ENGL 7/8890: Topics in Professional & Technical Writing

Course Description: This special topics course will explore emerging trends in the field of technical communication. Specific focus will be given to user experience and usability studies, technical communication and social justice, the rhetoric of algorithms and networks, and discussion of current debates of theory versus praxis in technical communication scholarship and industry trends. Students will develop strong foundational knowledge of technical communication scholarship, theories, and skills to be applied to various sectors in the academy and industry.

Required Texts:
• Johnson-Eilola and Selber. *Solving Problems in Technical Communication.* University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 9780226924076. Paperback Price: $46, Ebook Price: $10, ISBN: 9780226924083
• Noble, Safiya. *Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism.* NYU Press. ISBN-13: 978-1479837243. Paperback Price: $25.20
• Potts, Liza. *Social Media in Distaster Response: How Experience Architects Can Build for Participation.* Routledge. ISBN-13: 978-0415817417. Paperback Price: $47.10, Ebook: $12- 37.
• Willerton, Russell. *Plain Language and Ethical Action: A Dialogic Approach to Technical Content in the 21st Century.* Ebook available through Uof M library.