

Bachelor of Science

Interdisciplinary Studies with a Major in Professional Writing (BS)

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The professional writing major produces graduates capable of moving into professional and technical writing roles across various fields. Students in this major complete a professional writing foundations core in addition to an organizational foundations core in areas such as artificial intelligence, business, and human resources. This major is ideal for returning students already working who are interested in expanding their management skills and/or increasing their eligibility for promotion.

Some courses in the professional writing major are available online only.

Topics courses, such as ENGL 395/ENGL 495, COMM 395/COMM 396, etc., must be approved by the student's advisor to ensure that the topic is appropriate for the major. No more than two classes, or six credits, may be counted for both the major and a minor.

Requirements

Course requirements are as follows.

Lower-Division General Education

Written Communication (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#written)	6
Oral Communication (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#oral)	3
Mathematics (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#math)	3
Language and Culture (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#language)	0-6
Information Literacy and Research (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#information)	3
Human Behavior (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#behavior)	3
Human Creativity (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#creativity)	3
Interpreting the Past (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#interpret)	3
Literature (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#literature)	3
Philosophy and Ethics (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#philosophy)	3
The Nature of Science (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#nature)	8
Impact of Technology (https://catalog.odu.edu/undergraduate/requirements-undergraduate-degrees/#impact)	3

Written Communication: Grade of C or better required in both courses and in ENGL 110C before declaring major.

Philosophy and Ethics requirement can be met by PHIL 303E

Impact of Technology requirement met by ENGL 307T/IDS 307T.

Upper-Division General Education

Met in the major.

Requirements for Graduation

Requirements for graduation include the following:

- Minimum of 120 credit hours.
- Minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours of upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University.
- Minimum overall cumulative grade point average of C (2.00) in all courses taken.
- Minimum overall cumulative grade point average of C (2.00) in all courses taken toward the major.
- Minimum overall cumulative grade point average of C (2.00) in all courses taken toward a minor.
- Completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or ENGL 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better. The W course must be taken at Old Dominion University.
- Completion of Senior Assessment.

Interdisciplinary Studies Core

IDS 300W	Interdisciplinary Theory and Concepts *	3
IDS 301	Data and Humanities Research **	3
IDS 493	IDS Electronic Portfolio Project **	3
Total Credit Hours		9

* Offered online only. Grade of C or better required.

** Offered online only. Grade of C- or better required.

Writing Foundations Core

Required of all students (required grade of C- or better):

IDS/ENGL 307T	Digital Writing	3
IDS 310	Introduction to Professional Writing	3
COMM 335W	Rhetorical Criticism	3
	or ENGL 325 Introduction to Rhetorical Studies	
Total Credit Hours		9

Organizational Foundations Core

Required grade of C- or better; meets upper-division general education.

Select three from the following: 9

AI 301	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Literacy: Concepts and Implications
AI 302	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Literacy: Applications and Responsible Use
AI 315	Artificial Intelligence in Content Creation
AI 446	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Ethics and Policy
CS 300T	Computers in Society
HMSV 339	Interpersonal Relations
IDS 400	Study Abroad
IDS 494	Entrepreneurship in Interdisciplinary Studies
IDS 496	Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies
MGMT 325	Contemporary Organizations and Management
MGMT 327	Business Communication
MGMT 330	Organizational Behavior
MGMT 340	Human Resource Management
MKTG 311	Marketing Principles and Problems
MKTG 402	Consumer Behavior
MKTG 411	Multi-National Marketing
PHIL 303E	Business Ethics
PSYC 303	Industrial/Organizational Psychology
PSYC 343	Personnel Psychology
PSYC 344	Human Factors
PSYC 345	Organizational Psychology
SEPS 302	Workforce Supervision Management

WGS 390T	Women, Gender, and Technology Worldwide
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Total Credit Hours **9**

Upper Division Professional Writing Core

Required grade of C- or better; meets upper-division general education.

Select three from the following: **9**

COMM 303	Introduction to Strategic Communications
COMM 304	Advanced Public Speaking
COMM 305	Work-Life Communication
COMM 308W	Effective Media Writing
COMM 351	Interpersonal Communication in Organizations
COMM 355	Organizational Communication
COMM 400W	Intercultural Communication
CPD 409	Leadership and Cultural Competence
CPD 410	Leadership Ethics
CPD 417	Digital Leadership
ENGL 334W	Technical Writing
ENGL 350	Aspects of the English Language
ENGL 427W	Writing in the Disciplines
ENGL 435W	Management Writing
ENGL 436	Writing for the Government
IDS 368	Internship in Interdisciplinary Studies

Total Credit Hours **9**

Professional Writing Major

General Education

Complete lower-division requirements **35-44**

Complete upper-division requirements (met in the major)

Interdisciplinary Studies Core **9**

Writing Foundations Core **9**

Organizational Foundations Core **9**

Upper Division Professional Writing Core **9**

Total Credit Hours **71-80**

Electives

Elective courses may be taken for the remainder of the minimum 120 credits required for the degree.

