

Home Page Video Script

Hello, my name is Melissa Voltz, and I would like to present you with the resulting works of the Master of Science in Technical Communication program, my graduate portfolio. I began this journey in January 2022 after a twelve-year hiatus from academia. I received a Bachelor's in English in 2012, and after struggling to find a career that fits, I decided to pursue the MSTC program at Arizona State University.

My knowledge of the program and breadth of the study was limited upon entry. My first semester was extremely challenging as I attempted to overcome the adjustment to reentering an academic setting and recognizing and breaking through threshold concepts, which challenged what I knew in terms of writing, editing, designing, and audience perception.

The artifacts demonstrate how the Technical Communications program has challenged me to open my perspective and understanding. I have learned user-based design and understand that it is critical to assisting the audience in receiving information and creating an enjoyable experience for the audience. I have evolved from a writer into a communicator who understands the design, visualizations, formatting, and genres necessary to increase communication effectiveness. I have become more confident in my ability to learn new skills and take on tasks beyond my understanding or knowledge; this program challenged me to learn new software and styles, increasing my eagerness to continue my education. Although my master's program is concluding, I am very aware that my education in technical communication is, in some ways, just beginning.

Thank you, and I hope you enjoy navigating through my graduate experience.