



## WRD Courses Winter Quarter 2024

### MAJOR REQUIRED COURSE

WRD 210 Cultural Rhetorics | T/TH 2:40-4:10 FLEX LPC

### EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING COURSE (Majors must take a WRD EL Course)

WRD 371 Mentoring Youth in Community Writing Groups | T/TH 11:20-12:50 LPC | EL/LSP  
EL | WCP

### MAJOR AND MINOR ELECTIVES

WRD 204 Technical Writing | M/W 11:50-1:20 LOOP; 3 sections Online Asynchronous | WCP

WRD 220 How Language Works | M/W 9:40-11:10 LPC | SCBI Domain for Minors | RHTA

WRD 240 Argumentative Writing | Online Asynchronous | WCP

WRD 241 The Essay from Print to New Media | Online Asynchronous | AL Domain for Minors |  
WCP

WRD 242 Writing With AI | T/TH 1:00-2:30 LPC | Pending: SCBI Domain for Minors | WCP

WRD 261 Digital Culture | M/W 11:20-12:50 LPC | SCBI Domain for Minors | RHTA

WRD 266 Leveling Up: The Social Rhetoric of Video Games | M/W 1-2:30 LPC FLEX | SCBI  
Domain for Minors | RHTA

WRD 390 Rhetoric and Public Writing | M/W 2:40-4:10 LPC | LSP Capstone | RHTA

WCP: Writing in Communities and Professions electives ; RHTA: Rhetorical History, Theory, and Analysis electives

### DOMAIN CREDIT

WRD Professional Writing Minors can get *both* elective and LSP domain credit for these courses:

AL - Arts and Literature: WRD 241

SCBI - Social, Cultural, and Behavioral Inquiry: WRD 220, WRD 261, WRD 266, possibly WRD  
242 (status pending)

### SUBSTITUTIONS

Students in old major should consult with their advisor if core substitutions are needed.

## WRD204: Technical Writing

M/W 11:50-1:20 Loop	Instructor: Tim Elliott
Online Asynchronous	Instructor: Antonio Ceraso
Online Asynchronous	Instructor: Allison Pelletier
Online Asynchronous	Instructor: Aleshia Jefferson

### Major and Minor elective

**Course Description:** In this course, students learn to communicate and interpret specialized information for readers' practical use. The course highlights the action-oriented goals of technical writing and the importance of accurately communicating information to users. The course provides an overview of key issues related to technical writing such as usability, audience analysis, designing pages and screens, effective collaboration with peers, interpreting and presenting data, and writing clearly and persuasively. Students learn to write, revise and present common technical writing genres such as instructions, tutorials, manuals, reports, product/process descriptions, proposals, and oral presentations.

## WRD210: Cultural Rhetorics

T/TH 2:40-4:10 LPC (FLEX)

### Major Requirement

**Instructor:** Monica Reyes

**Course Description:** Are you interested in how cultures make meaning? How do your own cultures (racial, ethnic, work, friends) communicate and accomplish goals? In this course, students will explore how rhetoric and culture are overlapping and interdependent concepts. Students will also examine how culture and meaning-making are produced through relationships, symbols, material conditions, locations, and ordinary day-to-day practices.

More →

## WRD220: How Language Works

M/W 9:40-11:10 LPC

**Major and Minor elective**

**Social, Cultural, and Behavioral Inquiry domain**

**Instructor:** Jason Schneider

**Course Description:** In this course we will explore language as a complex, naturally occurring system that is central to human life. As we delve into the field of linguistics, some of our topics will include the sounds of language (phonetics and phonology), the structures of sentences and words (syntax and morphology), the relationship between language and the mind (cognitive linguistics), the way that context shapes meaning (pragmatics), and the development of linguistic competence (language acquisition). Our aim will be to understand how the processes of language work in concert to allow humans to create and share meaning. You will gain new ways to think about language in your own life, including both written and spoken language. This is an introductory course, so no previous knowledge of linguistics or language study is required. This course also meets requirements for the Linguistics Minor.

## WRD240: Argumentative Writing

Online Asynchronous

**Major and Minor elective**

**Instructor:** Monica Reyes

**Course Description:** What makes some arguments more effective than others? What is the difference between an argument and a fight? How can we argue so that others will listen? In this course, we will answer these questions by reading, analyzing, and evaluating the arguments of others, and then move on to developing various arguments of our own. We will focus on strategies for identifying issues, determining positions, assessing claims and reasons, locating and evaluating supporting evidence, and writing arguments that are clear and convincing.

