CLiC
The Converging Literacies Center
Compose Yourself for Tomorrow

It’s a Sound. It’s a Place. It’s a Community.
It's the place for you to reimagine writing and teaching in a digital world.

What does CLiC have for you?
At the Converging Literacies Center, you’ll find a site (virtual and physical; course, community, and project-based) where educators, students and scholars work with one another to reimagine literacy and literacy education. You’ll discover ways to embrace multiple, diverse literacy experiences and multiple modes of communication—from the written to the aural to the digital.

Programs Available Include
- Ph.D. in English
- M.A. in English
- M.A. in English with an emphasis in TESOL
- B.A. in English

Why study rhetoric and composition at A&M-Commerce?
- Master’s and Ph.D. degrees in English with a concentration in composition and rhetoric.
- Individual mentoring with highly-qualified faculty actively publishing cutting-edge research in literacy studies, rhetoric, community literacy, writing center studies, and basic writing studies.
- Ten graduate courses devoted exclusively to rhetoric and composition studies.
- Opportunities to teach in innovative programs like our Writing Center, Basic Writing Program, First-Year Composition Program and upper-division courses in writing.
- Opportunities to become involved in important projects like the National Conversation on Writing, for which our department serves as institutional home, and several peer-reviewed, national and international journals edited by A&M-Commerce faculty members (like the film studies journal *Postscript*, the journal *Humor*, and *Philip Roth Studies*).
- Professional development for present and future career paths.
Through CLiC, students and faculty from across the disciplines work together to better understand and respond to questions like the following:

- How do digital literacies inform (and challenge) traditional ones?
- When (why and how) are print-based, alphabetic texts absorbed by multimodal ones?
- What are the material realities limiting and shaping our student’s acquisition of new literacies?
- What do these realities have to teach us about literacy learning and literacy education?
- What can we learn from all this about writing and the teaching of writing?

To this end, the Converging Literacies Center is six overlapping:

One:
An innovative Writing Center supporting and encouraging the development of multiple literacies and serving as the hub for related research.

Two:
Composition programs (Basic Writing, First-Year Writing) demonstrating the best practices emerging from CLiC-sponsored research.
is made up of components

Four
Scholarship informing and informed by CLiC activities and research (including textbooks, articles, and scholarly books).

Five
Workshops providing an ongoing forum for disseminating information and collaborating with area teachers (secondary and community college teachers).

Six
An extensive web presence sharing CLiC activities, information, and scholarships with the community (presented via video essays, audio essays, podcasts, and traditional, print-based, alphabetic modalities) and collecting new information via wiki the National Conversation on Writing, and other interactive formats.

Our graduate students are regular presenters at competitive national and international conferences in rhetoric and composition like the Conference on College Composition and
After my collegial, rigorous, and fulfilling graduate-school tenure, I have my dream job and proudly represent A&M-Commerce.

--Tonya Scott,
Assistant Professor of English, Prairie View A&M (Ph.D., A&M-Commerce, 2005)

At A&M-Commerce, students at all levels are very active scholars, even our first-year writers. In Spring 2008, for example, the national peer-reviewed journal Young Scholars in Writing: Undergraduate Research in Writing and Rhetoric, published Eric Pleasant's “Literacy Sponsors and Learning: An Ethnography of Punk Literacy in 1980s Waco,” an ethnographic project Pleasant created in his own first-year composition course at A&M-Commerce. Several other students in our first-year composition program have presented their own, original research at local conferences.

The Converging Literacies Center Committee includes faculty from across the campus, thus CLIc is inherently interdisciplinary.

CLIc Committee Membership includes Shannon Carter, CLIc Co-Director (multiple literacies, writing center studies, basic writing, prison literacy), Donna Dunbar-Odom, CLIc Co-Director (literacy studies, ethnography, working class issues), Bill Bolin (rhetoric and war), Vaughn Wascovich (place-based photography, interdisciplinarity, photographic education),
In a digital world, teaching and learning is the place for reimagine.