

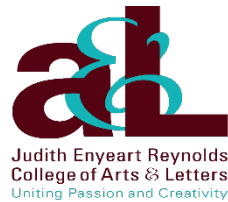


DEPARTMENT *of*
COMMUNICATION

Majors and Minors Handbook Fall 2020 - Spring 2021

Preparing students for life, work, and citizenship

*Communication Competence • Critical Thinking • Advocacy
Diversity • Leadership • Conflict Resolution*



**MAKE YOUR
MISSOURI
STATEMENT™**

Craig Hall 375
Phone: 417-836-4423
Fax: 417-836-4774
Email: communication@missouristate.edu
Internet: <http://communication.missouristate.edu>.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	I
A Message from the Department Head of COM	1
Now that You're a Communication Major or Minor	3
Planning for Your Communication Major	3
Majors and Certificates in Communication	4
Minors in Communication	7
Registering for Classes	7
Meeting Graduation Requirements of Your Major	7
Things to Expect in Your Communication Major or Minor	8
The Department's Six Themes	8
Standards in the Department of Communication	9
Communication Scholarships	10
Getting Involved and Staying Informed	10
Meet Your Communication Faculty	11
E-mail	11
Blogs, Tweets and Friends	11
Communication Student Organizations	11
Communication Honors Reception & Induction Ceremony	12
Vicki Stanton Public Speaking Showcase	12
COM Days	12
Career Opportunities for COM Graduates	12
What You Can Do to Make Yourself More Marketable	14
Communication Internships	16
Student Learning Outcomes	17
Department of Communication Faculty	18
Majors Course Requirements	20
Certificate Course Requirements	27
Minors Course Requirements	29
General Education Requirements	31
Sample Course Sequencing Guides	33
Course Sequencing Maps	41
The Center for Dispute Resolution	44
The Holt V. Spicer Debate Forum	45
Master of Arts in Communication	46
Declaration of Community Principles	47
Our Commitment	48

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD OF COM*“Preparing students for life, work, and citizenship”*

Dear Students:

As Department Head of Communication at Missouri State University, it is truly my pleasure to welcome you to our family. Whether you are pursuing a major or a minor in Communication, you have made an excellent choice because there has never been a better time to earn a degree in Communication. So, congratulations on your decision!

Allow me to briefly tell you why a degree in Communication is so valuable today, as well as what that degree can do for you.

As I’m sure you recognize, our world looks very different than it did even a year ago. Never before have people been asked to demonstrate such high levels of communication competence, cultural literacy, critical thinking, organizational flexibility, creative collaboration, and network savvy. These skills lie at the heart of Communication, which is why Communication is both one of the fastest-growing fields and most sought after degrees in the world.

According to *The Princeton Review*, which recently ranked all university majors based on the criteria of “job prospects, alumni salaries, and popularity,” Communication ranks as the second best major on college campuses (<http://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/top-ten-college-majors>). Second only to Computer Science, Communication ranked ahead of majors such as Business, Psychology, Economics, and even Engineering.

Why is Communication such a sought after degree today?*A uniquely flexible degree*

Research shows that today’s college graduates will hold 5-7 *careers* (not “jobs”) over the course of their lifetimes. Consequently, a traditional educational model, one which focuses on preparing students to work in a single career field, is both outdated and obsolete. It is absolutely critical that today’s graduates possess a diverse and highly transferrable skill set. In Communication, you will learn effective oral and written communication skills, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, leadership and management skills, intercultural and interpersonal skills, and negotiation and conflict-management skills. These are the skills that employers want, and they are the skills that will guide you to success in your professional lives. This means that you can work in virtually any industry and, indeed, our graduates work in a remarkably diverse array of fields, including business and finance, media and entertainment, health care and social work, science and technology, art and education, and government and politics among others.

A degree that builds life skills

Communication is concerned not just with your career success (though it is committed to that as well), but with success in all aspects of your life: personal, professional, and public. At the personal level, Communication seeks to improve your personal relationships through classes in interpersonal, family, relational, and nonverbal communication. At the professional level, Communication enhances your effectiveness in the workplace through classes in organizational, small group, conflict-resolution, and intercultural communication. And, at the public level, Communication promotes strong civic engagement through classes in rhetoric, public speaking, and argumentation and debate. We are training you to be a leader both in your workplace and in your community.

We recognize that “work” is only one aspect of your life, and we are dedicated to producing well-rounded, well-adjusted citizens who are happy and healthy in all spheres of life. In short, we’re preparing you not just for a career, but for the world. And the world is more challenging today than perhaps ever before. In an era defined by endless change and by the continuous creation, transmission, and circulation of information, there truly has never been a better time to earn a degree in Communication. Thank you for recognizing that!

Welcome to a future of possibility and prosperity. Welcome to Communication!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Ott".

Brian L. Ott, Ph.D.
Department Head / Professor
Department of Communication
374 Craig Hall
Missouri State University
901 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO 65897

office: (417) 836-6525

email: BrianOtt@MissouriState.edu

web: <https://missouristate.academia.edu/BrianOtt>

Now that You're a Communication Major or Minor...

Welcome to the Department of Communication. You have chosen to pursue a very valuable and useful area of study which will equip you to achieve significant personal and professional goals in your life. You have chosen to pursue this study in what we believe is one of the finest Communication programs in the region. We are pleased to have you as a student, and we will work with you to pursue and accomplish excellence in your education.

This handbook is to help you know what resources are available to you, what will be expected of you, and what you may expect from us. It is updated each fall semester, and the most recent version is always available on the department's website <http://communication.missouristate.edu>.

Planning for Your Communication Major

There are a number of things you need to plan for as a Communication major. Making these plans now will ensure you are prepared for your major.

See Your Advisor

Mr. Jay Howard is the main academic advisor for the Department of Communication. Upon declaring a major in communication, Mr. Howard will be assigned as your primary advisor. He also serves as the secondary advisor for all COM minors. His email address is JayHoward@MissouriState.edu. If you have not been assigned an advisor, contact the department administrative assistant in Craig 375, communication@missouristate.edu, for assistance.

Identify Prerequisite Courses

All MSU students must complete COM 115: Fundamentals of Public Speaking. All COM majors must also complete COM 209: Survey of Communication and COM 210: Communication Research Methods. COM minors are required to complete COM 209 but COM 210 is optional. For the Public Relations major, you also must complete JRN 270: Introduction to Journalism. In consultation with your advisor, you should plan your next few semesters so that you satisfy prerequisites you will need to advance in your major.

Completing the Core Courses

You should complete the core courses as early as you can as they are the prerequisites for many upper division COM courses. These courses include the following:

- COM 205 Interpersonal Communication Theory & Skills – no prerequisites
- COM 206 Health Communication – no prerequisites
- COM 209 Survey of Communication – no prerequisites
- COM 210 Communication Research Methods – prerequisite is COM 209
- COM 307 Gender and Communication – no prerequisites
- COM 315 Advanced Speaking in Professional Settings – prerequisite is COM 115
- COM 322 Introduction to Argumentation – prerequisite is COM 115
- COM 325 Nonverbal Communication – no prerequisites
- COM 390 Communication and Aging – no prerequisites

Consider Taking COM 100 and/or COM 300

COM 100: Introduction to Majors in Communication is designed to orient students to the department and the content of your major. You will meet many of the department's faculty, learn what a degree in Communication is all about, and develop a plan for being successful in your major. COM 300: Professional Development will introduce you to career options in Communication, help you develop strategies for marketing yourself, and lead you to integrate your classroom education, life experiences, and career aspirations.

Plan to do at Least One Internship

While they are not required, internships are strongly recommended. To be eligible for an internship, you must have completed 60 credit hours, including COM 115, COM 209, and nine hours in Communication with a minimum 3.0 GPA; however, you should begin thinking early on about the kind of internship you would like to obtain. You can meet with our internship advisor, Ms. Jerri Lynn Kyle, to discuss possibilities. The best internships, including those that are paid, typically are highly competitive and have early application deadlines.

Majors and Certificates in Communication

The Department of Communication offers a variety of degree and major options from which to choose and we offer undergraduate certificates in Conflict and Dispute Resolution and Press Politics. Having a minor is adequate, but further education with a certificate creates an even more desirable candidate for future employers.

