

Course: ARCH4050 / ENGL2116 FALL 2023
Introduction to Technical/Professional Writing

Instructor: Melodye Gordon

Hours: TR 2:30-3:45 pm

“Good writing is impressive, great writing is invisible.”

— Roy Furr



Premise:

Technical writing, sometimes called business or professional writing, describes writing that occurs in a business or work setting. University offices, corporations, research centers, hospitals, businesses of all sizes, even nonprofit organizations produce large quantities of technical writing, which differs from academic writing in several important ways.

— *The Essentials of Technical Communication*

Objectives:

The primary objective is to introduce learners to appropriate technical/professional writing skills. Secondary objectives are to:

- Develop a field-specific vocabulary
- Plan, draft, and revise documents and presentations, integrating textual and visual elements
- Work and write collaboratively



Structure (*subject to change*):

English 2116 is designed for advanced-writing students in architecture, engineering, natural sciences, computer sciences, business, communication, and English studies. We will concentrate on writing in a variety of technical forms of discourse and engage critical thinking and writing by developing our writing processes and producing finished prose—both technical and expository. We will also emphasize discovering our writing processes, secondary research, and problem-solving, recognizing the rhetorical character of technical and professional discourse with its multiple purposes and audiences.