English 7/8890: “Communicating in Crisis: Technical Writing in Science and Medicine”
In a world dealing with the ongoing repercussions of COVID-19 and the effects of climate 
change, there are pressing questions about effectively and ethically communicating about 
public health and science. Scientific and medical information must be clearly portrayed to a 
variety of public audiences with different perspectives, experiences, and feelings about 
such topics. In this class, we’ll study interdisciplinary theories and create practical projects 
addressing the complexities that arise when writing about topics that can have life or death 
consequences. We will ask questions such as: What does effective scientific and medical 
communication look like in a global information economy? How can we reimagine the 
binaries between “expert” and “nonexpert”? How can we enact socially just technical 
communication in science and medicine?