the community and workplace to cases before the Supreme Court, ethical and legal decisions have far-reaching impacts and can generate controversy and confusion in their wake. In this course, we'll grapple with these complexities and come to a greater understanding of our rights and responsibilities.

Projects/tasks:

Throughout the semester, students engage in discussions and analysis of the rhetorical frameworks under which the law is determined and interpreted. Whether considering a code-of-ethics violation or analyzing court cases, we examine the limits and potential of law in daily life. Students are responsible for leading topic-driven discussions and composing two case studies that demonstrate their understanding of how language, law, and ethics intersect.

Why you would take it:

In a democracy, citizens are empowered to govern themselves. WRTC 301 cultivates important knowledge and skills to help us work toward "a more perfect union."

WRTC 316 (replaces WRTC 201—do not enroll if you have taken 201)

MW 5:00-6:15/Alex Parrish

TT 3:55-5:10/Mollie Stambler

Overview:

In WRTC 316 you find out what kind of researcher you are and want to be and what options for research exist in our multi-disciplinary field. We begin by reading and analyzing current research and then you will create your own research proposal that might work to understand writing and being in digital spaces, consider ways to make the writing classroom better, or tackle an issue in a workspace. We equip you to ask good, ethical questions to take on academic and professional issues.

Projects/tasks:

As you learn more about the methods that are used to create new knowledge in the disciplines, you will also have the opportunity to design an empirical research product of your own—one that will be informed by your own library-based research on the topic of your choice. While you will not collect data for this project, it'll be a chance to imagine the kind of research project you'd like to do.

Why you would take it:

This class will make you feel much more confident going into other classes where you will be expected to read, discuss, synthesize, and use WRTC research. In addition, this class will help you learn how research skills are applicable to your future career or workplace.

WRTC 350 Foundations of Tech Comm

MW 3:25-4:40/Cynthia Martin

Overview:

Technical Communication falls into three categories: writing about technical and scientific topics, writing in and for online spaces, and creating user documentation (STC site — Defining Tech Comm). You'll gain a broad introduction to these three genres of communication in this class.

Projects/Tasks:

You'll design a graphic that conveys data in an ethical manner, develop an instruction set and conduct a usability test, and work as part of a team to write a report on a technological or scientific issue.

Why you would take it:

This course will prepare you for work in upper-level WRTC courses and will help you discover potential career interests.

WRTC 495 WRTC Internship

Overview:

In WRTC 495, students report and reflect on their internship experiences with local business, government offices, educational settings and more.

Projects/tasks:

Students produce bi-monthly reports on their 150 internship hours and produce a closeout memo of the experience.

WRTC 496 WRTC Capstone

MWF 11:30-12:20/Scott Lunsford

Overview:

This is the final course in the major, and it affords students to reflect on the ways they've broadened and deepened their understanding of the theories and practices of written communication, visual design, digital communication and rhetoric in general. The goal of the coursework is the creation of a professional portfolio.

Projects/tasks:

With the end result of a powerful professional portfolio in mind, the assignments in the Capstone are designed to refine, extend, augment, and professionalize whatever academic and professional work the student has already developed. Whether the student intends to pursue a job, a paid internship, or further education, the portfolio will be aimed at demonstrating skills, experience, expertise, and professional potential.

Why you would take it:

This is the final required course in the major.

COMMUNITY-BASED COURSES

WRTC 480 Writing in Business and Industry

MWF 11:30-12:20/Lori Beth DeHertogh

Overview:

If you are passionate about connecting with communities and improving business communications through writing, then this course is for you! You'll work alongside a for-profit entity to learn how to apply writing, branding, and marketing strategies to business and industry settings.

Projects:

We'll collaborate with a for-profit community partner to determine which content will bring the most value to their organization. This might include deliverables such as press releases, proposals, website content, flyers, and more.

Why you would take it:

This course is for students who want to use their WRTC skills to write in the for-profit world.