B.A./B.S. in Communication Studies (non-comprehensive)

Through an emphasis on communication, persuasion, and rhetoric, combined with an outside minor area of study, this degree epitomizes the essence of a liberal arts education. The central element of any program in human communication is the examination of messages and their meanings: how communication helps shape society and its institutions, how human beings construct and interpret messages, what meanings are evoked by such messages, how social reality is defined through the exchange of messages, and how messages are evaluated. The BA/BS program examines human messages in a variety of contexts and is suitable preparation for many different career and professional options after graduation.

This major offers the greatest flexibility of the department's programs. Students completing this program receive the widest exposure to the field specialties in the department and are well prepared to work in a variety of communication industry settings.

B.S. in Conflict and Interpersonal Communication (non-comprehensive)

Conflict is a pervasive and costly part of every workplace, and increasingly employers are seeking professionals who possess strong communication skills, who can work effectively as part of a team, and who can mitigate their own conflicts and those conflicts that arise with and among peers, supervisors, and employees. The Conflict and Interpersonal Communication Major is designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills to manage conflicts and resolve disputes while building strong interpersonal relationships.

This BS non-comprehensive degree provides you with the theoretical knowledge you need to understand what causes conflict and interpret the dynamics of conflict. Then, through a blend of classroom and experiential learning you will develop the skills to analyze conflicts and intervene effectively in a wide range of interpersonal, organizational, and public contexts. Finally, you will have the option to develop and apply what you learn in an intensive internship experience.

B.S. in Intercultural Communication (non-comprehensive)*

The intercultural communication major offers students a contemporary path to engage in the study of intercultural communication in today's world. With the goal of increasing cultural competence, a pillar of the Public Affairs Mission at Missouri State University, professors work with students to analyze intercultural communication as a means to improve intercultural relationships in their communities. Intercultural students study phenomena such as identity, every day and aesthetic dimensions of culture, cultural performance, intersectionality, and intercultural discourse. Students will have the opportunity to engage in both theoretical and applied modes of study which culminate in hands-on fieldwork experience. This major orients students toward careers that center on social justice by developing communication strategies designed to aid communities in combating systemic racism, classism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and other harmful discursive practices, in service of creating a more just and equitable society.

B.S. in Organizational Communication (non-comprehensive)

The study of organizational communication emphasizes both the effects of the organizational context on communication as well as the role of communication in shaping organizational realities. This major prepares students to be competent, professional communicators who understand the ever-changing, multicultural, and diverse nature of contemporary organizations. As such, students are provided the theoretical and applied knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to succeed in entry level and leadership positions in a wide variety of industries and organizational settings. The curriculum in this area of study also enhance students' successful participation in a variety of organizations beyond a traditional workplace, including those in civil, social, religious, and leisure arenas.

B.S. in Public Relations (comprehensive)

Public relations professionals are charged with building and maintaining good relations between organizations and their various stakeholders, which may include customers, community members, government entities, and other organizations, as well as employees.

The public relations (PR) curriculum prepares students to engage in critical analysis and to create effective oral and written communications. PR students learn about the dynamics and challenges associated with communicating within and on behalf of an organization through both mediated and non-mediated methods. Students apply the principles and techniques of graphic and visual layout as they produce, implement, and evaluate constituent-centered communication projects designed to serve either a client's organizational objectives or its crisis management needs.

B.S. in Socio-Political Communication (comprehensive)

The socio-political communication major educates students broadly regarding social issues confronting society that have become a part of the political agenda. The goals of this major are to enable students to understand the communicative aspects of the political process, to be able to analyze and evaluate this process from a communicative standpoint, and to demonstrate effective use of communication principles in the political process. Specific objectives are to evaluate one or more current social issues that have become part of the political agenda, evaluate the research and evidence elucidating how issues are perceived by various segments of the body politic and to recommend and prepare communicative strategies and materials that demonstrate an understanding of rhetoric and persuasion as they operate in the political process.

B.S. in Speech & Theatre Education/Communication Emphasis* (comprehensive; certifiable grades 9-12)

Students interested in teaching speech, debate, and theatre arts at the high school level may take advantage of outstanding programs in both communication and theatre. In addition to the required secondary education curriculum, students choosing to emphasize communication education will study argumentation, debate, acting, and other areas represented in high school speech and theatre programs. In addition, classes in interpersonal and small group communication, as well as in directing forensics activities, prepare students for effective classroom management and teaching.

***Intercultural Communication and Speech & Theatre Education Admission to Degree**

The Missouri State University Undergraduate Catalog specifies the following admission requirements for majors in Intercultural Communication and Speech & Theatre Education. Once you have completed the requirements, you will meet with your advisor to submit your degree application.

1. Complete a minimum of 59 credit hours.
2. Have a combined grade point average (Missouri State University and transfer credits) of 2.50 or higher or have a GPA of 2.75 for the last 30 hours of courses completed before applying for admission to the degree program.
3. Complete COM 115 and COM 209 with a GPA of 2.50 or higher.
4. Complete any additional admission requirements for your selected emphasis or major.
5. Submit application for admission and receive approval by a faculty advisor and the head of the Department of Communication.

University Certificate in Conflict and Dispute Resolution

The Undergraduate Certificate in Conflict and Dispute Resolution provides a 16-credit-hour experience in dispute resolution and conflict processes. A certificate is in addition to a bachelor's degree, and the hours in this certificate can double-count with a major or minor (with advisor approval). This interdisciplinary program offers specific information and training to help students understand conflict and resolve disputes. The certificate has both a theory/research component and an applied component. Additional electives allow students to study conflict and its management in the context of their specific disciplines or professions. The certificate will benefit anyone who encounters conflict on an interpersonal, family, organizational, inter-group, or community level. To be admitted, students must have 30 credit hours and a 3.00 GPA. Meeting the minimum application requirements does not guarantee admission to the certificate program.

University Certificate in Press Politics

The Press-Politics Certificate is a 15-credit-hour program designed with the same goals of similar certificates at Georgetown, Northwestern, and Harvard. Upon completion, students will be able to: 1) More fully understand the intricate workings of media's influence on policy and public discourse. 2) Be able to analyze the cycle of influence between the media and politicians, politics, policy, and government. 3) Understand the practical skill of representing politics in the media. 4) Provide theoretical and practical knowledge for journalists to cover political stories; for campaign teams to understand message construction and its impact on citizens and politicians; and for political scientists to more fully understand the role of media in citizen behavior.

Minors in Communication

A minor in Communication is an excellent choice for just about **any** non-comprehensive or comprehensive major at the University. Because you can choose which communication courses to take, you can tailor them to fit your professional needs.

Communication

This minor is 15 credit hours with one required course, COM 209 (3 hours) and four Communication elective courses (12 hours). Six of the twelve hours must be in courses numbered 300 or higher. With a communication minor, you can do the following:

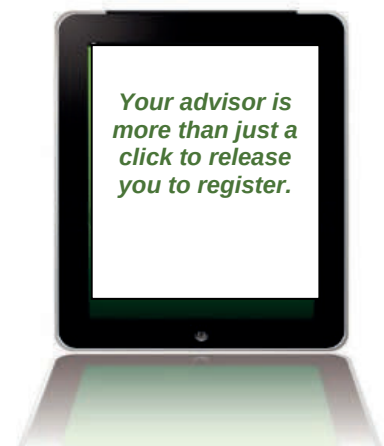
- Develop strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Develop excellent interpersonal skills.
- Explore specializations beyond your professional field.
- Select electives to support internships in area(s) of interest.
- Obtain experience through internships, service-learning projects, and/or volunteer opportunities.
- Develop team player skills and team experiences.

Ethical Leadership

The goal of this minor is to provide students an opportunity to develop an understanding of the theoretical and practical implications of ethical leadership within our public affairs mission. Students will learn a broad-based and humanistic approach to leadership that seeks to facilitate shared group goals and needs. Moreover, students will consider how leadership is practiced differently within diverse contexts, movements, and cultures. By completing this minor program, students will have a competitive advantage in entering the workforce with a clear understanding of leadership and a set of skills to effect positive change in their community or organization.

