



WHAT'S YOUR MAJOR?



NAME: Ashley

MAJOR: Professional and Technical Communication

CLASSIFICATION: Freshman

TELL THE STORY OF HOW YOU FOUND THIS MAJOR:

I've wanted to be a technical editor ever since I became fascinated with the English language; I just didn't have a word for it at the time. In 2nd grade, my teacher introduced me to proofreading, and my love for editing sparked. Since then, I've enjoyed learning about grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and writing overall, and I love editing others' work even more because it brings me joy knowing I can help others communicate better by sharing my skillset with them. In high school, I knew I had my eyes set on becoming an editor, but I only knew what I didn't want to edit: creative novels and newspapers. In November 2019, I was a copy editor intern where I edited content, structure, and grammar for a local magazine. While I enjoyed learning about real-world editing, I knew that copy editing wasn't the career for me. I asked the editor I was working with whether there was a career field for people who want to write or edit content in technical or science fields, and she introduced me to technical writing. Since then, I've had a clear goal to target my academic efforts towards.

WHAT TIPS DO YOU HAVE FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS:

Work hard in your classes not just to pass, but to learn. School will be more fun when your work feels less tedious and more beneficial. Core classes can sometimes feel like a drag, but remember that they're helping you achieve your goals, and they might teach you something new along the way.