## WRD241: The Essay From Print to New Media

Online Asynchronous

**Major and Minor elective**  
**Arts and Literature domain**

**Instructor:** Justin Staley

**Course Description:** In this course we will explore the essay from its origins in alphabetic text to contemporary renditions in film, audio, and interactive media. We will consider how essayists work simultaneously within loose genre boundaries to meet aesthetic and persuasive ends, with close attention to the social, political, and historical contexts in which writers and readers operate. By composing your own essays, in varied media and with theoretical and historical understanding, you will explore the essay as art and craft, as well as social action and cultural production.

## WRD242: Writing With AI

T/TH 1:00-2:30 LPC

**Major and Minor elective\***  
**Approval Pending: Social, Cultural, and Behavioral Inquiry domain**

**Instructor:** Margaret Poncin

**Course Description:** In this course, you'll use artificial intelligence tools to aid in your composing process. In doing so, you'll explore different AI tools, learn some prompt engineering skills, and better understand the potentials, pitfalls, and paradoxes of using AI to write. We'll also consider the larger social impact of generative AI: Is it an equalizer or reinforcer of bias? How will it affect education and the workplace? What about creative writers and artists? And what does this leap in artificial intelligence teach us about what it means to be human?

\*This course IS an approved WRD elective; it's new and may not appear as such in your DPR. Ask your advisor to manually add the elective credit.

## WRD261: Digital Culture

M/W 11:20-12:50 LPC

### Major and Minor elective

Social, Cultural, and Behavioral Inquiry domain

**Instructor:** Jason Kalin

**Course Description:** Why are all these people tweeting? What were they thinking? What is an internet meme? What is a TikTok? Why am I seeing this? We live in a culture in which digital technologies form a fundamental part of everyday life, shaping how we work and play, live and learn, think and write. This course offers a rhetorical approach to our contemporary digital culture, asking you to think about how digital technologies connect and disconnect us and what kinds of digital innovations are shaping individual behaviors and social practices. We will study issues related to attention, algorithms, and artificial intelligence along with internet memes and viral media.

## WRD266: Leveling Up: The Social Rhetoric of Video Games

M/W 1:00-2:30 LPC (FLEX)

### Major and Minor elective

Social, Cultural, and Behavioral Inquiry domain

**Instructor:** Alan Ackmann

**Course Description:** Since the rise of the arcade in the 1980s, the persuasive potential of video games has evolved alongside the medium itself. This course will explore video games as both a reflection and engine of culture, as seen through gamers' rhetorical action. Among other topics, we'll explore: video games and identity, the rhetorical context of games and online spaces, video games as participatory rhetoric, games as artistic and persuasive texts, and discourse communities surrounding gaming. Through the course, you'll gain a deeper understanding of video games as a vibrant, emerging form of expression.

## WRD371: Mentoring Youth in Community Writing Groups

T/TH 11:20-12:50 LPC

**Major and Minor elective**  
**Experiential Learning (EL/LSP EL)\***

**Instructor:** Jen Finstrom

**Course Description:** This course is for any student who is interested in both mentoring young writers and understanding how writing in community functions as an identity-building process. In this class, you will have the opportunity to not only provide feedback for high school writers in a virtual small group setting, but also to pay occasional visits to them at their school and host them at DePaul. Course readings will address the value of writing groups and communities, attention to writing as a process, and best practices for effective and empowering feedback on writing. You will also reflect extensively on the intersection of identity, community, and mentoring through writing. \*Note: This course fulfills both the major's EL requirement and the Liberal Studies EL requirement.

## WRD390: Rhetoric and Public Writing

M/W 2:40-4:10 LPC

**Major and Minor elective**  
**Liberal Studies Capstone**

**Instructor:** Jason Kalin

**Course Description:** In this section of WRD's LSP Capstone, we will explore current scholarship that seeks to define "the public" or "publics" and the possibilities for using rhetorical action to explore, understand, and engage in the co-construction of public life. We will study how rhetoric and writing are changing in response to digital technologies and how questions of power, difference, and representation are renewed. The course will function as a seminar and as a practicum: we will study how we might engage meaningfully in public deliberation to inspire tactics for individual and collective rhetorical action.