Registering for Classes

Until you have completed 75 hours, you must have an advisor's release to register for classes. We recommend you continue meeting regularly with your advisor even after completing 75 hours. Your advisor can help plan your semester schedules to ensure you meet your timetable for graduation, troubleshoot problems, and advise you in choosing elective courses or adding a minor. Perhaps most importantly as you enter your junior and senior years, your advisor can give information about careers, help you network, serve as a reference when you begin applying for jobs, and assist in development of portfolio materials.



Meeting Graduation Requirements of Your Major



Your degree audit, which you can view at any time through my.missouristate.edu on the Missouri State University website, will show you what requirements you have and have not met. If all the required courses in your major are specified, there is nothing you must do beyond successfully completing those required courses. However, if your major allows for electives "with advisor approval," or if you wish to substitute a different course for one that is specifically required, there is a form.

Advisor-Approved Courses

Some COM majors have several course options that must first be advisor approved, so some courses will not automatically appear on your degree audit. To add these options to your degree program, meet with your advisor to complete the Advisor Approved Courses Form and then bring it to the COM department office. The department head will review the course(s) request and, if approved for your major, will apply your chosen classes to your degree audit.

Course Substitution or Waiver

Your advisor must recommend the substitution or waiver, and the Department Head must approve any substitutions or waivers for courses required in your major. If approved, the advisor will sign the Course Substitution or Waiver Form, which you then take to the department office. The department head will review the course(s) request and, if approved, will apply the substitution or waiver to your degree audit.

Things to Expect in Your Communication Major or Minor

Whatever specific motivations you may have for choosing a major in Communication, we assume that you share one central goal with your professors and fellow students: to become an effective communicator. You already possess considerable abilities and ambitions with respect to communication, or you would not have chosen this major. Your task is to challenge yourself to develop the advanced knowledge and skills that will prepare you to be a professional communicator.

Our vision for the Department of Communication is that our students will be recognized as the best communicators on this campus and in the organizations where you find employment. We will hold you to high standards of performance and discipline in pursuit of this vision, which we very much hope you will share with us.

The Department's Six Themes

The department offers a wide range of courses and areas of study, from intercultural and group communication to public relations and political communication. Six themes link these diverse specialties for all communication students:

1. **Communication competence:** Demonstrating written, oral and interactional communication knowledge, ability, and skills.
2. **Ethical discourse:** Promoting and practicing ethical public and interpersonal communication.
3. **Diversity:** Understanding diverse cultural and social environments and employing communication principles and skills contributing to productive and ethical relationships among diverse peoples and interests.
4. **Leadership & participation:** Effective and ethical exercise of influence and responsible participation in collective action.
5. **Advocacy:** Ethical application of rhetorical strategy and skill.
6. **Issues analysis:** Understanding and evaluating issues relevant to the application of communication knowledge and skills in responsible citizenship.

Standards in the Department of Communication

Human communication is central to everything we do.

At work or home, in public or interpersonal settings, we make judgments about one another based on our communication behaviors. We want students who graduate with a degree in Communication to be skilled communicators and you will be expected to do a number of things well as a Communication major.

The Five Competency Areas

1. Writing
2. Speaking
3. Interaction
4. Research & Critical Interpretation
5. Communication Knowledge

We believe it is important for you to exhibit standards of behavior that will make you a valuable participant in whatever activity you undertake. To communicate effectively in a democratic society you must be present and you must participate. We expect you to attend class regularly, to be on time, and to meet scheduled deadlines. To do so demonstrates courtesy to all involved. Expect that these standards will be a part of your overall evaluation and strictly enforced.

Written Communication

When you declare a major in Communication, you are expected to be proficient in the use of standard written English. All written materials you produce will be evaluated for both content and form. Written material is expected to be free of errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and so forth. If you need assistance with basic writing, we encourage you to take advantage of resources available at the university, such as the Writing Center in the Meyer Library.

Oral Communication

Evaluation of your oral communication skills continues every day by people with whom you interact, including teachers. An important objective of the Communication faculty is to ensure that you can communicate well in any context. You are expected to demonstrate acceptable skills of oral communication, including voice and diction, listening, sensitivity to audience and occasion. You should also have a basic understanding of structure, argument, and linguistic choices needed to achieve your goals. In short, we expect you to speak and listen well.

Ethics

As a student at MSU, you attend a university guided by a mission in public affairs and a set of community principles that emphasize ethical, responsible behavior in both public and private life. Beyond adhering to university policies regarding cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty, we expect you will exercise your responsibility to consider the ethical groundings and consequences of your communication choices. The social worlds in which we live are created by our communication, and we share an obligation to create environments that foster fairness, justice, and community.

Teaching Contexts

Written and oral communication skills, and the ethical judgments that guide them, are central to the discipline of communication. Many of the contexts in which you will apply those skills will occur outside the classroom. Because of this, we will avail ourselves of many opportunities to help you polish these communication skills, including opportunities outside of the classroom. You should be neither surprised nor offended if a professor asks you to stop and consider the communication choices you are making, or challenges you to rise to the higher levels of competence of which you are capable.



Communication Scholarships

Consistent with our commitment to excellence, the Department of Communication offers several undergraduate academic scholarships.

Applications for these competitive scholarships are accepted November 1 - March 1, and scholarships are awarded for the following academic year. All applications are to be completed online and are available on My Missouri State at my.missouristate.edu, under Profile tab, Financial Aid, and General and Department Scholarships.

There are many departmental scholarships:

- **The Faculty Scholarship in Communication** is awarded to a promising undergraduate student who has declared a major in Communication and completed at least 30 hours with a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.0 GPA in the department core.
- **The Holt V. Spicer Scholarship** is awarded to a full-time junior or senior Communication major with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA.
- **The Russell Keeling Scholarship** is awarded to an undergraduate Communication major who demonstrates a commitment to public affairs and citizenship.
- **The Donal and Vicki Stanton Scholarship** is given to an outstanding student majoring in Socio-political Communication.
- **The David L. Dollar Scholarship** is awarded to a junior or senior Communication or Public Relations major.
- **The Chris Sifford Memorial Scholarship** is given to a Communication and Journalism major at the sophomore-level or higher, with preference to students from certain counties in Missouri.
- **The Adams Public Service Internship** provides financial support to students serving unpaid internships in the non-profit or government arenas.
 - This scholarship application also requires students to turn in a hardcopy internship application to the Communication Department Director of Internships.
- **Roy T. And Mildred Durr Wilcox Scholarship in Communication** is awarded to a full-time junior or senior Communication major.

Several scholarships are dedicated to students participating in forensics through the Holt V. Spicer Debate Forum. These scholarships are recommended by the Director of Forensics and include the following:

- **The Virginia Craig Memorial Scholarship**
- **The William T. Carrington Memorial Scholarship**

Other scholarships are supported by **The Tom Black Debate Fund**, **The MSU Debate Fund**, and the University.

Getting Involved and Staying Informed

As you might expect, in this department we place a high priority on communication. We will do our best to keep you informed of things that affect you as a student and to listen to your opinions and suggestions. We also will try to provide opportunities for you to gain experiences and to network beyond the walls of the classroom. We also expect you to take the initiative in seeking out information, providing input, and taking advantage of opportunities.

Meet Your Communication Faculty

You will find the faculty in this department to be approachable, friendly, and genuinely concerned about students. The best way to find out if this claim is true is to test it yourself. Your classroom experiences will be enhanced greatly if you will take time to interact with your instructors outside of class. Stop by during office hours; stay after class once in a while for a brief conversation; or send an e-mail. A complete list of the department's full-time faculty, including a summary of their teaching and research areas and contact information, appears in the Appendix. More detailed bios for faculty appear on the department's website.



Email

The department office, your professors, and your advisor will rely on your university email address to communicate with you. Even if your university email is not your primary email address, you should check it at least once a week.

Blogs, Tweets, and Friends

Updated regularly, In Common carries important, useful information for Communication students, such as Communication Department news and announcements, career and job search tips, internships, student and faculty accomplishments, and highlights of alumni accomplishments. You'll receive an email reminder and link to In Common, and it is always available through a link on the department's website. Along with being a COM major, be a COM friend on Facebook @MissouriStateCOM and follow us on Twitter @msuCOMDept.

Communication Student Organizations

The Department of Communication sponsors student organizations, and we encourage you to become involved in one or more of them. The chapters are associated with national professional organizations and have relationships with local and regional professional chapters.

Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)

PRSSA is a student organization open to all students and has an emphasis on cultivating a favorable and mutually advantageous relationship between students and professional public relations practitioners.



Lambda Pi Eta (LPH)

Lambda Pi Eta is the national communication honor society affiliated with the National Communication Association. Each semester, students who meet the academic standards required for membership and are recommended by faculty are invited to join this prestigious group. In addition to recognizing and promoting academic excellence in Communication, Lambda Pi Eta members engage in projects designed to serve the department and the discipline.

Communication Honors Reception & Induction Ceremony

Late in the spring semester, the department holds a special event to recognize outstanding student achievements. At the Honors Reception, we present department scholarships and awards, and induct the new Lambda Pi Eta members.

Vicki Stanton Public Speaking Showcase

Each semester, students from the COM 115 classes participate in the Vicki Stanton Public Speaking Showcase. Each class selects a top speaker to compete in Showcase, and following two preliminary rounds, the top five to six finalists speak before an audience of approximately 700 people.



COM Days

The department sponsors COM Days, an event that spotlights career and professional opportunities for Communication students. Formats vary from year to year, but COM Days typically includes panel discussions with alumni, guest speakers, and professional networking opportunities.

Career Opportunities for COM Graduates

The most common career fields for Communication graduates include business, public relations/advertising, social and human services, nonprofit administration, arts and entertainment, government, international relations, education, law, health, technology, and media. If this seems like a long and broad list, that's because it is. While a degree in Communication provides a foundation of knowledge and skills appropriate to a wide range of professions, you will need to consider carefully how you can tailor your broad education to specific jobs and industries. Internships, work and volunteer experience, elective courses, and complementary majors or minors can play a pivotal role in your preparation for various careers.



As a starting point, you may want to look at a publication titled *What Can I Do With This Major?* prepared at the University of Tennessee. It's available on the MSU Career Center web site at <https://careercenter.missouristate.edu/students/What-can-I-do-with-this-major.htm>. You also may be interested in a booklet titled *Why Study Communication? Pathways to Your Future*, published by the National Communication Association.

We won't duplicate all of the information available in these publications, but as an example, here are areas within business in which Communication graduates can expect to find jobs: sales, management, human resources, labor relations, public relations, customer service, training and development, writing/editing, buying, consulting, and negotiator/mediator.

Your opportunities are much more varied than we can list here, but to give you an idea, here are examples of what Communication graduates have been doing over the past several years.

- Public Information Coordinator for LA's Best, an after school enrichment, education & recreation program for the city of Los Angeles, operating from the Office of the Mayor
- Director of Public Relations for the Greater Ozarks Chapter of the American Red Cross
- Assistant Account Executive at Fleishman-Hillard International Communications
- Communications Assistant in the Immediate Office of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington. D.C.
- Marketing Coordinator at BKD, LLP
- Account Executive at Lippe Taylor
- Peace Corps Volunteer
- Volunteer Coordinator at Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Southwest Missouri
- Employee Development Manager, Ferrell Gas, Inc.
- Executive Assistant to the President of The Hawthorn Group
- Program Director for Big Brothers & Big Sisters
- Media Specialist for the Missouri Patient Care Review Foundation
- Administrative Assistant for the Southwest Area office of Missouri Special Olympics
- Public Relations associate at Noble & Associates
- Promotions Manager for the Gateway Grizzlies minor league baseball team
- Public Relations Manager for Wal-Mart Foundation Programs
- Events Manager for The National Golf Club
- Assistant Development Director for Boys and Girls Town of Missouri
- Marketing Representative at Cox Health
- Human Resources Assistant at the Lockton Companies
- Intake Specialist with First Steps of Southwest Missouri
- Pursuing master's degrees with paid assistantships
- Pursuing doctoral degrees at leading Ph.D. programs
- Pursuing degrees in law at a variety of institutions

Your Communication degree emphasizes oral and written communication skills, interpersonal and group communication, analysis of communication issues and problems, and a broad understanding of how communication processes affect people and institutions in diverse ways. These competencies are necessary in all of the careers listed above. In addition to these broad competencies, your Communication degree may include a number of courses and experiences that are more specific to certain professions or tasks. For example, the Public Relations major includes specialized courses in employee relations and public relations campaigns, and courses from other departments such as Journalism and Art & Design.

If your Communication major is a broader study, such as the non-comprehensive B.S. or B.A. in Communication, you probably will choose a second major or minor that provides specialized knowledge in a related or complementary field. For example, if you were interested in international relations you might choose a major or minor in Modern & Classical Languages and/or International Business. Someone interested in training and development might combine an Organizational Communication major with a major in Human Resources or Industrial/Organizational Psychology. One recent graduate majored in Organizational Communication with a minor in Computer

Information Systems and now works as a high-tech management recruiter for a major multi-national corporation.

What You Can Do to Make Yourself More Marketable

Regardless of the career field you pursue, there are several strategies you should use to enhance your ability to land the job you want.

Develop Strong Written As Well As Verbal Communication Skills

Many students are attracted to Communication because they like to talk, they enjoyed high school forensics, or because they did well in their COM 115 class. Many of these same students are surprised to learn how much of their Communication degree involves writing. Speaking skills are important, but most communicators make their living more from writing than from speaking.

Develop Excellent Interpersonal Skills

This is more than just being a people person. Persuasion, motivation, conflict management, relationship building, teamwork, and leadership are all necessary and highly marketable skills. But, you have to be able to do more than just study these skills or say you have them. You have to practice and develop them, and you need to be able to point to specific examples of when you have put them to work successfully. It is particularly important for you to be able to point to work, internships, and class experiences where you have demonstrated these skills and, better yet, to have credible references who can attest to your skills.

Increase Your Marketability With

- strong written as well as verbal communication skills
- excellent interpersonal skills
- electives to support internships in area(s) of interest
- experience through part-time employment, co-op, internships and/or volunteer experience
- campus activities and professional organizations
- team player skills and team experiences

Explore Specializations with Major and Professional Fields

Some of our majors, such as Public Relations and Socio-Political Communication, have specializations built into them. But even in these more specialized majors, you need to explore specific jobs and their requirements. For example, within or related to Public Relations are areas such as publicity, marketing, development, sales, media analysis, and public opinion research. Talk to your professors and professionals in those areas to learn what you should expect and what you need to do to prepare yourself.

Select Electives to Support Internships in Area(s) of Interest

Implicit in this advice is the importance of completing an internship, of course. You want to be as prepared for a particular internship experience as you can be. Our department requires that you be at least a junior before doing an internship so that you are more likely to have had sufficient coursework to prepare you for doing the work an organization might require of you. In addition, try to choose courses that will prepare you to do the kind of work you want to do in an internship. For example, if you want to work on public relations for a nonprofit organization, then elective courses in publications design and social work might prepare you for more advanced work in that internship than you might otherwise be able to do.

Obtain Experience

Career counselors will tell you that experience counts for a great deal. The more job-related experience you can obtain, the better off you will be. If you plan for these experiences rather than suddenly deciding in your senior year that you should do something, you will be better prepared to

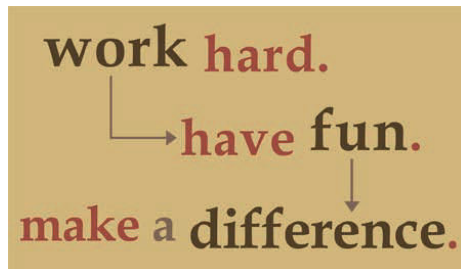
take advantage of them. You also may leave yourself enough time and opportunity to gain multiple experiences. For example, suppose you plan to become a political lobbyist. You do an internship with a lobbying firm in the state capital during the summer following your junior year and discover that you hate lobbying. While it may seem like a waste of time, it is better to find out you dislike the job now than 18 months from now when you are already in the field. Now, you have your senior year to try something else.

Don't forget that volunteering is a great way to gain experience. A student once told a Girl Scouts executive that she wanted to be an accountant for a nonprofit organization like the Girl Scouts. The first question the executive asked was whether the student had ever worked for or volunteered with the Girl Scouts or a similar nonprofit organization. If nothing else, the executive suggested, having volunteered would have allowed the student to become familiar with the organization so that she could discuss opportunities more intelligently in a job interview.

