

English 4602: “Risky Writing: How Writing Can Create, Mitigate, and Respond to Real Problems”

This class explores themes about the relationship between writing and risk. We’ll read current research related to writing and how it can create *and* prevent real, embodied harm. Over the course of the semester, we will pay close attention to the social dimensions and public consequences (both intended and unintended) of writing in a range of fields. Students should leave the class with a stronger understanding of how the act of writing carries inherent risks, how writing can mitigate or prevent real problems, and how writing can respond to harm. Major projects include producing an analytical research essay and composing a public-facing project based on that research.