

# PROGRAM IN WRITING AND RHETORIC

## Program in Writing and Rhetoric (PWR)

Courses offered by the Program in Writing and Rhetoric are listed under the subject code PWR on the Stanford Bulletin's ExploreCourses web site ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=PWR+\\*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c&academicYear=20162017](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=PWR+*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c&academicYear=20162017)). Courses offered by the Oral Communication Program within PWR are listed under the subject code ORALCOMM (<https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Summer=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c&academicYear=20162017>). See the Oral Communication Program (p. 2) tab for more information about the program.

The Program in Writing and Rhetoric (PWR) designs and teaches courses that meet the Writing and Rhetoric requirement for undergraduates at Stanford as well as intermediate and advanced writing and rhetoric classes. For more information on the requirement, see the "Writing and Rhetoric Requirement (<https://undergrad.stanford.edu/programs/pwr/courses/understanding-writing-and-rhetoric-requirements/>)" page on the PWR website.

PWR courses engage students in rhetorical analysis of texts and research-based argument. Students in PWR courses learn and practice time-tested rhetorical principles to gain increasing control over the intellectual and stylistic elements of their writing; they learn to analyze the persuasive strategies of others and to apply those insights to their own writing.

Toward these ends, PWR 1 focuses on elements of academic argument: understanding a writer's stance; developing an argumentative thesis; discovering, developing, and deploying cogent proofs; making appropriate organizational and stylistic choices; and understanding the expectations of varied audiences. The course emphasizes research-based writing, including the effective use of primary and secondary sources and data based on fieldwork. Students enrolled in PWR 1 carry out significant research and use it as the basis for a persuasive research-based argument.

PWR 2 further develops students' skills in writing and the oral presentation of research, emphasizing the ongoing development of content, organization, and style. The course addresses the dynamic interdependence of writing and speaking, as well as the importance of visual and multimedia elements in the effective presentation of research. Students enrolled in PWR 2 have opportunities to draft and revise written assignments and oral presentations as well as opportunities to present the results of scholarly inquiry, with an emphasis on how to work purposefully and well with a variety of presentation media.

As a general rule, students complete a minimum of three major assignments in both PWR 1 and 2. Written assignments vary from 5 to 15 pages in length, and students work intensively on revising each piece of writing. Oral presentation assignments vary from 3 to 10 minutes in duration, and students have an opportunity to rehearse and revise major presentations. All assignments involve analyzing a range of texts as well as identifying, evaluating, and using multiple sources in support of research-based arguments. In-class work focuses on how to read with an increasingly critical eye, how to utilize a range of generative writing and revision activities, and how to identify, evaluate, integrate, and cite sources effectively.

Writing and Rhetoric classes enroll no more than 15 students; consistent participation is crucial. In-class activities include close reading and analysis of texts, drafting and revising parts of assignments, and responding to the writing of peers; in-class workshops are augmented by a minimum of three individual or small group conferences with the PWR instructor during the quarter.

## Courses

The Writing and Rhetoric requirement includes courses at three levels.

1. The first-level course, taken in the first year, can be completed in PWR or Integrated Learning Environments, including Structural Liberal Education (SLE) and Immersion in the Arts: Living in Culture (ITALIC), or by completion of the Education as Self-Fashioning (ESF) course; the curriculum emphasizes analysis and research-based argument.
2. The second-level course, to be completed by the end of the sophomore year, is a writing and oral/multimedia presentation course taught by the Program in Writing and Rhetoric. Completion of Structured Liberal Education also fulfills this requirement. Introductory Seminars certified by the Writing and Rhetoric Governance Board satisfy the second-level Writing and Rhetoric Requirement (WRITE 2). Courses offered as Introductory Seminars require an additional application form; see the Introductory Seminars web site (<https://undergrad.stanford.edu/programs/introsems>).
3. The third-level course is a Writing in the Major (WIM) course taught in each major, providing students with systematic opportunities to develop skills for writing in their chosen fields. A list of certified WIM courses may be found in the table of "Undergraduate Major Unit Requirements (<http://exploreddegrees.stanford.edu/undergradmajorunitreq/>)" of this bulletin. WIM course descriptions may be found under individual department and program sections.