WRTC 488 Writing in the Health Sciences

TT 2:20-3:35/Mollie Stambler

Overview :

Health communication has always been important in our society; perhaps this is true now more than ever. In this course, we will learn about writing in and about health, including topics like intersecting literacies and identities, access and accessibility, ethics, social justice, writing in regulated environments, writing for complex audiences, engaging research in writing, and communicating about risk. Together, we will think through 1) various genres like research articles, data visualizations, regulatory documents, instructions, and public-facing digital communication (blogs, forums, podcasts, social media); 2) stakeholders and audiences for health communication including the general public, healthcare providers, researchers and scientists, and regulatory agencies; and 3) best practices for effective, ethical, and socially just health communications.

Projects/Tasks:

You'll do projects like reviewing and critiquing existing health communications or texts, analyzing health apps/wearables, and participating in and leading class discussions. In addition, you'll have the opportunity to practice developing audience-attuned health communications by working directly with a community-based organization.

Why you would take the class:

The class will balance in-depth discussions of theory with hands-on practice to develop projects of interest to you that will take your writing and knowledge of the health sciences to a new level.

CULTURALLY ENGAGED COURSES

WRTC 420: Feminist Rhetoric

MW 1:50-3:05/Jen Almjeld

Overview:

Our class considers key women figures in classical and contemporary rhetorical traditions and explores the strategies and tactics feminist rhetors use to make meaning and change in the world.

Projects/Tasks:

In past courses we created a digital archive of a feminist conference and published an article as a class. This year, we'll decide what major project to produce together.

Why you would take it:

This class is for anyone interested in the ways marginalized speakers get heard and challenge systems of power.

WRTC 470: Disability Rhetorics

TT 9:35-10:50/Susan Ghiaciuc

Overview:

The portrayal of disability in popular media often draws from recurring tropes that place value on the disabled based on their relationship to normative ideals, such as the hero who transcends their disability to achieve extraordinary things or the person who learns to live life to the fullest after caring for a disabled friend.

Projects/Tasks:

In this class students will develop a baseline understanding of the history of disability studies and the concepts and controversies that comprise current research and scholarship in the field, both nationally and internationally. Students will then apply this knowledge to the examination of work in various media, subsequently developing personal projects focusing on work/s of their choice (film, television, graphic novels, etc.), to be presented in an accessible format (including image description, captions, presentation transcripts, etc.).

Why you would take it:

A final component of this course will be an extended film analysis project in collaboration with students at Universidad Nacional del Litoral, Argentina.

ELECTIVES

WRTC 314 Writing in the Public Sphere

TT 11:10-12:25/Elisabeth Gumnior

Introduction to the concept of the public sphere and an examination of a variety of texts and media that illustrate the function of the public sphere. Students apply theoretical knowledge to the analysis of public discourse and present their analyses in oral and written formats. Students gain important insights into their own roles and responsibilities as citizens within the public sphere and learn to use language effectively in multiple rhetorical situations.

For specific information, please reach out to the instructor.

WRTC 326: Environmental Communication and Advocacy

TT 5:30-6:45/Shelley Aley

From the JMU catalog: An exploration of the multifaceted aspects of environmental controversies including the rhetoric, advocacy campaigns and decision-making processes that produce and attempt to manage environmental conflicts. Emphasis on persuasive efforts by interest groups, corporations, resource managers, government agencies, scientific experts, politicians and citizens to influence public understanding of environmental issues, adoption of sustainable behavior and lifestyles, and public policy outcomes. For specific information about this course, please reach out to the instructor.

WRTC 328 JMURJ

TT 12:45-2:00/Kevin Jefferson

Overview:

The James Madison Undergraduate Research Journal is a student-run, peer-reviewed, double-blind academic journal dedicated to promoting, publishing, and sharing the excellent research and scholarship created by JMU undergraduate students in every JMU field of study. WRTC 328 students serve on the JMURJ Editorial Board.

