Department of Writing and Linguistics

The Department of Writing and Linguistics is unique in Georgia for incorporating the fields of creative writing, linguistics, professional and technical writing, and writing studies. Our majors learn and practice an array of writing and analytical skills while selecting coursework according to their educational, creative, and professional goals. Our courses combine theory and practice to develop reflective, confident writers who can reach many audiences for a variety of purposes in print and electronically. Majors in upper-division courses receive the personal attention from our faculty (who remain active as writers and linguists) for which Georgia Southern University is known. The B.A. from the Department of Writing and Linguistics combines the university’s large scale with a small-school feel.

Our department provides a range of professional development opportunities and activities for students, including internships, résumé and application letter workshops, discussions with visiting writers, readings from the Georgia Poetry Circuit, and student-led readings. Students may also join the Creative Writing Club, the Linguistics Club, or the Writers Guild, which are all advised by department faculty.

Graduates from the Department of Writing and Linguistics will demonstrate their knowledge and skills in these ways:

1. Discuss fundamental concepts in the study of writing and linguistics:
   a. Identify current issues, trends, and organizations in writing and linguistics.
   b. Define terms, themes, and genres common to the study of writing and languages.
   c. Identify and analyze writing and language in examples from different genres.

2. Critically select and apply appropriate theoretical, methodological, and technical tools and skills:
   a. Produce successful written, creative, or visual documents that apply relevant theories, knowledge, and skills in writing and linguistics.
   b. Explain the relationships among audience, purpose, and rhetorical strategy in writing specific texts. Use design principles and tools to heighten a document’s impact.

3. Examine the processes common to the study of writing and linguistics:
   a. Employ techniques for generating ideas, writing, researching, and revising.
   b. Synthesize information from multiple sources.
   c. Interact with cognitive, social, and affective factors that shape writing tasks and language processes.

4. Practice the assessment of writing:
   a. Critically and constructively evaluate one’s own writing.
   b. Critically and constructively evaluate the writing of others.

Minors


Programs

Majors