Writing, Public Speaking, and Critical Reasoning Certificate

To leave college with the ability to write well, to speak in public, and to think critically is one of the most valuable outcomes of a college education. The minor in writing, public speaking, and critical reasoning offers students a coherent program of courses that will strengthen their abilities in all three essential areas. This interdisciplinary minor is built on courses in English, Writing, and Philosophy, and is taught by professors from English, Philosophy, and the Honors College. The minor is open to all University of Oregon undergraduates in any major. Undergraduates who want even more concentrated work in this area may enroll in the Certificate program, which requires 36 credits (9 courses, including a senior capstone course).

Through coursework in Writing, English, Philosophy, and more, students develop written and speaking skills about how to be effective culturally responsive communicators in career and civic life.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Describe the role of language, identity, and power in community/public communication contexts.
- Examine one's own critical communication process, including reading, writing, listening, and speaking.
- Practice culturally responsive deliberation with others on contemporary issues in the public sphere.
- Examine writing, speaking, and other critical communication forms in a variety of disciplines and public contexts using ethical rhetorical analysis.
- Compose and deliver relevant, purpose-driven documents, speeches, and other forms/genres for audiences beyond the classroom.

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A certificate in writing, public speaking, and critical reasoning requires 36 credits as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
Select three courses in writing (at least one at the 400 level):		12
ENG 413	Theories of Literacy	
ENG 420	The Art of the Sentence	
WR 123	College Composition III	
WR 320	Scientific and Technical Writing	
WR 321	Business Communications	
WR 423	Advanced Composition	
Select three courses in rhetoric (at least one of which must be ENG 200 or ENG 330):		12
ENG 200	Public Speaking as a Liberal Art	
or ENG 330	Oral Controversy and Advocacy	
ENG 492	History of Rhetoric and Composition	
ENG 493	Modern Rhetorical Criticism	
Select two courses in reasoning:		8
ENG 335	Inventing Arguments	
PHIL 103	Critical Reasoning	
One capstone course:		4
ENG 494	Reasoning, Speaking, Writing	
Total Credits		**36**