

INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE EMPHASIS IN WRITING STUDIES

<http://www.writing.ucsb.edu/academics/graduate/phd-emphasis>

University of California, Santa Barbara

Student Name: _____

Perm: _____

EMPHASIS IN WRITING STUDIES – 2025-26

The Emphasis in Writing Studies, available to doctoral students in Comparative Literature, Education, English, Feminist Studies, Linguistics, and Religious Studies, is intended to provide a background in the theory, methods, and functions of Writing Studies with an eye toward applying for professional positions (as faculty members, writing consultants, or other writing professionals) in Writing Studies, composition/rhetoric, or writing intensive positions in other disciplines. Candidates pursuing the Emphasis in Writing Studies must also fulfill the departmental and University requirements related to their degree program.

Writing Studies is a research-based field that focuses broadly on the analysis of the production, consumption, and circulating of writing in specific contexts. The field brings together sub-disciplines such as composition and rhetoric, genre studies, and textual and discourse analysis. Writing Studies bridges theory and practice as researchers center their work in specific contexts (often academic disciplines) and look at the ways in which writing develops and perpetuates activities within those contexts. At the same time, researchers are also often teachers of academic writing (in various disciplines) and work with students to develop strategies for analyzing writing, reading, and critical analysis in those disciplines.

CORE COURSES (8.0 units): Students must complete both of the Writing Core Courses to fulfill the Emphasis; WRIT 290AA-ZZ is generally offered in Fall and WRIT 291AA-ZZ in the Spring. They can be taken in any order and do not need to be taken in the same year. The Proseminar in Writing Studies (WS) introduces participants to historical and current trends in WS, and also research methodologies. Pedagogies of University Writing introduces participants to best practices in teaching writing across disciplines.			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
WRIT 290AA-ZZ	Proseminar in Writing Studies	4.0	
WRIT 291AA-ZZ	Pedagogies of University Writing: Theories and Practice	4.0	

AREA COURSES			
(8.0 units): Students must complete two area courses from an approved list of courses in participating departments. Students can choose to complete one course in both areas or complete two courses in one area. A student may petition for a 200-500 level course not yet listed to substitute as an area course upon the approval of the project advisor (to be determined by the candidate) and the Emphasis Director.			
Literacy, Theory, and Pedagogy			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
Writing as Cultural Practice			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE

CAPSTONE REQUIREMENT
Students enrolled in the emphasis must also include issues relevant to Writing Studies as part of their dissertation and include at least one faculty member from the emphasis on their committee, or complete a capstone project separate from their dissertations, working with a faculty member from the emphasis as project advisor.

VERIFICATION OF COMPLETION
EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED (DATE): _____ EMPHASIS DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: _____ PRINT NAME: _____