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Oakland University offering new digital publishing, community service writing courses

Are you interested in using writing to create social change? Do you dream of tweeting, blogging or posting online videos?

If so, Oakland University's [Department of Writing and Rhetoric](#) is offering two new courses this summer — Digital Publishing (WRT 3900) and Community Service Writing (WRT 3063) — that you'll want to check out now that [registration](#) for summer, fall and winter classes is underway.

According to [Lori Ostergaard, Ph.D.](#), an associate professor and chair of the Department of Writing and Rhetoric, Digital Publishing (WRT 3900) with Professor [Crystal VanKooten, Ph.D.](#), will be offered from 8:30 to 11:50 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays from May 5 through June 27.

"In the class, students will read digital texts while they get hands-on writing and editing experience with [The Journal of Undergraduate Multimedia Projects](#) (TheJUMP+), where I serve as a co-managing editor," said Van Kooten, an assistant professor of Writing and Rhetoric.

According to VanKooten, WRT 3900 students will prepare digital projects for publication, copy-edit submissions and promote material on the journal's blog and social media sites.

"This is a great opportunity for students to work for a professional journal and see some of their digital writing go out into the world," she said.

Also this summer, Community Service Writing (WRT 3063) with Professor [Roger Chao, Ph.D.](#), will be offered between 1 and 4:20 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays from May 5 through June 27.



Oakland University Professor Crystal VanKooten will be teaching Digital Publishing (WRT 3900) on Mondays and Wednesdays from May 5 through June 27.



Roger Chao, Ph.D.

"In this course, you will have the opportunity to not only read and discuss socially conscious texts, but also use research and writing strategies to help local community organizations develop and grow their programs and services," said Chao, an assistant professor in Writing and Rhetoric at OU.

According to Chao, the course will provide students with a unique opportunity to write for the community, with the community and about the community while conducting research about local populations, organizing grant proposals, or producing material for an organizational outreach services.

"Often times, students write within a strict academic context; essays and other texts are produced only for a grade or to meet the expectations set by the professor," he said. "Through this course the writing students do will actually have an impact in the 'real world.'

To learn more about the Department of Writing and Rhetoric, including courses offered, visit oakland.edu/wrt.