



# PROFESSIONAL WRITING & COMMUNICATION MAJOR Program Plan

## HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using [My Program Plan](#). Update your plan yearly.



	1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR	2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR	3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR	4 <sup>TH</sup> OR FINAL YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>In first or second year, enrol in WRI203H5.</p> <p>Choose a program of study (Subject POST) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the <b>Degree Explorer Planner</b> and the <b>Academic Calendar</b> to plan your degree.</p> <p>Start strong and get informed with <b>utmONE</b> and <b>LAUNCH</b> through the Office of Student Transition. Join a <b>RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group</b>.</p>	<p>During your degree, attain a minimum of 2.5 credits from any WRI course; a maximum of 2.0 credits of approved writing-intensive courses; and a maximum of 2.0 Elective credits from a list in the <b>Academic Calendar</b>.</p> <p>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use the <b>Degree Explorer</b> to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.</li> <li>see the <b>Office of the Registrar</b> and the <b>ICCIT Undergraduate Program Advisor</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>Interested in producing a substantial body of writing at a high professional standard? Speak to the <b>ICCIT Undergraduate Program Advisor</b> about Independent Study courses WRI390H5 and WRI391H5.</p>	<p>Ensure you have attained 2.0 credits at the 300/400 level.</p> <p>Do you want to publish a book? Apply for WRI420H5 to collect material, design, edit, typeset, print and assemble books. Speak to the <b>ICCIT Undergraduate Advisor</b> for details.</p> <p>Log on to ACORN and request graduation.</p>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Use the <b>Co-Curricular Record (CCR)</b>. Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p> <p>Attend the <b>Get Experience Fair</b> through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p>	<p>Use the <b>Career Learning Network (CLN)</b> to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Work on-campus through the <b>Work-Study program</b>. View position descriptions on the CLN.</p>	<p>Explore your interests. Interested in current events and raising student awareness of key issues? Write for <b>The Medium</b> — the source of news for UTM students.</p> <p>Attend an ICCIT Internship Information Sessions and learn more about internships. See CCIT website for details.</p> <p>Get involved with PWC student run journals.</p>	<p>Consider a practical work-based experience through the internship courses WRI410H5 and WRI411H5. Speak to the <b>PWC Internship Coordinator</b> and visit the <b>ICCIT blog's Job Board</b>.</p>
BUILD A NETWORK	<p>Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the <b>ICCIT Council</b>; attend their <b>Meet the Profs Night</b>. Follow the department @iccitutm.</p> <p>Visit the UTM Library <b>Reference Desk</b>.</p>	<p>Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn <b>Tips On How to Approach a Professor</b> available through the Experiential Education Office (EEO).</p>	<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).</p> <p>Get published in Mindwaves or COMPASS — the official journals of the PWC program. Visit the journal Facebook page @ MindwavesUTM for details.</p>	<p>Join a professional association. Check out the <b>Canadian Communication Association</b> and the <b>Toronto Chapter of the Professional Writers Association of Canada</b>.</p> <p>Go to a conference such as <b>Canadian Creative Writers and Writing Programs Conference</b>.</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p>Attend events held by the <b>International Education Centre (IEC)</b> to explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.</p>	<p>Embark on a <b>UTM Abroad Co-Curricular Experience</b> through the IEC. Take advantage of this opportunity to travel with a faculty member and learn about a topic of interest in a unique location.</p> <p>Prefer traveling in Canada? Check out the IEC's <b>UTM Across Canada</b> program.</p>	<p>Earn credits overseas! Study for a summer, term or year at one of 120 universities such as the University of Adelaide (Australia) and the University of Vienna. Speak to the <b>IEC</b> for details about <b>Course Based Exchange</b> and funding. Meet with the <b>ICCIT Undergraduate Program Advisor</b>.</p>	<p>Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through <b>GoInGlobal</b>. Attend the <b>Go Global Expo</b>. See if you are eligible for <b>International Experience Canada</b>.</p>
PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE	<p>Attend the <b>Program Selection &amp; Career Options</b> workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.</p> <p>Check out <b>Careers by Major</b> at the CC to see potential career options.</p>	<p>Explore careers through the CC's <b>Extern Job Shadowing Program</b>.</p> <p>Considering <b>further education</b>? Attend the CC's <b>Graduate and Professional Schools Fair</b>. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.</p>	<p>What's your next step after undergrad?</p> <p>Entering the workforce? Evaluate your career options through a <b>CC Career Counselling appointment</b>. Create a job search strategy — book a <b>CC Employment Strategies appointment</b>.</p> <p>Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, GMAT) and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).</p>	<p>Market your skills to employers. Get your <b>resume critiqued</b> at the CC. Attend the CC workshop <b>Now That I'm Graduating What's Next?</b></p> <p>Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC's <b>Mastering the Personal Statement</b> workshop.</p>

\*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

# PROFESSIONAL WRITING & COMMUNICATION

## Skills developed in Professional Writing & Communication

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

**Communication:** communicate clearly and effectively for a broad range of purposes and audiences including technical copy, business writing, marketing copy, speeches, proposals and presentations, as well as present persuasive arguments.

**Technical:** textual analysis and interpretation, as well as editing.

**Research:** gather and evaluate information, sources, ideas and research; conduct intense primary and secondary research; and conduct and clearly explain research results.

**Organization & time management:** organize ideas, information, materials, and people, as well as deadline oriented.

## Get involved

Check out student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- ICCIT Council
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs).

## Services that support you

- AccessAbility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Office (EEO)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of Student Transition (OST)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

## Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology

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University of Toronto Mississauga  
3359 Mississauga Rd  
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-569-4489  
[iccit.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:iccit.utm@utoronto.ca)  
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/iccit](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/iccit)

## FUTURE STUDENTS

### Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at [utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook](http://utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook).

**NOTE:** During the application process, applicants will select the Communication, Culture, Information + Technology admissions category but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

### Sneak Peek

Express yourself! In WRI203H5, you will learn the theory of expressive writing and practice writing expressively.

PWC faculty members help students organize and participate in publishing and reading events within the University, including Mindwaves, the official journal of the PWC program; book launches for PWC course collections or student publications; and evening readings of student work. Faculty also help students get involved in the writing, publishing, journalism and broadcast world.

Cool research areas you can get involved in are: Health and science writing, expressive pedagogies that contribute to the shaping of analytical mindsets, political economy of communication and social media.

### Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270  
University of Toronto Mississauga  
3359 Mississauga Rd  
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400  
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students)

