COURSES:

WRITING, RHETORIC, AND COMMUNICATION MAJOR:

12 course units, including:
- WRC 1004  Introduction to Communication
- WRC 2354  Rhetoric I: Introduction to Classical Rhetoric
- WRC 3054  Digital Rhetoric
- WRC 4444  Senior Seminar in Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication

1 course from the following:
- WRC 2074  Fiction Workshop
- WRC 2084  Poetry Workshop
- WRC 2214  Business Writing
- WRC 2264  Non-Fiction Workshop
- WRC 2314  Writing for Writing’s Sake
- WRC 3124  The Art of Persuasive Writing

7 full WRC elective units

WRC MINOR:

6 course units, including:
- WRC 1004  Introduction to Communication
- WRC 2354  Rhetoric I: Introduction to Classical Rhetoric
- WRC 3054  Digital Rhetoric

1 course from the following:
- WRC 2074  Fiction Workshop
- WRC 2084  Poetry Workshop
- WRC 2314  Writing for Writing’s Sake
- WRC 3124  The Art of Persuasive Writing

2 full WRC elective units

COMMUNICATION MINOR:

6 course units, including:
- WRC 1004  Introduction to Communication

Plus 5 additional full-unit WRC courses, at least 2 of which must be 3000-level or above.
ABOUT THE MAJOR:

Since the time of the ancient Greeks, students have asked how we learn, think, persuade and communicate—where do our ideas come from, and how do we present those ideas to others? The liberal arts education is rooted in these disciplines.

Students who major in writing, rhetoric, and communication (WRC) ask important questions about how we express ourselves orally and through writing. The program encourages the development of both depth and breadth in writing and speaking skills.

WRC students design a senior project and participate in an oral defense similar to that of a graduate program. They receive a foundational education in communication that lends itself to further education or careers in law, applied communication, marketing, academia and much more. Our graduates have moved on to careers ranging from public relations professional to production assistant at MTV.

Transylvania equips its students with a wide range of educational and extracurricular experiences. Students have a variety of opportunities to apply their skills in campus organizations including the student newspaper, radio station, literary magazine, speech and debate team and more. The WRC faculty are deeply involved in campus activities such as the First-Year Academic Experience, the Writing Center and creative and expressive events throughout Lexington.

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MAJOR:

Speech and debate team
The Rambler student newspaper
The Writing Center

COURSES OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

Voice and Interpretation
Interpersonal Communication
Cross-Cultural Communication
Persuasion
Writing For/With Nonprofits
Nonverbal Communication
Gender and Communication

WHERE OUR GRADUATES HAVE STUDIED:

Carnegie Mellon University
DePaul University
Florida State University
Miami University of Ohio
Purdue University
University of Kentucky
University of Texas—Austin

POSSIBLE CAREER OPTIONS:

Law
Publishing
Media
Content creation
Nonprofit writing/management
Public relations
Journalism
Professional and technical writing

FACULTY:

Scott Whidden, Program Director
Associate Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication, Director of the Writing Center
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Gary Deaton, Instructor in Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication
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Kerri Hauman, Assistant Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication
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Tim Soulis, Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication
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Majoring in WRC was a life-changing decision for me. I came into college knowing I wanted to study communication because I loved public speaking and writing. But I had no idea what I could do with those skills...WRC provided me with more exciting opportunities than I could have ever imagined. I had three great internship experiences before I graduated, in both for- and non-profit settings. I had the skills necessary to become a campus leader. By the end of my sophomore year, I'd found a research subject that would keep me fascinated through two years and two senior seminar capstone projects. My professors constantly reassured me that my goal to do communications work in the nonprofit sector wasn't just a nice idea—it was a feasible life plan, a calling even. Since attending graduate school and working for a nonprofit organization, I have never felt unprepared or intimidated by a task or assignment—and that is all thanks to Transy and WRC.

Emily Martin '15