

UWP 110: Specialized Genres in Professional Writing

Topic: User Experience
Documentation



What Requirements Does This Course Satisfy?

Professional Writing Minor, Group B:
Writing in the Professions
General Education: Arts & Humanities
(AH); Writing Experience (WE)

What Will I Learn To Do?

- Become familiar with prominent theories and practices guiding the design of usable and accessible information
- Conduct task analysis and create personas and use case scenarios to inform the writing and design of a documentation project
- Write modular content based on principles of minimalism, structured authoring, information mapping, and task orientation
- Integrate text, images, audio, and video into user experience materials
- Review, test, and evaluate user experience materials

Why Take This Course?

Employment of technical communicators (also called information designers and content strategists) is predicted to grow faster than average for all occupations. This is great news for professional writing minors and students with excellent communication skills.

Employers, however, are looking for communicators who can do more than just write well. Communicators need multimedia experience (the ability to combine online text with graphics, audio, video, and animation) as well as skills in designing user experience documentation. “Rapid growth and change in the high-technology and electronics industries,” according to the Occupational Outlook Handbook, “will result in a greater need for people who can write users' guides, instruction manuals, and training materials in a variety of formats and communicate information clearly to others.”