Tech Communication

Course prefix: LMC

Course number: 3403

Section: DC3

CRN
35877

Instructor first name: Dorothea

Instructor last name: Coblentz

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

Tactical Technical Communication looks at how companies construct recognizable voices and reasoning styles and how those patterns influence engineering decisions, product narratives, and everyday workplace communication. In this course, "tactical" means the practical, creative moves people make when they have to work around constraints, negotiate power, or get things done inside complex systems. You'll practice rhetorical invention (the process of identifying the audiences, constraints, and persuasive resources available in a situation) by analyzing a single company's "signature" approach to evidence, risk, design, and decision-making, and by creating WOVEN (Written, Oral, Visual, Electronic, Nonverbal) artifacts that reflect those patterns. You'll also conduct an ethnography of a real discourse community to observe how tactical technical communication works on the ground. During the semester, you'll also practice practical workplace skills such as document design, accessibility compliance, procedures writing, heuristic evaluation and usability testing, code review, conflict resolution, and more.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.