

# Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication

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**Brenda Sims, Chair**

## Faculty

*Professors* Montler, Ross, Sims, Wilkins.  
*Associate Professors* Chelliah, Cukor-Avila, Raighn.  
*Assistant Professors* Larson-Hall, Munshi.

## Introduction

The Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication offers students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the study of language—its structure, use, design and application. Students may specialize in linguistics, English as a second language, or technical communication. The faculty encourages students to take courses in all the areas represented and seek new synergies between these distinct, yet interrelated fields.

The Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication has outstanding faculty from diverse backgrounds with diverse research interests motivated by a common interest in language structure and use. The department is recognized as a pioneer program for an interdisciplinary study that integrates linguistics and technical communication and that will lead to new avenues of investigation and practical applications with local, national and international relevance.

The Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication is home to a unique internationally recognized program for the interdisciplinary study of language. The faculty's research and teaching directly benefit the immediate community by disseminating knowledge that has relevance for diverse cultures, races and ethnicities, and for professional, business and industrial communities.

The mission of the Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication is to promote the interdisciplinary

- study of language and language acquisition, rhetoric and technical communication;
- analysis of techniques that clarify and enrich human communication;
- examination of structures, design and intent of discourse;
- application of research to real-world issues through local and international community outreach programs, community-based practicums, internships and corporate consulting; and
- independent and collaborative research and teaching.

## Programs of Study

The Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication offers the following graduate programs:

- Master of Arts with a major in technical writing;
- Master of Arts with a major in English as a second language;
- Master of Arts with a major in linguistics

At the undergraduate level, the department works in collaboration with the Department of English to offer concentrations in linguistics and technical writing under the Bachelor of Arts with a major in English.

The department also offers a minor in technical writing, an undergraduate certificate in technical writing and a graduate academic certificate in teaching English to speakers of other languages.

## Bachelor of Arts

### Admission to the Major

Entering students interested in majoring in English with a concentration in linguistics or technical writing will be classified as pre-majors and will be advised by the English department. Admission to the university does not guarantee admission to the English major. To be admitted to major status, a pre-major must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete at least 45 hours of college courses and:
  - a. complete the BA freshman English composition requirement with a grade of C or better (6 hours);
  - b. complete two sophomore literature courses with a grade of C or better (6 hours);
  - c. complete the College of Arts and Sciences mathematics requirement (at least 3 hours of approved course work above College Algebra [except MATH 1350]);

d. partially complete the foreign language requirement, at least through the 1020 level (or placement equivalent) (8 hours);

e. complete ENGL 3000 with a grade of C or better (3 hours).

2. Have at least a 2.5 UNT GPA.

### Program Requirements

#### Major in English with a concentration in linguistics

Required courses:

- LING 3060, Principles of Language Study
- LING 4020, Structure of Modern English
- LING 4040, General Linguistics
- LING 4070, History of the English Language
- One course from
  - LING 4010, English Language in America,
  - LING 4030, Acquisition of English as a Second Language, or
  - LING 4080, Teaching English as a Second Language
- Two courses from Groups A, B and/or D.

#### Major in English with a concentration in technical writing

Required courses:

- LING 3060, Principles of Language Study
- ENGL 4170, Principles and Practices of Rhetoric
- ENGL 4180, Advanced Technical Writing
- ENGL 4190, Technical Editing
- ENGL 4250, Technical Procedures and Manuals
- Two courses from Groups A, B and/or D.

### Course Groups

Groups under the major in English that are included in the concentrations in linguistics and technical writing include the following:

Group A, British Literature: ENGL 3430, 3440, 3911, 4410, 4430, 4440, 4470 and 4500.

Group B, American Literature: ENGL 3830, 3840, 3850, 3912, 3920, 3921, 3922, 3923, 4400 and 4020.

Group D, World Literature: ENGL 3360, 3450, 3913, 4290, 4300, 4420 and 4600.

### Four-Year Degree Plan

See the Department of English section of this catalog for a four-year degree plan for the Bachelor of Arts with a major in English and a concentration in either linguistics or technical writing.

### Minor in Technical Writing

The minor requires a total of 21 semester hours, including 9 advanced hours in ENGL 4180, 4190 and 4250.

### Certificate in Technical Writing

Students may receive a certificate in technical writing from the Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication by successfully completing the following courses with a grade of B or higher:

- ENGL 2700, Technical Writing
- ENGL 4180, Advanced Technical Writing
- ENGL 4190, Technical Editing
- ENGL 4250, Writing Technical Procedures and Manuals

Contact the Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication for more information.

### Endorsement in English as a Second Language

For information on certification for public schools, contact the College of Education.

### Graduate Degrees

The department offers degree programs leading to the Master of Arts. For information, consult the *Graduate Catalog*.

### Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in one section at the back of this catalog.

### Course and Subject Guide

The "Course and Subject Guide," found in the Courses of Instruction section of this book, serves as a table of contents and provides quick access to subject areas and prefixes.