Honors Program in Interdisciplinary Studies

Qualified students in the interdisciplinary studies majors may earn honors by fulfilling all degree requirements and meeting the honors requirements listed below.

1. Attain an overall grade point average of 3.25.
2. Attain a grade point average in the major of 3.5.
3. Complete two upper-division courses designated as honors courses: IDS 300W and IDS 493.
4. Complete at least 60 credits at Old Dominion University, 54 of which must be in grade-point graded courses.

An application for departmental honors must be provided by the student for approval by the Director of Interdisciplinary Programs.

Degree Program Guide

The Degree Program Guide is a suggested curriculum to complete this degree program in four years. It is just one of several plans that will work and is presented only as broad guidance to students. Each student is strongly

encouraged to develop a customized plan in consultation with their academic advisor. Additional information can also be found in Degree Works.

Course	Title	Credit Hours
Freshman		
Fall		
ENGL 110C	English Composition (Grade of C or better required)	3
Human Creativity		3
Interpreting the Past		3
Oral Communication		3
Elective or Language and Culture I (May be waived; See requirement details)		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
Human Behavior		3
Mathematical Skills		3
Information Literacy and Research		3
Philosophy and Ethics (Can be met with PHIL 303E)		3
Elective or Language and Culture II (May be waived; See requirement details)		3
Credit Hours		15
Sophomore		
Fall		
ENGL 211C or ENGL 231C	Writing, Rhetoric, and Research (Grade of C or better required) or Writing, Rhetoric, and Research: Special Topics	3
Literature		3
Nature of Science I		4
Elective course		3
Elective course		3
Credit Hours		16
Spring		
Nature of Science II		4
Elective course		3
Elective course		3
Elective course		3
Elective course		3
Credit Hours		16
Junior		
Fall		
IDS 300W	Interdisciplinary Theory and Concepts (Grade of C or better required)	3
COMM 335W or ENGL 325	Rhetorical Criticism * or Introduction to Rhetorical Studies	3
ENGL/IDS 307T	Digital Writing (meets Impact of Technology) *	3
IDS 310	Introduction to Professional Writing *	3
Organizational Foundations course *		3
Credit Hours		15

Spring		
IDS 301	Data and Humanities Research *	3
Organizational Foundations course *		3
Organizational Foundations course *		3
Professional Writing course *		3
Professional Writing course *		3
Credit Hours		15
Senior		
Fall		
Professional Writing course *		3
Electives		10
Credit Hours		13
Spring		
IDS 493	IDS Electronic Portfolio Project *	3
Electives		12
Credit Hours		15
Total Credit Hours		120

* Grade of C- or better required.

Requirements for admission to the graduate program can be found in the School of Public Service section of the Graduate Catalog (<https://catalog.odu.edu/graduate/business/public-service/>). For additional information, please contact the School of Public Service in the Strome College of Business.

BA or BS to MBA (Master of Business Administration) Dual Dominion Program

The Dual Dominion BA/MBA or BS/MBA program is an early entry to the MBA program of study. The early-entry program is designed for well qualified non-business undergraduate ODU students to start their MBA program prior to completing their undergraduate degree. Well qualified non-business undergraduate students may take MBA-level courses as early as three semesters prior to graduation and count up to 12 graduate credits toward their undergraduate degree. Students participating in the early-entry program must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree and 30 discrete credit hours for the graduate degree). Early-entry program students should carefully consider their undergraduate degree program requirements when planning their course of study. Students in the early-entry program work in close consultation with the MBA Program Office and should refer to information in the Strome College of Business section in the graduate catalog (<https://catalog.odu.edu/graduate/stromecollegeofbusiness/>) to develop an individualized plan of study based on the required coursework.

BA or BS to MPA (Master of Public Administration) Dual Dominion Program

The Dual Dominion BA/MPA or BS/MPA program provides qualified Old Dominion University undergraduate students with the opportunity to earn a master's degree in public administration while taking credits in the MPA program as an undergraduate student. The program is designed for highly motivated students with the desire to immediately continue their education after the bachelor's degree. The program is especially relevant to individuals seeking to work (or currently working) in the public or non-profit sectors, but is suitable for students from any undergraduate major. Graduate courses may be taken during the fall and spring semester of the student's senior undergraduate year. Up to 12 graduate credits can count toward both the undergraduate and graduate degree and can meet upper-level General Education requirements. After receiving the undergraduate degree, a student will continue with the MPA program, taking MPA courses until completing the required 39 credit hours. Students in the Dual Dominion program must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree and 30 discrete credit hours for the graduate degree).