

ENGL 3601: Technical and Professional Writing

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In today's fast-paced digital world, the ability to communicate complex ideas clearly is not just helpful—it is essential. This course gives you the tools to excel in workplace writing, from crafting crystal-clear emails to designing user guides that make sense. Students will dive into real-world challenges, like explaining tricky concepts to different audiences, making documents that catch and keep attention, and using the latest digital gadgets and gizmos, including Gen AI chatbots, to streamline their writing processes. Students will learn practical skills that employers love, like creating eye-catching visuals, writing for both humans and search engines, and turning complicated data into stories that stick. But this course is not just about the basics.

As workspace-friendly and workflow-augmenting tools and technology reshape how we work, we will explore cutting-edge practices that put you ahead of the curve. You will discover how to team up with your peers and co-workers to engage in a collaborative project such as the iFixit project and wiki-based collaborative work. From writing user manuals and progress reports to reports and proposals to integrating graphics into technical documents, students will get ample time and space to hone their erstwhile skills to elegant efficiency. Whether students break down technical jargon for a client presentation, craft engaging user/maintenance/repair/troubleshooting manuals, or design user-friendly interfaces, this course prepares them for the new world of work. By the end, students will have a portfolio of real-world projects and the confidence to tackle any communication challenge that comes their way.