



# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN COLLEGE WRITING

## THEORY AND PRACTICE



### Why the Graduate Certificate in College Writing?

The College Writing: Theory and Practice certificate provides theory and research guiding current best practices in teaching college writing. This 18-hour program is designed for professionals aligned with the teaching of college writing courses, especially those who need to stay current in research and best practices to remain competitive in their current positions and/or expand their career horizons.

### Why the Graduate Certificate in College Writing at BGSU?

With a nationally recognized PhD in Rhetoric and Writing and an innovative first-year writing program, graduate faculty in the English Department have expertise in best practices in teaching writing, teaching writing online, and mentoring teachers of writing.

### Learning outcomes

Graduates of the College Writing: Theory and Practice certificate program are able to:

- Implement the writing processes that would be expected of students doing college writing.
- Evaluate current approaches to teaching writing that are informed by disciplinary best practices, research findings, and theories about writing.
- Integrate course concepts in developing curricula for teaching writing in specific contexts.

### Program strengths and uniqueness

- The certificate is entirely online.
- The certificate can be pursued as a first step in graduate education by those holding a Bachelor's degree.
- Applications are accepted for Fall, Spring, and Summer terms.
- Hours earned for the certificate can count concurrently with many MA in English programs.
- The certificate can be combined with other paths to MA degrees in English and in other departments at BGSU.

### Professional opportunities

The Certificate in College Writing program qualifies graduates to teach college writing classes, including, in many programs, college writing courses for high school students. The Certificate provides a focused specialization in teaching college writing for professionals seeking additional expertise to remain competitive and expand their career horizons.



*"My time in the College Writing Certificate Program at BGSU has been full of both rich theory discussions and practical application. This program has positioned me well to make a career change into academia. My professors have been knowledgeable, compassionate and engaged with the students. Their availability and input has helped me to form a solid writing identity and become both a better researcher and writer - invaluable skills for an aspiring writing instructor."*

— Ginger Gilhooly  
Student

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Kimberly Spallinger, Associate Chair and Graduate Coordinator,  
College of Arts & Sciences, Department of English  
at [spallkk@bgsu.edu](mailto:spallkk@bgsu.edu) or 419-372-8145

Jeanne R. Berry, Graduate Secretary  
at [jberry@bgsu.edu](mailto:jberry@bgsu.edu) or 419-372-6864

For questions about Professional Pathways, contact Graduate Admissions:  
[gradinfo@bgsu.edu](mailto:gradinfo@bgsu.edu) | 419-372-2791 | [www.bgsu.edu/graduate](http://www.bgsu.edu/graduate)

## Admission requirements

Admission to the College Writing: Theory and Practice certificate is contingent on the completion of a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75 on a 4-point scale. Applicants are required to submit scanned copies of official or unofficial transcripts from all institutions attended. Upon admission, final official or notarized copies of transcripts from all institutions where degrees were earned and diplomas from international institutions must be submitted.

Applicants must also submit the following materials:

- Three Letters of Recommendation from instructors who have taught you within the past three years, from employers, or from other individuals qualified to evaluate your potential for success in a graduate studies program.
- A Statement of Purpose that explains your academic preparation for the program, your purpose for enrolling in it, and your professional goals relevant to the program (roughly 2 pages, double-spaced).

International applicants are also required to submit scores from the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTEA), or the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Successful completion of ELS 112 will also be accepted for this requirement.

## Cost of tuition

Please refer to [www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar) for current information on tuition and fees.

## How to apply

Visit the BGSU Graduate College website at [www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions](http://www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions).

**Fall Application Deadline:** Applications and supporting materials should be received at least one month before the start of classes.

## Curriculum

A total of 18 credit hours of coursework at the graduate level are required. Four core courses (12 credit hours). All required courses are offered fully online one or two times per year, depending on demand.

**Required courses:** All students are required to take the following four courses:

- ENG 6020: Composition Instructors' Workshop (3)
- ENG 6040: Graduate Writing (3)
- ENG 6200: Teaching of Writing (3)
- ENG 6220: Teaching Grammar in the Context of Writing (3)

**Electives** Two elective courses (6 credit hours) from English graduate courses. Online courses are regularly offered every semester and in summers.