Service learning and applied class projects are other excellent ways of gaining marketable experience.

Get Involved in Campus Activities and Professional Organizations

Campus organizations are great places to develop your social, organizational, and leadership skills. They also can be a great way to network with people who could someday be instrumental in helping



you find a job. Professional organizations, in addition to exposing you to professions associated with your degree, offer opportunities for networking, meeting professionals, internships, and access to job placement resources. On top of all that, involvement in organizations looks great on your résumé, particularly if you have held a position of leadership or responsibility.

Develop Team Player Skills and Team Experiences

Small group and team structures are the norm in today's organizations, and your communication training gives you the perfect opportunity to prepare yourself for success in these areas. You may grow weary of the group projects that seem to appear in nearly every one of your Communication classes, but these are opportunities for you to develop skills (and portfolios!) that are highly marketable. Do not just survive your group project; maximize it.

The greatest advantage of a Communication degree may be that it is broadly applicable. The greatest disadvantage of a Communication degree may be that it is, well, broadly applicable. Because your degree may lead you into so many different careers, it is impossible for our curriculum to prepare you for one specific career path. We can show you where others have gone before you, but in the end you have to make your own way. Take advantage of every learning opportunity you have within the Communication Department and in other areas, and be proactive in seeking information about possible careers. Talk to recent graduates. Talk to people in career fields that interest you. Read about different professions and current economic trends. Take advantage of the campus Career Center office. Do internships. Take a service-learning course. Above all, be aware of what knowledge and skills you possess so you can be able to recognize how your abilities matches with what an employer needs.

Communication Internships

Internships can be very valuable experiences for several reasons. First, most employers' value experience and internships can give you professional experience you otherwise might lack. Second, internships allow you to apply classroom knowledge in practical settings. Third, your internship experience will let you see firsthand what it is like to work in a particular profession or organization. This may affirm for you the career path you have chosen, or it may lead you to decide on a different path.

You must meet certain requirements to receive credit for an internship.

These minimum requirements include:

1. Completed 60 credit hours
2. Completion of COM 115, COM 209, and nine additional COM hours
3. GPA of 3.00 or better in your Communication major
4. Permission of the Internship Coordinator



Frequently Asked Questions

Where Do I Find internships?

The MSU Career Center has information on hundreds of organizations and potential internships. Many companies and organizations that offer internships publicize them on their websites. The department's Internship Coordinator often receives and distributes information about internship opportunities. You also may want to inquire within your own network of friends, family, acquaintances, and employers about internship possibilities.

Will I Get Paid for My internship?

Some internships are paid, and some are not. Some will provide a modest stipend to cover travel and/or meal expenses, but not pay a salary. While being paid is nice, many of the best internship opportunities are unpaid. Remember that the greatest value of an internship is in what you learn and the experience you acquire.

How Much College Credit Will I Receive for My Internship?

You may take one to six (maximum) credit hours and more than one internship. The number of credit hours you will register for depends on how many hours per week you work at the internship. In general, internships in the fall and spring semesters are taken for three credit hours or less, while a summer internship that demands 20 hours or more per week probably would earn six credit hours.

How is My Internship Grade Determined?

The Internship Coordinator assigns grades for internships. You will be required to submit periodic reports and prepare a final portfolio, and your supervisor on site must complete an evaluation of your work. Your grade will be based on these elements and others negotiated with the Internship Coordinator.

Why aren't Internships Required in My Major?

While we very strongly encourage students to complete at least one internship, making them mandatory might make it difficult for some students to complete their degrees. In addition, there are other ways of gaining professional experience that may better suit a student's needs and abilities, such as paid work experience, volunteering, cooperative education, or service learning. The important thing is that you gain experience, and you should not limit yourself to just one type of experience.

Student Learning Outcomes

The Department of Communication at Missouri State University has adopted nine specific Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) from the National Communication Association (NCA) for students studying communication. They are as follows:

- SLO #1: Describe the Communication Discipline and its Central Questions
- SLO #2: Employ Communication Theories, Perspectives, Principles, and Concepts
- SLO #3: Engage in Communication Inquiry
- SLO #4: Create Messages Appropriate to the Audience, Purpose, and Context
- SLO #5: Critically Analyze Messages
- SLO #6: Demonstrate the Ability to Accomplish Communicative Goals (Self-Efficacy)
- SLO #7: Apply Ethical Communication Principles and Practices
- SLO #8: Utilize Communication to Embrace Difference
- SLO #9: Influence Public Discourse

Department of Communication Faculty

Isabelle Bauman

Associate Professor
B.A., University of Puget Sound (1983)
M.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison (1988)
M.S., (Counseling) Missouri State University (2005)
Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison (1991)
E-mail: isabellebauman@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: interpersonal communication, diversity, GLBT relations, counseling communication, research methods

Charlene Berquist

Director of the Center for Dispute Resolution, Professor
B.A., Western Washington University (1977)
M.A., University of Montana (1980)
Ph.D., University of Minnesota (1991)
E-mail: charleneberquist@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: family communication, conflict communication, research methods

John Bourhis

Professor
B.S., Lewis and Clark College (1978)
M.A., University of Arizona (1980)
Ph.D., University of Minnesota (1988)
E-mail: johnbourhis@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: communication apprehension, organizational communication, conflict communication, communication education

LeAnn Brazeal

Director of General Education, Dual Credit Coordinator, Associate Professor
B.S., Missouri State University (1992)
M.A., Missouri State University (1999)
Ph.D., University of Missouri - Columbia (2002)
E-mail: lbazeal@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research areas: communication education, political communication

Deana Butcher

Instructor
B.S.Ed., Southwest Missouri State University (1984)
M.A., Southwest Missouri State University (1990)
E-mail: dbutcher@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: public speaking

Chris Collins

Assistant Professor
B.A., West Texas A&M University (2002)
M.A., Miami University of Ohio (2004)
Ph.D., Southern Illinois University (2009)
E-mail: christophercollins@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: communication theory, performance studies, intercultural communication, gender communication, new materialism

Allison Coltharp

Senior Instructor
B.S., Southwest Missouri State University (2001)
M.A., Southwest Missouri State University (2003)
E-mail: allisoncoltharp@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: public speaking, intercultural communication

Nora Cox

Senior Instructor
B.S., Southwest Missouri State University (2003)
M.A., Southwest Missouri State University (2005)
E-mail: noracox@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: public speaking, political speechwriting, interpersonal communication, gender communication

Randy Dillon

Professor
B.A., School of the Ozarks (1984)
M.A., University of Southwest Louisiana (1985)
Ph.D., University of Florida (1994)
E-mail: randydillon@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: intercultural communication, diversity, communication theory, public dialogue

Elizabeth Dudash-Buskirk

Associate Professor
B.A., John Carroll University (1997)
M.A., Miami University of Ohio (1999)
Ph.D., University of Missouri-Columbia (2006)
E-mail: dudashbuskirk@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: political communication, rhetorical theory & criticism, social movements, research methods

Samuel Coad Dyer, Jr.

Associate Professor
B.S.B.A., Central Missouri State University (1985)
M.A., Eastern New Mexico University (1986)
Ph.D., University of Tennessee (1993)
E-mail: samueldyer@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: public relations, crisis communication, media analysis

Carrisa Hoelscher

Assistant Department Head, Director of Graduate Studies, Assistant Professor
B.A., West Texas A&M University (2008)
M.A., West Texas A&M University (2010)
Ph.D., University of Oklahoma (2016)
E-mail: choelscher@missouristate.edu
Teaching & Research Areas: organizational communication, small group, leadership

Department of Communication Faculty

Jason Howard

Instructor

B.S., Missouri State University (2009)

M.A., Missouri State University (2014)

E-mail: jayhoward@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: public speaking

Jerri Lynn Kyle

Undergraduate Internship Coordinator, Senior

Instructor

B.A., Missouri Southern State College (1988)

M.A., Southwest Missouri State University (1997)

E-mail: jerrilynnkyle@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: public speaking, public relations

Gordana Lazic

Assistant Professor

B.A., Faculty of Philology, Belgrade, Serbia (2007)

M.A., University of Colorado Denver (2009)

Ph.D., University of Denver (2013)

E-mail: gordanalazic@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: rhetoric, intercultural communication

