



The School of Graduate and Professional Studies removes obstacles to educational advancement and opens new pathways for those seeking professional development and personal enrichment. We are New England's leader in quality graduate programs offered through alternative delivery models.



## New England College School of Graduate and Professional Studies



# Master of Arts in Professional Writing

Master of Arts in Professional Writing is the online program for aspiring nonfiction writers, editors, and new media innovators who desire to improve and strengthen their writing ability for professional advancement.

“The Professional Writing program is creative yet practical. Not only am I learning how to be a better writer, I'm also learning how to do the job of a professional writer in a variety of settings. What do I, as a professional writer, need to know to do my job well? That's the question the program is helping me to answer.” —*Kemlo Aki, student*

### Program Information

The MA in Professional Writing is an online program for aspiring writers and editors. This 36-credit program enhances writing and publication skills, enables students to develop a comprehensive portfolio of work, and prepares students to write in both new and traditional media.

### About the Curriculum

Program coursework integrates the theoretical foundations of rhetoric, communication and professional practice with continuous skill development. Each course asks students to apply their knowledge and writing and editing skills to cutting-edge communication challenges. Students also gain an understanding of the careers and market needs in the emerging field of professional writing.

### Core Courses (all courses are 4 credits, unless noted)

- Professional Writing and Rhetoric
- Research Methods
- Editing in the Professions
- Writing for the Media and Public Relations
- The New Media
- Business and Technical Communication
- Special Topics in Professional Writing
- Portfolios in Professional Writing
- Capstone in Professional Writing (divided into four 1 credit sections)

### Career Outcomes

The MA in Professional Writing supports career advancement in editing and publishing, public relations,

advertising, communication management, technical writing, new media writing, and copywriting.

### Program Outcomes

Graduates of the Master of Arts in Professional Writing program will be able to:

- Assess the theoretical principles that underlie rhetorical choices and decisions made in professional writing
- Develop and expand writing skills that are demanded in a variety of professional settings
- Build an awareness of audience, markets, and current standards of publishing professionalism
- Develop practical strategies for purposeful, effective communications that fit specific circumstances and client needs.
- Write for publication and distribution in real professional contexts
- Work within a community of professional writers in an online format.
- Produce a capstone project that develops a grasp of research methodology and critical thinking skills essential to the field.

### Application Requirements

To apply, submit the online NEC Graduate School application ([www.nec.edu](http://www.nec.edu)), a personal statement, official college transcripts and 1 letter of recommendation.\* No GRE or GMAT scores are required.

\*The admissions committee reserves the right to require other admission documents and will inform those applicants of that requirement during the enrollment process.

### Financial Aid Information

For comprehensive information on financial aid for graduate school, visit [www.nec.edu/sgps/financial-services](http://www.nec.edu/sgps/financial-services)

### Admission

For more information, contact:  
Mark Watman, Program Director  
[mwatman@nec.edu](mailto:mwatman@nec.edu)

or

Graduate Admission Office  
603.428.2252  
[graduateadmission@nec.edu](mailto:graduateadmission@nec.edu)