Projects/Tasks:

The JMURJ Editorial Board build and apply their editing, design, and/or marketing knowledge. Students will work on teams that review submissions, copy edit and prepare submissions for publication, or design the layout of the journal.

Why you would take it:

We welcome experienced editors and consultants who have previous editing experience, who have taken WRTC 300/are considering WRTC 400, or who serve in JMU's Learning Centers. We also welcome students who are considering a career in editing and/or who are interested in a hands-on reading, writing, editing, and designing experience.

Enrollment in the WRTC 328 JMURJ course requires instructor permission. To learn more about JMURJ and how to apply, visit <https://www.jmu.edu/jmurj/> and check out the "Join the Board" page, and then contact Kevin Jefferson (jefferkx@jmu.edu) for more information.

WRTC 328 RhetTech Editors

W 1:50-2:40/Anna Maria Johnson

Overview:

Since 2017, WRTC students have edited a national journal for undergraduate students in writing, rhetoric, and technical communication-related disciplines. The editors favor relevant, timely, and culturally-responsive multimodal compositions. This class is your opportunity to join the group of RhetTech editors in the production of volume six. We will start out the term reviewing submissions, then we'll work with authors to polish and publish their work in the new volume of RhetTech!

Projects/tasks:

You can expect to review submissions from your peers at JMU and other universities, correspond with authors throughout the revision process, and edit the final versions. Some students may choose to do graphic design work for the volume while others will copyedit. In addition, some students may choose to promote the journal through social media accounts and other means for marketing a publication.

Why you would take it:

Please check out previous volumes! RhetTech provides many opportunities for student editors to gain insider experience in the publication process—from selecting pieces and giving feedback, to revising and editing, and finally, layout and design. You will also learn to market and promote the journal.

WRTC 332: Creative Approaches to Digital Storytelling

MW 1:50-3:05/Ja'La Wourman

Overview:

Understanding how to tell digital stories has long been a valuable part of a writer's toolkit. With the rise of Instagram, Snapchat, and TikTok, it could be argued that digital storytelling is now a necessary skill for anyone who wishes to write professionally. This course will help you increase your confidence in composing digital stories by adapting skills you are already learning in other WRTC classes such as: building compelling narratives; understanding visual design in digital environments; a focusing on specific audiences. This course will also help you increase your skills in designing projects and collaborating with others.

Projects/tasks:

See the instructor for specific information about assignments.

Why you would take it:

If you are interested in exploring digital storytelling for personal and/or professional purposes, then this course is for you!

WRTC 338 Sound Writing

MWF 9:10-10:00/Scott Lunsford

Overview:

Get ready to listen and listen good! In this course, you'll hone your listening skills as a consumer, writer, and producer of audio projects. You'll begin by practicing your own listening: tuning into everyday sounds that may escape your attention, and then reflect on them by writing or audio recording your impressions. You'll explore personal and professional purposes of sonic environments: how do sonic experiences prompt, encourage, facilitate, discourage, or prohibit the ways we communicate, navigate our environments, and construct identity? You'll learn audio editing software to boot.

Projects and tasks:

There are three main projects: (1) A **Sonic Memoir** that begins with the sounds of your past, and then you'll talk about the importance of those sounds to you. (2) You'll produce a **Sonic Profile** of a particular place, event, or person of your choice. For example, think about your own advocacy and activism: If you care about the state of climate change, is there a particular sonic environment in jeopardy that you might profile? If you're a cyclist, how does sound play a part in riding safety in an urban area? (3) Finally, a **Sonic Tour**: You'll produce a short audio tour of a sonic space. Think of museum tours you might have been on that allow you to listen to histories or places, artifacts, and people.

Why you would take it:

The skills you'll learn in this course will add to the writing toolbox you carry around throughout other courses in WRTC. Podcasts and audio storytelling are all the rage right now, so think about how those potential employers brand themselves through audio. Do they? Or could they, once they know you've got that set of skills?