Eric Morris

Director of Forensics, Associate Professor

B.S., Southwest Missouri State University (1990)

M.A., Kansas State University (1993)

Ph.D., University of Kansas (2004)

E-mail: ericmorris@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: argumentation, debate, presidential rhetoric, persuasion

Taleyna Morris

Instructor

B.A., University of Kansas (1994)

M.A., Southwest Missouri State University (1999)

Ph.D., University of Kansas (2003)

E-mail: taleynamorris@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: persuasion, research methods, interpersonal communication

Brain L. Ott

Department Head, Professor

B.A., George Mason University (1991)

M.A., The Pennsylvania State University (1993)

Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University (1997)

E-mail: brianott@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: rhetoric and media studies

Jake Simmons

Associate Dean, Associate Professor

B.A., West Texas State A&M University (2002)

M.A., Texas Tech University (2004)

Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (2008)

E-mail: dsimmons@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: performance studies, intercultural communication, gender and communication, post-humanism, new materialism

Stephen Spates

Assistant Professor

B.A., Oakwood University (2009)

M.A., Western Michigan University (2012)

Ph.D., University of Tennessee (2017)

E-mail: sspates@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: organizational communication, diversity, research methods

Shawn Wahl

Dean, Professor

B.S., Angelo State University (1997)

M.A., Texas Tech University (1999)

Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln (2003)

E-mail: shawnwahl@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: instructional communication, rhetoric, culture

Heather Walters

Assistant Director of Forensics, Senior Instructor

B.S., Southwest Missouri State University (1996)

J.D., University of Maryland (1999)

M.A., Southwest Missouri State (2000).

E-mail: heatherwalters@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: argumentation, debate, persuasion, mediation, negotiation

Erin Wehrman

Assistant Professor

B.A., Missouri State University (2009)

M.A., Missouri State University (2012)

Ph.D., University of Illinois (2018)

E-mail: erinwehrman@missouristate.edu

Teaching & Research Areas: interpersonal communication, family communication, research methods, conflict communication

Majors Course Requirements

Communication Studies

Non-comprehensive (minor required) 33 major hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Specific Gen Ed Requirement: COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Department Requirements (9 hours): COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 350 Rhetorical Tradition and Contemporary Applications F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Communication Practices Core (12 hours): COM 205 Interpersonal Communication Theory and Skills F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 315 Advanced Speaking in Professional Settings F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Pick One: COM 322 Introduction to Argumentation F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 328 Persuasion F, S (3)	_____
_____	Pick One: COM 325 Nonverbal Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 326 Effective Listening S (3)	_____
_____	Pick Four (for a total of 12 additional hours): COM 206 Health Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 260 Communication with Cultural Competence F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 307 Gender Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 309 Principles of Public Relations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 311 Introduction to Conflict Resolution Studies	_____
_____	COM 322 Introduction to Argumentation F, S (3) – <i>if not taken for Core</i>	_____
_____	COM 325 Nonverbal Communication F (3) – <i>if not taken for Core</i>	_____
_____	COM 326 Effective Listening S (3) – <i>if not taken for Core</i>	_____
_____	COM 328 Persuasion F, S (3) – <i>if not taken for Core</i>	_____
_____	COM 332 Small Group Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 336 Communication in Organizations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 338 Communication Strategies for Recruitment in Organizations OD (3)	_____
_____	COM 360 Introduction to Intercultural Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 379 Writing for Public Relations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 397 Topics in Communication UD (1-3)*	_____
_____	COM 405 Interpersonal Communication F(O) (3)	_____
_____	COM 495 Communication Internship F, S, SU (1-6)	_____
_____	COM 506 Family Communication OD (3)	_____
_____	COM 511 Conflict and Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 521 Communication, Mediation, and Negotiation S (3)	_____
_____	COM 550 Political Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 552 Communication Technology and Politics S (3)	_____
_____	COM 566 Social Movement Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 597 Studies in Communication Theory and Practice OD (3)*	_____

*With advisor approval; no more than 3 credit hours of 397 or 597 may be counted toward the 33 hours required.

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Majors Course Requirements

Conflict & Interpersonal Communication, BS

Non-comprehensive (minor required) 33 major hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Specific Gen Ed Requirement: COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Department Requirements (9 hours): COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 350 Rhetorical Tradition and Contemporary Applications F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Communication Practices Core (9 hours): COM 205 Interpersonal Communication Theory and Skills F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 332 Small Group Communication F (3)	_____
_____	Pick One: COM 325 Nonverbal Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 326 Effective Listening S (3)	_____
_____	Conflict Studies Core (9 hours): COM 311 Introduction to Conflict Resolution Studies F (3)	_____
_____	COM 511 Conflict and Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 521 Communication, Mediation, and Negotiation S (3)	_____
_____	COM 523 Contemporary Topics in Conflict D (3)	_____
_____	Pick One (for a total of 3 additional hours): COM 307 Gender Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 315 Advanced Speaking in Professional Settings F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 328 Persuasion F, S, (3)	_____
_____	COM 336 Communication in Organizations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 338 Communication Strategies for Recruitment in Organizations D (3)	_____
_____	COM 360 Introduction to Intercultural Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 390 Communication and Aging D (3)	_____
_____	COM 397 Topics in Communication UD (1-3)*	_____
_____	COM 405 Interpersonal Communication F(O) (3)	_____
_____	COM 437 Advanced Organizational Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 439 Techniques and Cases in Public Relations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 494 Conflict Internship D (1-3)	_____
_____	COM 506 Family Communication OD (3)	_____
_____	COM 507 Health Communication and Culture F (o) (3)	_____
_____	COM 508 Patient-Provider Communication S(o) (3)	_____
_____	COM 512 Communication and Diversity in the Workplace D (3)	_____
_____	COM 513 Ethical Issues in Communication D (3)	_____
_____	COM 523 Contemporary Topics in Conflict D (3)	_____
_____	COM 550 Political Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 566 Social Movement Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 597 Studies in Communication Theory and Practice OD (3)*	_____

*With advisor approval; no more than 3 credit hours of 397 or 597 may be counted toward the 33 hours required.

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Majors Course Requirements

Intercultural Communication, BS

Non-comprehensive (minor required) 30 major hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Specific Gen Ed Requirement: COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Department Requirements (9 hours): COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 350 Rhetorical Tradition and Contemporary Applications F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Intercultural Communication Requirements (18 hours): COM 260 Communicating with Cultural Competence F, S (3)*	_____
_____	COM 307 Gender Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 360 Introduction to Intercultural Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 368 Communicating Culture and Identity F (3)	_____
_____	COM 468 Ethnography in Communication Research S (3)	_____
_____	COM 512 Communication and Diversity in the Workplace D (3)	_____
_____	Pick One (for a total of 3 additional hours): COM 325 Nonverbal Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 326 Effective Listening S (3)	_____
_____	COM 390 Communication and Aging D (3)	_____
_____	COM 495 Communication Internship F, S, SU (1-6)	_____
_____	COM 597 Studies in Communication Theory and Practice OD (3)**	_____

*COM 260 is required for this major and does not double for Cultural Competence General Education.

