

City Tech’s New Associate in Arts in Professional Writing

The Spring 2027 catalog will contain the new Professional Writing specialization for City Tech’s Associate in Arts degree (LAA-PW). The LAA-PW degree gives students a two-year foundation to prepare them to create professional writing projects in multiple media, modalities, and subjects. The LAA-PW degree transitions seamlessly into the BS in Professional and Technical Writing (PTW) and is a transfer pathway to other CUNY programs that accept LAA students.

What students learn and do

LAA-PW introduces students to the communications, content creation, documentation, and user experience fields. It is organized around combining the 30-credit common core with courses focused on the theory, practice, and production of professionally written documents. During the two-year program, students learn how to work as a professional writer capable of composing ideas, arguments, and texts in a variety of workplace and academic settings.

Students learn to:

- Critically evaluate and manage information while addressing technical, legal, ethical, and cultural considerations.
- Design and produce audience-centered communications across multiple media and rhetorical contexts using a variety of tools and workflows.
- Collaborate in technical communications environments, including information sharing and critical awareness and practice of effective AI use.
- Create communications that reach, respect, and engage audiences with diverse characteristics and needs.

How the specialization works

LAA-PW provides students with an associate in arts degree with a named focus in professional writing. The specialization is designed to be flexible and integrate into the baccalaureate degree or transfer.

- **A 2+2 path to the bachelor’s.** Every PW course also satisfies BS in Professional and Technical Writing requirements. A student who finishes LAA-PW needs 60 more credits for the BS, including an 18-credit content-area specialization.
- **A named focus.** The specialization appears in Degree Works and on the official transcript as an area of study.
- **Ongoing advising.** Students are matched with a faculty advisor in the program, who continues with them if they move into the BS degree.
- **No penalty for changing course.** A student who leaves the specialization keeps their credits that can be applied toward the General Studies specialization.

Requirements

LAA-PW provides 24-28 credits of PTW courses in addition to the common core and free electives to 60 credits.

LAA-PW Professional and Technical Writing Courses Sequence

Term	Course	Title	Credits
1	COM 1330	Public Speaking (or higher)	3
2	ENG 1133	Specialized Communications for Technology Students	3
2	LIB 1201	Research and Documentation in the Information Age	3
3	ENG 1710	Introduction to Language and Technology	4
3	ENG 2700	Introduction to Professional and Technical Writing	4
3	History core	HIS 1000 series, AFR 1460/1461/1465/1466, or LATS 1462	3
4	ENG 2720	Writing with New Media (capstone)	4
4	ENG 2730	Professional Writing and Editing (recommended elective)	4

Learn more

For advising questions

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