



College of Science · Computer Science

Technical Writing Workshop

CS100W Sect 08 Fall 2026

T/TH@4:30-5:45 MacQuarrie Hall 233

Instructor: Rob Ashcom

Email: Messaging through Canvas preferred
(rob.ashcom@sjsu.edu)

Office: Tuesday 6pm Zoom

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3203767487>

Course Description and Requisites

Advanced writing through preparation of technical reports and presentations. Improving skills for writing subject-related reports, project proposals and personal resumes through practice and evaluation. Course assignments will be related to issues concerning careers in computer science.

Satisfies Writing in the Disciplines (WID).

Prerequisite(s): A3 or equivalent second semester composition course (with a grade of C- or better); completion of core GE; and upper division standing. Or Graduate or Postbaccalaureate level. Allowed Declared Majors: Computer Science, Data Science, Computer Science and Linguistics, or Mathematics.

Grading: Letter Graded

Note(s): Must be passed with C or better to satisfy the CSU Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR).

Program Information

Writing in the Disciplines (WID) courses develop students' abilities to communicate effectively in their major course of study and in their careers. With an emphasis on critical thinking, these

upper-division core courses advance students' understanding of the genres, audiences, and purposes of college writing while preparing them for successful communication in their chosen professions. Completing Writing in the Disciplines with a C or better is an SJSU graduation requirement.

Writing in the Disciplines Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of a Writing in the Disciplines course, students should be able to:

1. explain, analyze, develop, and critique ideas effectively, including ideas encountered in multiple readings and expressed in different forms of discourse;
2. organize and develop complete discipline-specific texts and other documents for both professional and general audiences, using appropriate editorial and citation standards; and
3. locate, organize, and synthesize information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose, and to communicate that purpose in writing;
4. produce discipline-specific written work that demonstrates upper-division proficiency in language use, grammar, and clarity of expression.

Writing Practice: Students will write a minimum of 8000 words, at least 4000 of which must be in revised final draft form.

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](#), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](#) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Weeks	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 1-26, 1-28	Intros - Two Truths and a Lie Team-Building/Group Dynamics	Course outline, free-writing, resources
Week 2 2-2, 2-4	Name recap. Intro to Professional Writing What is Professionalism? <i>ProValues In Class</i>	Professional Writing cont. Recognizing & using reciprocity <i>PVP Builder In Class</i>
Week 3 2-9, 2-11	Creating your professional representation <i>HW Lang Discussion #1</i>	Elevator Pitch how-to. LinkedIn individual profile reviews. <i>HW Lang Discussion #2</i>
Week 4 2-16, 2-18	PVP review in class	Career Center website Orientation

Week 5 2-23, 2-25	Resume and LI reviews by peers & instructor	Resume and LI reviews by peers & instructor
Week 6 3-2, 3-4	Intro to Technical Writing. Recommendation Reports.	Key Concepts 25 sentences group work.
Week 7 3-9, 3-11	Intro to Informational Interviews	Dunning. Reciprocity. LI strategies.
Week 8 3-16, 3-18	MLK Library Resources Workshop (date may change)	Start source matrix. Conceptual dump.
Week 3-23, 3-25	Typographic/Graphic Design	Outlining of Tasks. Consider Sources.
Week 10 3-30, 4-1	Paraphrasing.	Synthesizing.
Week 11 4-6, 4-8	Using images. Tables and figures in APA.	APA kahoot.
Week 12 4-13, 4-15	Cross-group draft peer-review	Group conferences.
Week 13 4-20, 4-22	Infographics. Truth in representation.	Preparing presentation of reports.
Week 14 4-27, 4-29	Presentations + Reviews (3 min)	Presentations
Week 15 5-4, 5-6	Presentations	Presentations
Week 16 May 11	Pro Package Due	No Class

Finals week 12/8	NO Final	
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