**With advisor approval; no more than 3 credit hours of 597 may be counted toward the 30 hours required.

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Majors Course Requirements

Organizational Communication, BS

Non-comprehensive (minor required) 36 major hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Specific Gen Ed Requirement: COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Department Requirements (9 hours): COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 350 Rhetorical Tradition and Contemporary Applications F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Communication Practices Core (6 hours): COM 205 Interpersonal Communication Theory and Skills F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 315 Advanced Speaking in Professional Settings F, S (3)	_____
_____	Organizational Communication Requirements (18 hours): COM 332 Small Group Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 336 Communication in Organizations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 437 Advanced Organizational Communication S (3)	_____
_____	Pick One: COM 360 Introduction to Intercultural Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 512 Communication and Diversity in the Workplace F, S (3)	_____
_____	Pick One: COM 338 Communication Strategies for Recruitment in Orgs F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 436 Communication and Leadership S (3)	_____
_____	Pick One: COM 511 Conflict and Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 521 Mediation and Negotiation F, S (3)	_____

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Majors Course Requirements

Public Relations, BS

Comprehensive (minor not required) 60 major hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
	Specific Gen Ed Requirement (6 hours):	
	COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3)*	
	PSY 121 Introductory Psychology	
	Department Requirements (21 hours counting COM 115):	
	COM 205 Interpersonal Communication Theory and Skills F, S, SU (3)	
	COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	
	COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)	
	COM 328 Persuasion F, S (3)	
	COM 336 Communication in Organizations F, S (3)	
	COM 350 Rhetorical Tradition and Contemporary Applications F, S, SU (3)	
	Public Relation Requirements (18 hours):	
	COM 309 Principles of Public Relations F, S (3)	
	COM 379 Writing for Public Relations F, S (3)	
	COM 439 Techniques and Cases in Public Relations F, S (3)	
	COM 459 Social Media Analysis for PR F, S (3)	
	COM 350 Rhetorical Traditions and Contemporary Applications F, S, SU (3)	
	DES 300 Graphics for the Non-design Major F, S (3)	
	Pick One:	
	COM 519 Bateman Competition S (3)	
	COM 509 Communication Campaigns F (3)	
	Communication Production, Writing, and Advocacy (15 hours total):	
	JRN 270 Introduction to Journalism F, S, SU (3)	
	Pick Four (for 12 hours):	
	COM 322 Argumentation F, S (3)	
	COM 469 Global Public Relations S(o) (3)	
	COM 479 Strategic Communication for Events S(e) (3)	
	COM 495 Internship F, S (1-6)	
	COM 550 Political Communication F (3)	
	COM 556 Social Movements S (3)	
	JRN 370 News Reporting and Writing F, S (3)	
	JRN 374 Opinion Writing S(e) (3)	
	JRN 375 Feature Writing F (3)	
	JRN 381 Broadcast News Writing F, S (3)	
	JRN 384 Broadcast Performance S (3)	
	MED 290 Fundamentals of Multimedia Design F, S (3)	
	MED 345 Fundamentals of Media Production F, S (3) or MED 365 Digital Film & Media Production F, S (3)	
	MED 355 Social Media D (3)	
	MED 381 Broadcast Writing F, S (3)	
	MED 390 Website Design and Construction F, S (3)	
	ENG 321 Writing II: Beginning Technical Writing F, S (3)**	
	ENG 373 Writing with Technology F, S (3)	
	AGC 293 News Writing in Agriculture F (3)	
	AGC 303 Event Communications for Agricultural Organizations S (3)	
	AGC 333 Layout and Design for Agricultural Publications S (3)	

*COM 115 doubles for General Education and Department requirements

*ENG 321 doubles for General Education and Communication Production, Writing, and Advocacy requirements

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Majors Course Requirements

Socio-Political Communication, BS

Comprehensive (minor not required) 51 major hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Specific Gen Ed Requirement (3 hours): COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3)*	_____
_____	Departmental Core (3 hours): COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Socio-Political Communication Requirements (33 hours): COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 315 Advanced Speaking in Professional Settings F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 322 Introduction to Argumentation F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 328 Persuasion F, S, (3)	_____
_____	COM 332 Small Group Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 350 Rhetorical Tradition and Contemporary Applications F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 379 Writing for Public Relations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 550 Political Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 552 Communication Technology and Politics S (3)	_____
_____	COM 554 Presidential Rhetoric S(o) (3)	_____
_____	JRN 270 Introduction to Journalism F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Pick Four (for a total of 12 additional hours): COM 307 Gender Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 336 Communication in Organizations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 360 Introduction to Intercultural Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 397 Topics in Communication UD (1-3)*	_____
_____	COM 436 Communication and Leadership S (3)	_____
_____	COM 459 Social Media Analytics for Public Relations F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 495 Communication Internship F, S, SU (1-6)	_____
_____	COM 509 Communication Campaigns F (3)	_____
_____	COM 512 Communication and Diversity in the Workplace F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 513 Ethical Issues in Communication D (3)	_____
_____	COM 566 Social Movement Communication S (3)	_____
_____	COM 597 Studies in Communication Theory and Practice D (3)*	_____
_____	JRN 407 Media Law F, S (3)	_____
_____	MED 365 Introduction to Media Design and Production F, S (3)	_____
_____	MED 454 Media Analysis and Criticism F, S (3)	_____
_____	MED 580 Media in Politics D (3)	_____
_____	PLS 316 Political Parties, Elections, and Interest Groups F (3)	_____
_____	PLS 317 American Political Behavior F(e) (3)	_____
_____	PLS 330 Introduction to Political Theory F, S (3) OR PHI 330 Intro to Political Theory	_____
_____	PLS 413 The American Executive S (3)	_____
_____	PLS 414 The Legislative Process F(o) (3)	_____
_____	PLS 419 The Judicial Process F(e) (3)	_____
_____	SOC 152 Social Problems F, S (3)	_____
_____	SOC 320 Political Sociology D (3)	_____

*COM 115 doubles for General Education and Department requirements

*With advisor approval; no more than 3 credit hours of 397 or 597 may be counted toward the 51 hours required.

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Majors Course Requirements

Speech & Theatre Education

Comprehensive (minor not required) 44 major hours + 41 Professional Ed hours = 85 hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Major Core (32 hours):	_____
_____	COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 322 Introduction to Argumentation F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 532 Teaching Debate F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 534 Teaching I.E.s F (3)	_____
_____	COM 536 Forensics F, S (2)	_____
_____	THE 130 Script Analysis F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	THE 150 Tech F, S, (2) <i>with</i> THE 151 Tech F, S (1)	_____
_____	THE 222 Acting F, S (3)	_____
_____	THE 323 Acting, Performance & Literature F, S (3)	_____
_____	THE 430 Directing I F, S (3)	_____
_____	MED 120 Mass Media & Society F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Communication Core (12 hours total)	_____
_____	COM 205 Interpersonal Communication Theory and Skills F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	Pick Two (for 6 additional hours):	_____
_____	COM 307 Gender and Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 320 Principles of Advanced Debate F, S (1-6)	_____
_____	COM 321 Inter-Collegiate Debating F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 328 Persuasion F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 332 Small Group Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 336 Organizational Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 350 Rhetorical Tradition F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	COM 405 Advanced Interpersonal Communication F(e) (3)	_____
_____	COM 512 Communication and Diversity in the Workplace F, S (3)	_____
_____	THE 505 Theatre for Children and Youth F (3)	_____
_____	THE 506 Creative Dramatics S (3)	_____
_____	THE 510 Scripting and Performing S (3)	_____
_____	THE 515 Theatre for Social Change F (3)	_____
_____	THE 530 Directing II F, S (3)	_____
_____	THE 541 Theatre History I F (3)	_____
_____	THE 542 Theatre History II S (3)	_____
_____	Professional Education Requirements (41 hours total)	_____
_____	Teaching Methods & Supervised Teaching (15 hours)	_____
_____	COM 417 Teaching of Speech and Theater F (3)	_____
_____	COM 490 Supervised Teaching (Secondary Speech and Theatre) F, S (6)	_____
_____	COM 491 Supervised Teaching (Secondary Speech and Theatre) F, S (6)	_____
_____	Professional Education Required Core & Competencies (26 hours)	_____
_____	EDC 150 Introduction to Teaching F, S (0)	_____
_____	EDC 345 Introduction to Multicultural Education and Diversity F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	EDC 350 School and Society F, S (3)	_____
_____	EDT 365 Educational Applications of Technology and Media, F, S (3)	_____
_____	SEC 302 General Methods of Instruction in Middle and Secondary Schools F, S (3)	_____
_____	PSY 360 Educational Psychology, F, S (3)	_____
_____	SPE 340 Educational Alternatives for Exceptional Students F, S (2)	_____
_____	RDG 474 Reading and Writing in the Content Fields, F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	RDG 574 Analysis and Correction of Difficulties in Literacy (3)	_____
_____	PSY/SFR 486 Management & Assessment in Middle and Secondary Class F, S, SU (3)	_____

*COM 115 doubles for General Education and Major Core requirements

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Conflict and Dispute Resolution Certificate

Course Requirements

Undergraduate Certificate: Conflict and Dispute Resolution
16 credit hours and 3.0 cumulative GPA Required

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Required Core:	
_____	COM 205 Interpersonal Communication F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 311 Introduction to Conflict Resolution Studies F (3)	_____
_____	COM 494 Conflict Internship D (1)	_____
_____	Pick One:	
_____	COM 511 Conflict and Communication F (3) OR	_____
_____	COM 521 Mediation and Negotiation S (3)	_____
_____	Pick Two Electives (for a total of 6 additional hours):	
_____	Electives allow you to focus on conflict processes that are specific to your professional interest area. There are elective course options in nearly every department. Please speak with the program advisor to learn about available options or view a list of possible elective options online at www.missouristate.edu/cdr/Undergraduate-Certificate.htm	
_____	Elective 1:	_____
_____	Elective 2:	_____

Admission Guidelines

To be admitted you must have completed 30 credit hours and a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Apply for the Certificate in Conflict and Dispute Resolution by emailing CDR@MissouriState.edu.

