WRIT 1003: Professional Writing: An Introduction exposes students to the foundational theories of the Writing Discipline and builds their awareness of writing processes. As the core course of the Writing Department’s Professional Writing Program, it models professional requirements in written and oral communication, and foregrounds university standards, critical awareness, and the persuasion of modern audiences.

There are four portfolios in Professional Writing: An Introduction. Using the model of a familiar essay, in Assignment 1 students move beyond the five-paragraph essay to use generate a central Idea, critically incorporate sources to create movement, and teach their reader something from their own experience. Assignment 2 adds film criticism, incorporating different media, and improving students’ mastery of sources and movement. Assignment 3 focuses on writing a non-fiction/creative work for a specific online journal, and assignment 4 covers institutional writing with the composition/presentation of a report advising how to improve student’s York University experience. Because the 21st century professional writer must market their own work, short, professional, oral presentations are part of the course structure for the Winter-term assignments.