

# Rhetoric, Writing and Culture

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## Department Information

- **Department Chair:**  
Sean Burt, Ph.D.
- **Graduate Coordinator:**  
Alison Graham-Bertolini, Ph.D.
- **Department Location:**  
318 Minard Hall
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-7143
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/english/prospective\\_students/graduate\\_programs/phd\\_in\\_rhetoric\\_writing\\_and\\_culture/](http://www.ndsu.edu/english/prospective_students/graduate_programs/phd_in_rhetoric_writing_and_culture/) ([http://www.ndsu.edu/english/prospective\\_students/graduate\\_programs/phd\\_in\\_rhetoric\\_writing\\_and\\_culture/](http://www.ndsu.edu/english/prospective_students/graduate_programs/phd_in_rhetoric_writing_and_culture/))
- **Application Deadline:**  
Application review begins Feb. 1 and continues until all spots are filled.
- **Credential Offered:**  
Ph.D.
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
TOEFL ibt 100; IELTS 7; Duolingo 125

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The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree program in Rhetoric, Writing and Culture is open to all qualified graduates of universities and colleges of recognized standing. The Ph.D. in Rhetoric, Writing and Culture provides students with employable skills in the area of professional and technical communication. This innovative and regionally unique program invites students to work at the intersection of rhetorical, textual, and cultural studies. The number of positions available in technical communication significantly surpasses the number of new Ph.D.s produced each year by a sizable margin. Graduates from North Dakota State University's program may pursue careers as:

- professors in universities or colleges;
- training and development specialists, user-experience experts, and human-computer interaction specialists in industry;
- technical, scientific, or professional writers and editors in research and development organizations, high-tech companies, non-profit organizations, or government agencies.

Hands-on experience is essential to our program. The Rhetoric, Writing and Culture Ph.D. requires six credits of experiential learning. Students can work with professors or mentors in disciplinary writing. Others opt to intern for non-profits or local industries.

NDSU offers opportunities for students in the Ph.D. program to teach discipline-specific writing, such as writing in the sciences, writing for engineers, and writing in business and finance.