

Throughout the semester, Introduction to Technical writing has greatly strengthened my ability to communicate effectively in professional contexts while also further showing me what it means to write with a purpose. The different assignments in the portfolio are proof that practicing these skills further moves towards a professional environment. These assignments have not only allowed me to grow as a student but as a professional capable of producing technical audience centered documents

One of the most impactful aspects of the course was learning what it means to be a professional writer. Through the workshops, analysis of the documents at hand, and discussions with the class I was able to further understand the atmosphere of professional discourse when it comes to producing documents and presentations. This mainly came into effect when doing the presentation in a professional setting rather than just another run of the mill school projects, fielding questions at the end in that manner really made it feel professional. These examples helped me understand how things such as accuracy, transparency, and design of products can inform decisions when it comes to writing. The collaborative components of the course further helped this professional atmosphere because it mirrored team settings in the workplace and helped with skills such as active listening and constructive feedback as well. These experiences helped me develop a professional identity bolstered by proper practice and responsible communication.

Another goal of the class was learning to write for a wide range of audiences and making specific rhetorical choices. This course showed me how I can shift my writing depending on readers' needs, backgrounds, and levels of expertise. Throughout the different assignments, I learned to create reader centered texts that answer questions that the audience may have before the end of the document. This awareness will continue to guide my writing in an academic and professional setting

A major strength of taking the course was its emphasis on communicating through common workplace practices, such as an Agile approach to team work etc. Producing memos, reports, proposals, and instructional documents helped me understand how much of a variety there is to professional writing. Each genre required different approaches to organization and style, and many assignments allowed me to further my career interests. Learning how to choose the appropriate genre for a task is a skill I expect to use long after the course ends.

Revision was another essential part of my development. Feedback from my instructor and classmates pushed me to rethink my work and improve on it. Drafting, revising, and proofreading became easier as I worked to transform early drafts into polished documents. This was especially apparent in the assignments in the portfolio having to do with InDesign as I was very inexperienced with the software. This process taught me to view writing as an ongoing task rather than one-and-done, a mindset that will benefit me in any workplace.

Finally the course also reinforced the importance of grammar, clarity, and organization within my products. Practicing these helped make these different choices which influenced my work and professional appearance. Overall this course shaped me into a thoughtful and audience aware communicator that is greater prepared for the workplace.