**Assistant Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication**

Location: Lexington, Kentucky, United States

Full-time

Application closes: Oct 31, 2023

Transylvania University (www.transy.edu), a top-tier, independent, residential liberal arts college in Lexington, Kentucky, invites applications for the position of Assistant Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication (WRC). This is a tenure-track position, teaching in-person classes, beginning August 30, 2024. Transylvania University recognizes that a diverse and inclusive community is essential to the fulfillment of our mission as a liberal arts institution. To that end, we seek to attract a diverse faculty skilled in the scholarship of teaching, research, and mentorship of students from a variety of backgrounds.

The ideal candidate will have expertise in communication—and especially race and ethnicity within communication studies—and will develop new courses for our growing major; they would also contribute regularly to Transylvania University’s First Year Seminar and First Engagements programming. The ideal candidate will also have interests in supporting our nationally recognized Speech and Debate team and/or contributing allied courses to Transylvania University’s new program in Africana Studies. Strong candidates will be able to demonstrate a record of and/or commitment to teaching and mentoring students from historically excluded and underrepresented groups.

Job Responsibilities   
The teaching load consists of three courses per semester, plus one short-term course in May (3-3-1) that offers additional opportunities for travel courses, team-taught courses, and other more experimental classroom endeavors. Other responsibilities include academic scholarship/professional activity and service to the university through various committee appointments and academic advising for students. WRC faculty also regularly support independent undergraduate research projects as needed.

The university has an array of faculty development programs and professional development funds to support scholarly research and artistic projects.

Qualifications  
A Ph.D. in Communication is required by the start date; applicants from communication-related fields such as rhetoric and composition and/or writing studies will be considered. Preference will be given to applicants with undergraduate teaching experience in communication courses and/or first- year seminars/composition. The applicant must demonstrate a commitment to continuing their own professional work along with a commitment to teaching, interdisciplinary dialogue, and working collaboratively with other faculty and with students both within the WRC program and across disciplines.

Application  
To begin the application process, please submit one PDF that contains

• your curriculum vitae  
• your unofficial graduate transcripts  
• a statement of teaching philosophy (no more than 500 words)  
• a statement of research philosophy (no more than 500 words)

Ideally, the teaching and research philosophy statements should address diversity/equity/inclusion/anti-racist practices.

Applicants should also submit a cover letter of approximately 1000 words that:  
1. identifies their strengths and experiences in creating an inclusive academic community  
2. details some potential course topics that could serve as additions to our current offerings, especially in regards to race and ethnicity within communication studies

3. describes experiences that might be useful in supporting communication-related student activities such as speech and debate and/or teaching first-year seminar or first-year writing courses  
4. speaks to how their experiences as scholars and teachers might benefit a small liberal arts college environment

If you are selected to move forward in the application process, you will be asked to provide official graduate transcripts and letters of recommendation at a later date. Send questions specific to this search to Dr. Scott Whiddon, search committee co-chair, at swhiddon@transy.edu. Review of applications will begin on October 15, 2023 and will continue until an appointment is made. We hope to host on-campus visits in January 2024.

Transylvania University is ranked in the top 15 percent of the nation’s four-year colleges by the Princeton Review, which cites our community-driven, personalized approach to a liberal arts education through 49 majors and 39 minors. Founded in 1780, Transylvania University is the 16th oldest institution of higher learning in the country, with approximately 1,000 students.

Transylvania University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to enhancing the diversity of the university community. In support of this goal, we seek qualified applicants with a wide range of backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences. We embrace diversity and encourage all who are interested to apply.

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