The sequence of required courses provides a coordinated approach responsive to how students mature as writers, researchers, and presenters during their undergraduate years. At each level, students develop greater sophistication in conducting inquiry and producing scholarly work in progressively more specific disciplinary contexts.

Before the term in which students enroll in the first two levels of the requirement, they review course descriptions on the PWR Courses (<https://undergrad.stanford.edu/programs/pwr/courses>) webpage. After reviewing the offerings, students submit a list of top choices, and the PWR office assigns students to courses based on these preferences.

Students wishing to pursue advanced work in Writing and Rhetoric may enroll in electives offered by PWR. Topics vary; further information may be found in the PWR section of the Stanford Bulletin's ExploreCourses web site ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=PWR+\\*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c&academicYear=20162017](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=PWR+*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c&academicYear=20162017)) or on the PWR advanced courses web page (<https://undergrad.stanford.edu/programs/pwr/courses/advanced-pwr-courses>). PWR also offers courses culminating in a Notation in Science Communication. For more information, visit the webpage (<https://undergrad.stanford.edu/programs/pwr/initiatives/notation-science-communication>).

## PWR Courses Offered in 2018-19

- PWR 1 Courses ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Autumn Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&view=catalog&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&view=catalog&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-)

- Autumn=[https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
- Winter Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
- Spring Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Spring=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&view=catalog&filter-term-Spring=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-ger-Writing1=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
- PWR 2 Courses ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Autumn Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Winter Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-component-SEM=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Spring Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr\\*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=pwr*&filter-ger-Writing2=on&view=catalog&filter-component-SEM=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))

## Oral Communication Courses Offered in 2018-19

- Oral Communication Courses ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Autumn Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Autumn=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term-Autumn=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Winter Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Spring Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))
  - Summer Quarter (<https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm&view=catalog&filter-term-Summer=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019>)

## Advanced PWR Courses

Prerequisites: PWR 1 and PWR 2.

Courses in the Cultural Rhetorics track		Units
PWR 91EE	Intermediate Writing: Saving Lives with Picture Books	4
PWR 91TB	Intermediate Writing: Being ____ at Stanford	4
PWR 194CW	Brave New Worlds: An Introduction to (De)colonial Rhetorics	4
Courses in the Science Communication track		Units
PWR 91NSC	Intermediate Writing: Introduction to Science Communication	4

PWR 99A	Portfolio Preparation I	1
PWR 99B	Portfolio Preparation II	2
PWR 91JS	Intermediate Writing: Stanford Science Podcast	3
PWR 91SP	Intermediate Writing: Doctors' Stories: The Rhetoric of Illness and Healing	4
PWR 194EP	Topics in Writing & Rhetoric: Introduction to Environmental Justice: Race, Class, Gender and Place	4
Courses in the Digital Media and Visual Communications track		Units
PWR 91OID	Creating Your Digital Story: Learn How to Build Your Online Identity and Why it Matters	3
Other courses		Units
PWR 5	Independent Writing	1-5
PWR 6	Writing Workshop	1-3

## Hume Center for Writing and Speaking

Location: Building 250  
 Mail Code: 2085  
 Phone: (650) 723-0045  
 Email: [humecenter@stanford.edu](mailto:humecenter@stanford.edu)  
 Web Site: <http://hume.stanford.edu>

The Hume Center for Writing and Speaking (Hume Center) works with all Stanford writers to help them develop rich and varied abilities in every aspect of writing and oral communication. In one-to-one sessions, Hume writing consultants help students get started on assignments; address and overcome writer's block or performance anxiety; learn strategies for revising and editing; and understand academic conventions in their fields. Hume emphasizes support for students' writing, oral presentations, and multimedia compositions for PWR, Thinking Matters, and Introductory Seminars while also serving all Stanford undergraduates through individual and group tutorials, workshops, and seminars. The Hume Center also works with students in Writing in the Major (WIM) courses and students writing Honors theses. Other events hosted by the Center include performances for Parents Weekend and Admit Weekend. For further details, see the Hume Center for Writing and Speaking (<https://undergrad.stanford.edu/tutoring-support/hume-center>) web site.

