RCPC Creative Component Options

1. Professional Project Option

The form of your professional project will depend upon the nature of the professional project that you carry out. A packet of course materials, for instance, will take on quite a different form than a redesign of a website, a packet of promotional materials for a small business, or grant proposal written to a government agency. Past projects have also included the following: an instructional manual for operating equipment in a factory; a comics-style set of instructions for a computer lab; a website redesign for a local coffee shop; a history of our first-year writing program; and training materials for volunteers at ACCESS, a local women's shelter.

With your professional project—whatever form it takes—you will include a project report. This report of 5,000 to 8,000 words should state a rationale for your project, describe the project's audience and context, and discuss your methods (e.g., rhetorical strategies, technology). Your report should also explain how your coursework and secondary research informed your choices in carrying out your project. This report often begins as a proposal that you write at the start of your creative component in which you describe your plans for your project for your POS Committee.

2. Professional Portfolio Option

The professional portfolio consists of five parts:

1. ***A portfolio website.*** This professional portfolio site describes who you are, describes your past and present professional roles, and organizes examples of your work (see below). Your website should be your original design and should follow best practices. It should be usable, accessible, well-conceived, well-executed, and attractive. It should follow all relevant intellectual property laws, including, when necessary, obtaining permissions, citing sources, and linking to sources. In short, it should promote you as a professional.

2. ***An introductory memo of about 2,000 words to your committee.*** This memo must address these two general questions: (a) Based on your coursework, what do you see as the major issues in rhetoric, composition, *or* professional communication? (b) How do you as a professional and the work presented in this portfolio address those issues? At least 10 sources must be cited, following APA style. After responding to these two questions, you should provide an overview of the documents in the portfolio.

3. ***A résumé or curriculum vitae.***

4. ***Five documents—print or online—that you have worked on during your two years in the RCPC program.***

5. ***For each of those five documents, a 500-word meta-analysis.*** The meta-analysis should include:

    ◦   Name of the course and the instructor.
    ◦   Audience(s) and purpose(s) for the document.
    ◦   Your role in creating the document if the document was prepared collaboratively.
    ◦   Your goals for the document and a description of the document-development process.
    ◦   Theories and principles that informed the development of the document.
    ◦   In-text and reference list documentation of secondary sources that support the document-development choices. Again, follow APA style.

Submit your portfolio to your POS committee as a usable website.