As a Professional Writing major, you will practice a creative, broad approach to writing, developing strong, critical thinking skills through writing for a variety of audiences, professional purposes, and situations. The WCSU Professional Writing program gives form to a contradictory fact of life about American writers: They are both specialists and generalists. Even if your eventual career isn’t writing per se, expanding your ability to write concisely and fluently provides an invaluable set of skills that can be used to speed you along in virtually any career path, including law, teaching, internet and multimedia, nonprofits and government, business, health care, and many others.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the employment of writers and authors is projected to grow 6% from 2021 to 2031, an average for all occupations. Writers and authors who have adapted to online and social media, and who are comfortable writing for and working with a variety of electronic and digital tools, may have an advantage in creating and finding work. The declining costs of self-publishing and the growing popularity of electronic books will allow many freelance writers to have their work published.

Essential Skills & Characteristics to develop and highlight:

- Critical Analyzer
- Engage Topics from all directions
- Attention to detail and organization
- Communication and interpersonal skills
- Personal management
- Open minded
- Well-rounded researcher
- Collaborative

How To Get Started:

- Assess your personal strengths & preferences
- Get an internship/relevant work experience
- Research opportunities: online/in-person
- Join a professional writing organization
- Expand your writing & technical network and professional brand
- Connect with professionals through career conversations & job shadowing

Chart Your Path Forward with the **Career Success Center**

Activate Your **Handshake Account**

for events, coaching appointments and connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking & more! www.wcsu.edu/handshake

Explore Career **Communities**

to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your Professional Writing major into success

Get Career & **Internship Advising**

from the Career Success Center to make a plan, whether you’re a first-year student or about to graduate
Recent Pro. Writing Alumni

Employment Sector

- 29% Retail Trade
- 15% Health Care and Social Assistance
- 14% Educational Services
- 8% Manufacturing
- 8% Professional, Scientific and Tech Services
- 8% Information
- 5% Administrative and Support
- 4% Finance and Insurance

Live & Work

- 80% Connecticut
- 14% Middle Atlantic
- 13% New England Balance
- 2% Pacific
- 1% West South Central

Informational & Job Websites

- https://wcsu.joinhandshake.com/login
- http://www.bloggingpro.com/jobs/
- http://www.freelancewritinggigs.com/
- http://www.helpareporter.com/
- http://writersrelief.com/writers-associations-organizations/
- http://westernwriters.org/
- https://asja.org
- http://historicalnovelsociety.org/
- http://nonfictionauthorsassociation.com/
- http://www.scbwi.org/
- http://www.spawn.org/
- http://www.namw.org/

Career Communities for Writing Majors

The Career Success Center has seven Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Professional Writing majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit our website at www.wcsu.edu/careersuccess/career-communities/ to view more.