WRTC 352 Online Design

TT 2:20-3:35/Angela Crow

Overview:

This course helps you build portfolio pieces that demonstrate your ability to be an online (digital) content creator.

Projects:

You'll create two web projects, one that helps you learn HTML and CSS, and one that introduces you to Content Management Systems (CMS). Both projects are designed to help you learn and then demonstrate your ability to create content for online venues. In addition, you'll have the opportunity to increase your understanding of web design theory, particularly with regards to usability and accessibility.

Why you would take it:

This course offers you (more) practice with the overall skills for content creators and will help you feel more confident with your online design choices. The knowledge you gain will help you decide whether to pursue job ads that call for knowledge of CMS, HTML/CSS, Figma, and the Adobe Creative Suite.

WRTC 400 Advanced Editing

MWF 10:20-11:10/Scott Lunsford

Overview:

This course picks up where Professional Editing leaves off; we'll focus on editing style, content, and design with special consideration given to editing for inclusiveness. We'll also practice some of the essential tasks of freelancers, including writing contracts, Memos of Understanding, and transmittal letters; using project management software; and establishing and communicating fees.

Projects/Tasks:

The main focus is a semester-long team-based project working with a community client. Projects range from editing training materials to authoring annual reports. We'll also complete smaller projects that introduce editing for accessibility, indexing, and more.

Why you would take it:

This course will prepare students who want to freelance after graduation or who want to pursue editing careers in publishing, scientific fields, or the public sector.

WRTC 433: Animal Rhetorics

MW 3:25-4:40/Alex Parrish

Overview:

In this course we will explore the ways various peoples have defined the human as opposed to an animal other. What it is to be a human, a person, and an animal is not static; these definitions change over time and across cultures. What is universal, though, is the idea of a boundary between human and animal, and the ways we define either category helps define the other. Rhetorics of the Animal will feature readings from the history of rhetoric, biology, biosemiotics, and philosophy.

Projects/Tasks:

Assignments will include creative work, presentation, and a research component.

Why you would take it:

This course is an excellent choice for students interested in language and how it is used to define the self and the Other. Students interested in science and environmental writing will also find this course relevant.

WRTC 434 Advanced Popular Writing

TT 3:55-5:10/Heather Comfort

Overview:

This course will focus on writing about television and film.

Projects/tasks:

In this class you will read theory and examples of the genre. Most importantly, you will have the opportunity to write and to workshop your own publishable articles or artifacts to add to your professional portfolio. This class is writing intensive. You get to write using a genre that you already read or find fascinating.

Why you would take it:

This kind of writing introduces you to a larger conversation about a specific popular genre. This kind of writing brings depth to your professional writing portfolio. You want your employers to see that you are a versatile writer. You want them to hear the complexity of your voice.

WRTC 462 Government Writing

M 5:20-7:50/Sean McCarthy

Overview

Students who take Writing for Government (WRTC 462) join students from Political Science and Math and Statistics to participate in an interdisciplinary project called Hacking for Diplomacy. Students are placed on teams with students from three majors and work on real problems provided by government partners from the departments of State, Homeland Security, and Defense.

Projects/tasks

The course is focused on collaborative, interdisciplinary, problem-based learning. Throughout the semester, students are trained to use industry-based problem-solving and product development approaches such as

design thinking and The Lean Start Up methodology. WRTC students will learn many technical and professional communication skills such as interviewing, technical writing, user experience, designing real-world solutions with interdisciplinary teams, as well as presenting research and solutions to real clients. Students will also benefit from writing for a course website produced by the class every year. Check out this year's website [here](#).

Why you would take it

This course is all about working on real world problems, collaborating with experts from other disciplines, and having real world impact. If you are interested in working for government or industry, and want to develop highly marketable skill sets, then this course is for you. Seats are limited, so if you are interested in participating in this course, please complete this short survey: <https://forms.gle/QmqDyGR3ouF7kWeQ9>