Department Mission

The goal of the MARC program is to immerse students in historical and contemporary conversations in rhetoric and composition and encourage them to use and contribute to these conversations as they serve the students’ own interests and goals. The program is dedicated to students’ success by mentoring and collaborating with them, encouraging professional development through workshops and networking, and providing a supportive environment for learning. In short, the program aims to expose students to the richness that is rhetoric and composition and to encourage them to find their own ways to add to this richness.

There is a strong community among students and faculty, and the program provides a space for students to develop personally and professionally. My experience in the program has been invaluable to me as a composition instructor and to my development as a Ph.D. student.

– Casie Moreland, M.A. ’11
Why choose Texas State?
The Texas State MARC program ranks among the top nationwide with award-winning faculty and commitment to student success. Students develop unique programs of study combining foundational knowledge with focused study in areas ranging from minority and feminist rhetorics to digital literacies, writing for social justice, and writing center studies.

Students present papers at regional and national conferences, win awards, and co-author articles with faculty. Graduates distinguish themselves as university writing teachers and professional writing specialists and pursue doctoral studies in top-tier universities.

Course Work
The M.A. in rhetoric and composition requires 33 credit hours and includes both thesis and portfolio options. All students take 12 hours of core courses which provide a solid and shared foundation in theory, pedagogy, and research methods. Students choose nine to 12 hours of electives to craft a degree program that meets their needs. Thesis students complete nine elective hours in rhetoric and composition plus six hours in a cognate in addition to six thesis hours. Portfolio students complete 12 elective hours in rhetoric and composition, six hours in a cognate, and three hours of directed portfolio course work.

Faculty
MARC faculty members are united under the umbrella of rhetoric and composition and dedication to advocacy and activism, yet diversity is a major strength. Faculty specialize in unique facets of rhetoric and composition, including digital media, Latin@ and feminist rhetorics, writing and empathy and writing center studies, yet understand how these specialized interests intersect and diverge. Outside the program, faculty members hold high-profile positions in national organizations, serve on editorial boards of major journals, present papers at conferences, and publish actively in top-tier journals.

Career Options
The MARC degree prepares students to:
- pursue writing careers in business, industry, and nonprofits
- teach writing in high school, community college, and university settings
- develop and administer writing programs and writing centers in these settings
- train teachers of writing
- enter doctoral programs in rhetoric and composition

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: January 15
Fall: June 15
Spring: November 1
Summer/Summer midterm: April 15
Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships, and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements, and funding, visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/marc