Technical Communication, BS

LSTECBS

Learn to make complex technical information clear to others --- a sought-after skill in today's world. Apply effective writing and visual design to produce and manage content that helps others understand complex information.

Program description

Technical communication is applied workplace communication that makes technical or specialized information understandable and available to many different users. It involves using a range of technologies to craft an ever-expanding array of print and digital information products: websites, social media sites, help files, training materials, grants and proposals, and data visualizations, to name just a few.

Technical communicators work in many professional roles, such as information developers, grant writers, web interface designers or user experience specialists. What all of these roles have in common is the focus on creating accessible and appealing communication that has a practical purpose and is intended for a particular audience.

Students in the technical communication program learn how to analyze, write, design, produce and manage print and digital information using traditional and developing technologies.

This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: Polytechnic campus. Students from Western states who select this major and campus may be eligible for reduced nonresident tuition at a rate of 150% of Arizona resident tuition plus all applicable fees. Students should click the link for more information and eligibility requirements of the WUE program.

At a glance

- **College/School:** College of Integrative Sciences and Arts
- **Location:** Polytechnic ᵂᵁᴱ or Online, ASU Local

- **Second language requirement:** No
- **First required math course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
  or any math course that meets the MATH designation
- **Math intensity:** General

Required courses (Major Map)

2024 - 2025 Major Map (on-campus)
2024 - 2025 Major Map (online)
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent program options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Admission requirements

General university admission requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
First-year | Transfer | International | Readmission

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should visit the Change of Major form for information about how to change a major to this program.

Attend online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program's ASU Online page for program descriptions and to request more information.

ASU Local

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with ASU Local, an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support.

Transfer options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU® to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey.

Global opportunities

Global experience
Students who learn technical communication while studying abroad will have an advantage in many workplaces. Having a global view of applied workplace communication, they become well-rounded communicators, able to use various print and digital information products to relate technical and specialized information. Through participation in one of the more than 300 available Global Education programs, students expand their scope of learning beyond the classroom and gain hands-on experience in different and exciting cultures.

Many of the School of Applied Professional Studies programs allow students to earn credit toward their major for their experiences studying abroad.

Career opportunities

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that job growth in technical writing will grow higher than average during the next 10 years, at a rate of 7%. Software and electronics companies, media corporations, financial institutions, government agencies, nonprofits and other areas will see an increased demand for writers.

Students in the program prepare for careers such as:

- communication manager
- content strategist
- data visualization specialist

- engineering support specialist
- information architect
- new media or social media specialist
- public relations specialist
- technical writer
- user experience specialist
- web content creator

Example job titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience and geographical location may affect pay scales. Some jobs also may require advanced degrees, certifications or state-specific licensure.

Career	*Growth	*Median salary
Communications Specialist	3.7%	$73,150
Computer Support Specialist ☀	5.0%	$57,890
Document Management Specialist ☀	9.7%	$98,740
IT Project Manager ☀	9.7%	$98,740
Instructional Specialist	2.5%	$66,490
SEO Specialist ☀	13.4%	$68,230
Technical Writer ☀	6.9%	$79,960
Web Developer ☀	17.0%	$78,580

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook

Contact information

School of Applied Professional Studies | SANCA 233
CISA@asu.edu | 480-727-1526