

ENGLISH 4330: WRITING IN THE PROFESSIONS: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Summer 2024 (July 03 to Aug 02) | Section 01 | CRN 42349 | 3.0 credits | Online

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Virtual Office Hours: MF 10:00 am to 11:00 am via Zoom office by appointment.	Prerequisite: ENGL 1301, ENGL 1302, & ENGL 3330

Course Description

Welcome to ENGL 4330: Writing in the Professions: Artificial Intelligence! This interdisciplinary technical writing course allows students to explore the conventions and practices of various fields through a rhetorical lens. This means that students will examine technical communication not merely as words on a page, but as a complex and creative activity that networks of humans use to achieve their goals in professional and technical settings.

ENGL 4330 helps students delve into the world of generative AI tools like ChatGPT, which are rapidly transforming the field of technical writing. Students learn to use these tools to enhance their reading and writing in a critically informed manner and explore the impact of these tools on the professional fields of their choice.

Course Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Develop the ability to research and recommend AI-driven strategies to address professional challenges in a specific field.
- Write, edit, and design ethically and inclusively for specific people and situations in technical contexts.
- Foster the skills to research and write a professional recommendation report on AI's impact in a specific field.
- Show rhetorical awareness and writing proficiency across various contexts, adhering to disciplinary genre conventions and reflecting on writing development.
- Implement flexible strategies for designing and redesigning communication in technical contexts and across different modalities.

IDEA COURSE OBJECTIVES

Towards the conclusion of the semester, you will participate in a course evaluation for this class. As part of this assessment, you will receive a list of course objectives and be prompted to identify the most significant objectives within the context of the course. Throughout this class, our focus will be on achieving the following IDEA learning objectives:

- Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (the theories, practices, and applications of technical communication and social media)
- Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing

Required Materials

There is no textbook for this course. All materials will be made available on Blackboard or through the SHSU Newton Greshman Library at library.shsu.edu.

Access/Accommodations

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities, located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). I also encourage you to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will remain strictly confidential. *Note:* I can make accommodations only after you've registered with Services for Students with Disabilities, and I've received relevant paperwork from that office. Study this site [for more information about registering](#) for these services.

Grading

The course grade will be determined as follows:

Assignment	Points*	Quality of Work	Point Range	Grade
✧Project 1: Prompt Engineering Portfolio	200	Excellent work – exceeds all requirements with minimal or no errors.	1000–900	A
✧Project 2: Advocacy Story Design	200	Very-good/good work – exceeds/meets most requirements with few significant errors.	899–800	B
✧Project 3: Recommendation Report	220	Fair/adequate work – meets most/some requirements, but with fundamental errors.	799–700	C
✧Project 4: Recommendation Remix	200	Flawed work – meets few requirements; has excessive errors.	699–600	D
Peer Review Workshop	100	Does not meet the assignment's requirements. In the workplace, your supervisor would assume that you don't care about your job.	Below 600	F
Discussion Posts	50			
Syllabus Quiz	20			
Class Introductions	10			
TOTAL	1000			

***You must complete all four projects to pass the class.**

Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Please be aware that plagiarized work and any form of academic dishonesty will result in an "F" on the assignment and possible university disciplinary action. SHSU Academic Policy Statement 810213 outlines the definition of academic honesty and the related disciplinary procedures.

You should also familiarize yourself with Academic Policy Statement 900823, which outlines the procedures for students to file an academic grievance should you wish to appeal your grade for reasons other than academic dishonesty. Please read over these policies.

Contacting the Instructor

Please contact me via email at sbp029@shsu.edu. I will respond within 24 hours on the weekdays and 48 hours on weekends. Please do not expect a reply after 7:00 pm CST.

Late Work

No late work will be accepted for any reason. Assignment due dates and class activities are shared with you ahead of time so that you can integrate your personal and professional schedules with your academic schedule. If you have a serious issue that keeps you from meeting a course deadline, please contact me so that we can work out a suitable solution. Additionally, if you are going to be away from a computer for an extended period

and cannot complete your online assignments as scheduled, please let me know so that we can arrange suitable substitute dates.

- **Other Policies:** Be sure to study SHSU's policies about [Religious Holy Days](#) and [Visitors in the Classroom](#).
- **Course Evaluations:** At the end of the semester, you will be given the opportunity to evaluate your professor (me) anonymously.

What If I Get Stuck?

If you're struggling with course content, projects, or deadlines, please talk with me sooner rather than later! You can always send me an email to ask a question or schedule an appointment with me.

Attendance

In an online class, the term attendance might seem like an oxymoron; however, the importance of regular access and engagement with class materials is imperative to your learning and to the satisfactory completion of this course.

W-Course Expectations

This is a "W" course, which means that at least 50 percent of your course grade will derive from writing activities designed to help you master course objectives. Writing in this course is one of the tools your instructor will use to help you learn course material. Some writing activities will require you to draft and revise your work, with or without instructor feedback. Others may not receive a grade but are designed to assist you in critical reflection of the course material. You should approach writing in this course as a tool to use as part of your learning as well as a tool your instructor will use to assess your level of learning.

Virtual Office Forum

I hold virtual office hours (when you can drop in and out of Blackboard Collaborate) on Mondays and Fridays from 10 am-11 am (Central Time). I am also available to correspond via emails and Blackboard messages. Please contact me directly by e-mail or Blackboard message.

Student with Disabilities

If you are eligible for academic accommodations because you have a documented disability that will impact your work in this class, please schedule an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss your needs. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Disability Resource Center for an impairment/condition that may require accommodations and/or classroom modifications.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Integrity is especially important in professional writing because you need to learn how to do your own work, and you don't want to run afoul of copyright laws. You will be responsible for producing original work in this course. If you hand in work that is not your own, you will fail the assignment and/or the course and report to the Dean of Students. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Please be aware that plagiarized work and any form of academic dishonesty will result in an "F" on the assignment. SHSU [Academic Policy Statement 810213](#) outlines the definition of academic honesty and the related disciplinary procedures.

You should also familiarize yourself with [Academic Policy Statement 900823](#), which outlines the procedures for students to file an academic grievance should you wish to appeal your grade for reasons other than academic dishonesty. Please read over these policies. Absences on Religious Holy Days, Students with Disabilities, and other information about your rights and responsibilities as a member of this class can be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus>. Additionally, you will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

As artificial intelligence, primarily in the form of chatbots, has further evolved, we must address the use of AI-assisted writing in a writing classroom. As a technical communicator, I recognize that professional writers will increasingly collaborate with AI to produce documentation. Originality remains a core value in higher education and professional contexts. To that end, I do allow and at times even encourage students to use technological resources at their disposal, including AI, to assist them with developing their original work. When using AI, students should:

- Use AI to assist in short inquiries, to offer guidance on formatting or structure, or for inspiration (as you might use other digital tools when seeking assistance)
- Disclose the assistance of AI when you use the technology to create an image or draft-specific language that gets included in your work.
- Offer enough detail regarding disclosure so that I am clear on which information was taken from AI and where your own thoughts, knowledge, and practice intersect.

Submitting work entirely or substantially generated through AI is unethical and a mix of plagiarism, collusion, and abuse of academic resources. Doing so will result in a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

The following schedule provides an overview of the topics that we'll cover and the general pace for readings/assignments. Because our course will be organized by Learning Modules in Blackboard, full assignment details and dates will be provided within each module. Please note that all dates are approximate and subject to change.