

UTEP PhD in Rhetoric and Composition Degree Plan

45 hours minimum:

- 36 hours of coursework
- 3 hours of professional development seminars
- 6 hours of dissertation

First semester courses for students who are Assistant Instructors and/or enter the program without an M.A. in Rhetoric and Writing Studies (RWS)/RhetComp:

- RWS 5309 Intro to RWS
- RWS 5346 Composition Theory & Pedagogy

Students who don't take one or both of these courses will need to take 3-6 hours of additional coursework in the program.

Required Core courses:

- RWS 6310 Rhet History I
- RWS 6311 Rhet History II
- RWS 6319 Comp Studies
- RWS 6320 Advanced Critical Theory
- RWS 6321 Rhetoric and Technology

Elective and Concentration Courses:

Four courses. Choose among the following (highly recommended):

RWS 5306/6306 Research Methods
RWS 5311 Persuasion and Argument
RWS 5314/6314 Multimodal Composing
RWS 5322/6322 Rhetorical Theory
RWS 5324/6324 Writing Program Administration
RWS 5328/6328 Special Topics (may be repeated for credit)
RWS 5383/6383 Global Rhetorics
RWS 6385: Dissertation Preparation

With permission from the Director, you may also select a course from the Technical and Professional Writing certificate program:

RWS 5312/6312 Technical Writing
RWS 5313/6313 Grant Writing

RWS 5315/6313 Professional Writing
RWS 5317/6317 Editing

With permission from the Director, you may also select another graduate-level course in the English Department (Literature or English Education), or you may choose an RWS-related course outside the department.

Required Community Engagement Course:

RWS 5318/6318, Community Literacy Internship

Required Professional Development Seminars:

RWS 6130 (a one-hour class) must be taken 3 times before graduation, for a total of 3 credit hours.

Required Dissertation (Research) courses:

RWS 6398, Dissertation (first semester).

RWS 6399, Dissertation. This is taken after 6398 until you graduate.

Students who are full-time (9 hours a semester) will finish coursework in two years; students who are part-time will usually take 3 years to finish coursework.