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.

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

The BS degree program in technical communication in the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts is the only undergraduate technical communication degree program available in the state of Arizona.

Those interested in the technical communication online program may visit the ASU Online website for more information.

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 or Online, ASU Local
- **Additional Program Fee:** No
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
  OR any math course that meets the MA designation
- **Math Intensity:** General

Required Courses (Major Map)

- [2023 - 2024 Major Map (On-campus)](#)
- [2023 - 2024 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 college, 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
Those who study abroad while learning technical communication will have an advantage in many workplaces. Understanding the global view of applied workplace communication, students become well-rounded communicators, able to utilize various print and digital information products to relate technical and specialized information. More information on available programs can be found on the Global Education website.

Career Opportunities

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that job growth in technical writing and related areas will continue to be significantly higher than average during the next five years. 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 these:
• 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

Career example titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience, geographical location, and required advanced degrees or certifications may affect pay scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communications Specialist</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>$73,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Support Specialist (?)</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>$57,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document Management Specialist (?)</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>$98,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor</td>
<td></td>
<td>$73,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT Project Manager (?)</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>$98,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Specialist</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>$66,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEO Specialist (?)</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>$68,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Writer (?)</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>$79,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Developer (?)</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>$78,580</td>
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* 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

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