## Oral Communication Program

Email: [speakinghelp@stanford.edu](mailto:speakinghelp@stanford.edu)  
 Web Site: <http://speakinghelp.stanford.edu>

The Oral Communication Program provides opportunities for undergraduates and graduate students to develop or improve their oral communication skills. Courses and workshops offer a comprehensive approach to speech communication, including training in the fundamental principles of public speaking and the effective delivery of oral presentations. The goal is to enhance students' general facility and confidence in oral expression. The program also provides innovative discipline-based instruction to help students refine their personal speaking styles in small groups and classroom settings.

## Student Writing and Oral Communication Tutors

Students with a passion for writing and/or public speaking are encouraged to apply to become writing or oral communication tutors (OCTs); the application process takes place each January, and for those students chosen to serve as writing tutors or OCTs, we offer a required training practicum in Spring Quarter.

## Oral Communication Courses Offered in 2018-19

- Oral Communication Courses ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term-Winter=on&filter-term-Autumn=on&filter-term-Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20182019))

term=Autumn=on&filter-term=Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018)

- Autumn Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term=Autumn=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term=Autumn=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018))
- Winter Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term=Winter=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term=Winter=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018))
- Spring Quarter ([https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm\\*&view=catalog&filter-term=Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm*&view=catalog&filter-term=Spring=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018))
- Summer Quarter (<https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?q=oralcomm&view=catalog&filter-term=Summer=on&page=0&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&collapse=%2c5%2c6%2c&academicYear=20172018>)

Office: Sweet Hall, Third Floor

Web Site: <https://storytelling.stanford.edu/>

The Stanford Storytelling Project helps students explore how to use and craft stories to engage the stories that surround us. The project's courses, grants, live events, and weekly workshops give students opportunities to study how they can use stories to grow, communicate, and create social change. The project's award-winning podcasts also give students an unprecedented opportunity to create professional-level audio stories and share their research and personal stories with a large audience. Find out more about the programs (*Writer's Studio*, *StoryLab*, *Braden Grants*) and podcasts (*State of the Human*, *Off the Page*) on the project's website (<https://storytelling.stanford.edu/>). The project is housed within the Program in Writing and Rhetoric in VPUE.

*Faculty Director:* Adam Banks

*Director:* Marvin Diogenes

*Associate Director:* Christine Alfano

*Director, Hume Center for Writing & Speaking:* Zandra Jordan

*Associate Director, Hume Center for Writing & Speaking:* Norah Fahim

*Director, Oral Communication Program:* Doree Allen

*Director, Stanford Storytelling Project:* Jonah Willihnganz

*Lecturers:* Christine Alfano, Paul Bator, Angela Becerra Vidergar, Shay Brawn, Tessa Brown, Russ Carpenter, Kevin DiPirro, Erik Ellis, Norah Fahim, Lindsey Felt, Thomas Freeland (Oral Comm), Mark Gardiner, Alex Greenhough (ITALIC), Megan Formato, Wendy Goldberg, Arturo Heredia, Shannon Hervey, Sarah Hillenbrand, Donna Hunter, Jennifer Johnson, Chris Kamrath, Valerie Kinsey, Clara Lewis, Helen Lie (Oral Comm), Gabrielle Moyer, Ashley Newby, Sarah Perkins, John Peterson, Sarah Pittock, Emily Polk, Becky Richardson, Kim Savelson, Tesla Schaeffer, Selby Schwartz, Ruth Starkman, Jenne Stonaker, Lisa Swan, Kathleen Tarr, Jake Warga (Storytelling), Ann Watters, Cassie Wright

*Fellows:* Samah Elbelazi, Isla Flores-Bayer, Amanda Frye Leinhos, Andy Hammann, Hayden Kantor, Lily Lamboy, Raechel Lee, Gigi Otalvaro, Eldon Pei, Irena Yamboliev, Renren Yang, Yanshuo Zhang.