This course is dedicated to intensive, advanced work on public, professional, and technical writing. The course provides sustained attention to achieving clarity of prose, with particular emphasis on editing, style, grammar, syntax, and mechanics. Students develop their skills as writers through drafting, revision, and peer review of original work, as well as through a collaborative editing project. 3 hours lecture.
This writing-intensive course focuses on the skills needed for effective communication in the workplace, with an emphasis on audience, genre, and use of technology. Students will learn how to construct persuasive proposals, executive summaries, and other professional writing documents. 3 hours lecture.
This course develops writing skills essential in technology, science, and industry, with an emphasis on task-oriented writing, mechanism and process description, collection/analysis of data, and recommendation reports. This course introduces students to various technical documentation software, content and project management tools, and usability testing. Students compose technical documents for use in print and various digital contexts. 3 hours hybrid/lecture.
This course explores how people write digitally, through multiple modalities and in varied contexts. Digital writers make use of all semiotic channels to communicate effectively among different groups and for different purposes, and thus students in this course will analyze and produce texts that combine alphabetic writing with audio, video, and images. This course will balance production and analysis, with students creating and critiquing digital texts. 3 hours lecture.
This course will contrast the way language is used in the contemporary United States by mainstream politicians with that of the social movements and activist groups who seek to disrupt the status quo and expose this rhetoric, and examine the tactics used to persuade and manipulate their audiences. Students will study the texts produced by these organizations -- platforms, manifestos, press releases, poems, tweets, etc. -- and the government's, mostly successful, work to undermine and destroy these groups. In addition to writing analyses of the political texts of others, students will also intervene in current political debates by composing their own persuasive political texts. 3 hours lecture.
This course studies rhetoric from the classical period to the present. Students will gain a working knowledge of rhetorical terms and an understanding of major theoretical trends. The course includes examination of major primary source materials, both spoken and written, with an emphasis on the place of rhetoric in civic, political, and cultural contexts. 3 hour lecture.
This course will provide students with the skills and tools to identify potential grant sources and will walk them through the steps to successful completion of the grant application process. Real-world examples and applications in the course will provide students with practical experience. 3 hours lecture.