WRTC Major At-A-Glance: Science & Health Writing Track

Scientific and technological innovations abound in our society, yet we often fail to understand their immediate significance or implications for the future. This group of courses will provide you with a foundation in science and health writing to enable you to write to a mainstream audience about such innovations. Courses in this track focus on environmental change, public health crises, mental health, and more. This track will appeal to those interested in communicating the complexities of our world.

Core Program

(21 credits)

WRTC 200. Introduction to Studies in Writing, Rhetoric and Tech Comm Credits: 3.00
WRTC 300. Professional Editing Credits: 3.00
WRTC 301. Language, Law and Ethics Credits: 3.00
WRTC 316. Research Methodologies in WRTC Credits: 3.00
WRTC 350. Foundations of Technical Communication Credits: 3.00
WRTC 495. Internship in Writing, Rhetoric and Technical Communication Credits: 3.00
WRTC 496. Capstone in Writing, Rhetoric and Technical Communication Credits: 3.00

Suggested Culturally-Engaged Requirement (choose one)

(3 credits)

WRTC 318. Intercultural Communication Credits: 3.00
WRTC 470. Disability Rhetorics Credits: 3.00

Suggested Community-Engaged Requirement (choose one)

(3 credits)

WRTC 486. Writing in the Community Credits: 3.00
WRTC 488. Writing in the Health Sciences Credits: 3.00

Elective Courses (choose four)

(12 credits)

WRTC 326. Environmental Communication and Advocacy Credits: 3.00
WRTC 342: Writing Place Credits: 3.00
WRTC 358. Writing about Science and Technology Credits: 3.00
WRTC 416. Rhetoric of Environmental Science and Technology Credits: 3.00
WRTC 433. Animal Rhetorics Credits: 3.00
WRTC 458. Scientific and Medical Communication Credits: 3.00

WRTC Major At-A-Glance: Science & Health Writing Track

Suggested Minor Programs:

Health Communications
Medical Humanities
Science, Technology and Society
Environmental Humanities
Environmental Studies

Suggested Course Plan:

First semester:
WRTC 103
Second semester:
WRTC 200* Pre-req for all WRTC courses
Third semester:
WRTC 300 and WRTC 316** Pre-req for WRTC 350
Fourth semester:
WRTC 301 and WRTC 350
Fifth semester:
WRTC Culturally-engaged course and 1 WRTC elective
Sixth semester:
WRTC Community-engaged course and 1 WRTC elective
Seventh semester:
2 WRTC electives
Eighth semester:
WRTC 495 and WRTC 496

This document is provided as an advising resource only. Official curriculum requirements are listed in the JMU Undergraduate Catalog. In the case of discrepancies, the University Catalog is the official curriculum students must follow. This document was reviewed by Cynthia Martin, Director of Undergraduate Studies, on October 10, 2025.