WRTC Major At-A-Glance:
Writing for Law and Society Track

Language frames our understanding of society, forges the laws that govern it, and constructs power relationships within it. Courses in this track provide you with opportunities to explore the interactions between language, the law, and societal and cultural processes. Courses encourage students to consider the ethical dimensions of leadership and citizenry while introducing genres common to legal professions, government jobs, and nonprofit roles. This track will be of particular interest to students who plan to attend law school or pursue careers in public service.

Core Program

(21 credits)

WRTC 200. Introduction to Studies in Writing, Rhetoric and Tech Comm Credits: 3.00
WRTC 316. Research Methodologies in WRTC Credits: 3.00
WRTC 300. Professional Editing Credits: 3.00
WRTC 301. Language, Law and Ethics 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

Culturally Engaged Requirement (choose one)

(3 credits)

WRTC 420. Feminist Rhetorics Credits: 3.00
WRTC 470. Disability Rhetorics Credits: 3.00

Community Engaged Requirement (choose one)

(3 credits)

WRTC 480. Writing for Business and Industry Credits: 3.00
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 314. Writing in the Public Sphere Credits: 3.00
WRTC 330. Rhetorical Analysis and Criticism Credits: 3.00
WRTC 340. Writing as Leading Credits: 3.00
WRTC 460. Legal Writing Credits: 3.00
WRTC 462. Government Writing Credits: 3.00

WRTC Major At-A-Glance:
Writing for Law and Society Track

Suggested Minor Programs:

American Studies
Criminal Justice
Disability Studies
Humanitarian Affairs
Logic and Reason
Nonprofit Studies
Public Policy and Administration
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality 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.