16 Total Hours for Certificate,

Coursework must be completed with a 3.0 GPA. Coursework may double-count towards a major or minor with advisor approval.

Press Politics Certificate Course Requirements

Undergraduate Certificate: Press Politics

15 credit hours and 2.0 cumulative GPA Required

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Pre-requisite Classes:	_____
_____	COM 115 Fundamentals of Public Speaking F, S, SU (3), all students	_____
_____	COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3), all students	_____
_____	COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3), COM majors	_____
_____	PLS 101 American Democracy and Citizenship F, S (3) all students	_____
	MSU General University Certificate Requirements, all students, see catalog	_____
_____	Required Classes:	_____
_____	COM 550 Political Communication F (3)	_____
	COM 552 Communication Technology and Politics S (3)	_____
_____	Pick One:	_____
_____	PLS 316 Political Parties, Elections and Interest Groups F (3) OR	_____
	PLS 317 American Political Behavior F (even years) (3)	_____
_____	Pick Three:	_____
_____	COM 309 Principles of Public Relations F, S (3)	_____
_____	JRN 270 Introduction to Journalism F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 379 Writing for Public Relations F, S (3)	_____
_____	JRN 478 Multimedia Journalism F, S (3)	_____
	MED 580 Media in Politics on demand (3)*	_____

*MED 120 is a pre-requisite for MED 580

Minors Course Requirements

Communication Minor

15 hours

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Required: COM 209 Survey of Communication Theory F, S, SU (3)	_____
_____	<i>Recommended:</i> COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)*	_____
	Pick four from any COM class (for a total of 12 additional hours); six of these hours must be 300 level or above):	
_____	COM elective:	_____
_____	COM elective:	_____
_____	COM elective:	_____
_____	COM elective:	_____

* Some COM classes require COM 210 as a pre-requisite, which can be waived for the minor.

COM 115 is a required university course and does not count towards the 15-hour minimum for the minor.

Meet with your Minor Advisor

We *highly recommend* that you meet with your minor advisor before scheduling your COM classes. They will help you choose the classes that will best compliment your major, your goals, and your interests.

Note: You cannot major *and* minor in communication.

Declare your communication minor at the Academic Advisement Center today!

Minors Course Requirements

Ethical Leadership Minor

18 hours (no more than 6 hours may also count toward major)

Semester	Required Classes	Completed
_____	Required Core (9 hours):	
_____	<i>Recommended:</i> COM 210 Communication Research Methods F, S (3)*	
_____	COM 436 Communication and Leadership S (3)	_____
_____	COM 513 Ethical Issues in Communication D (3)	_____
_____	Pick One:	
_____	COM 360 Intercultural Communication Theory and Research S (3)	_____
_____	COM 512 Communication and Diversity in the Workplace D (3)	_____
_____	Pick One (3 hours):	
_____	COM 205 Interpersonal Communication Theory and Skills F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 315 Advance Speaking in Professional Settings F, S (2)	_____
_____	COM 322 Introduction to Argumentation F, S (3)	_____
_____	COM 326 Effective Listening S (3)	_____
_____	Pick Two (for a total of 6 hours):	
_____	COM 206 Introduction to Health Communication F (3)	_____
_____	COM 307 Gender and Communication D (3)	_____
_____	COM 332 Small Group Communication F (3)*	_____
_____	COM 336 Communication in Organizations F, S (3)*	_____
_____	COM 405 Interpersonal Communication F(o) (3)	_____
_____	COM 495 Communication Internship D (1-6)	_____
_____	COM 506 Family Communication D (3)	_____
_____	COM 566 Social Movement Communication S(o) (3)	_____
_____	GST 170 Sex, Gender, and Self F, S (3)	_____
_____	HST 324 Women in American History D (3)	_____
_____	PHI 302 Environmental Ethics D (3)	_____
_____	PHI 313 Bioethics D (3)	_____
_____	PHI 342 Global Ethics D (3)	_____
_____	PLS 319 Women in Politics S(o) (3)	_____
_____	PSY 320 Psychology and the Law F, S (3)	_____
_____	PSY 379 Environmental Psychology S (3)	_____
_____	REL 370 Women and Religion F, S (3)	_____

* Some COM classes require COM 210 as a pre-requisite, which can be waived for the minor.

COM 115 is a required university course and does not count towards the 18-hour minimum for the minor.

Meeting with your Minor Advisor

We *highly recommend* that you meet with your minor advisor before scheduling your classes. They will help you choose the classes that will best compliment your major, your goals, and your interests and many options will require advisor's approval.

Declare your communication major at the Academic Advisement Center today!

General Education Requirements

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION WORKSHEET <i>EFFECTIVE FALL 2014 45-49 credit hours updated 9/18/19</i>	
STUDENT NAME / BEARPASS #:	
REGISTRATION DATE:	
<i>GEC codes (GEC 101, GEC 102, etc.) signify individual General Education requirements.</i>	
FOUNDATIONS	
First-Year Seminar (choose 1, 2 credit hours, 1st semester on campus)	2
GEC 101 UHC 110 Freshman Honors Seminar (required for Honors students)	2
Written Communication & Info Literacy	
ENG 110* Writing I (should be taken during 1st year)	3
Oral Communication	
COM 115 Fundamentals in Public Speaking (should be taken during 1st year)	3
Quantitative Literacy (choose one, 3-5 credit hours)	
MTH 130* Contemporary Mathematics	3
MTH 134* Algebraic Reasoning and Modeling	3
MTH 135* College Algebra §	3
MTH 136* Pre-Calculus I	3
MTH 137* Pre-Calculus II	3
MTH 138* Pre-Calculus Mathematics	5
MTH 181* Trigonometry §	3
MTH 261* Analytic Geometry & Calculus I	5
MTH 287* Computational Calculus w/Analytic Geometry I	3
Written Comm. & Integrative & Applied Learning (choose one)	
AGR 320* Writing II-Writing in the Applied Sciences	3
ENG 210* Writing II-Writing Across the Disciplines	3
ENG 221* Writing II-Writing for the Professions	3
ENG 310* Writing II-Writing for Grad & Prof Schools	3
ENG 321* Writing II-Beginning Technical Writing	3
GLG 358* Writing II-Reporting Geological Information	3
HST 210* Writing II-Historical Inquiry	3
NUR 472* Writing II-Nursing Research & Scholarly Writing	3
English Placement:	
Math Placement:	

FOUNDATIONS

NATURAL WORLD

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

HUMAN CULTURES

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY'S General Education program prepares lifelong learners who will be informed and engaged citizens in a diverse, complex, and dynamic world. The program is built on a foundation of contemporary and enduring knowledge as well as opportunities to apply that knowledge. Drawing from many disciplines, it cultivates critical reasoning, problem solving, creative thinking, and effective communication skills. The program contributes to the university's public affairs mission by fostering cultural competence, ethical leadership, and community engagement. (Faculty Senate Approved November 10, 2011)

§ Course no longer offered at Missouri State, could appear on transcripts, has not been deleted from General Education

* Courses marked with an asterisk have a prerequisite. See the Undergraduate Catalog for course descriptions and specific prerequisites.

Excluding the FOUNDATIONS area, students may count no more than 3 classes with the same course code toward the general education requirement.

THIS IS A 2-PAGE WORKSHEET - BE SURE YOU HAVE BOTH PAGES

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION WORKSHEET (PAGE 2)

32

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF ARTS in COMMUNICATION STUDIES

***Suggested Course Sequencing: 15 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment***

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.

<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Hours</u>
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
COM 115 – General Education	3	HST 103* – Humanities General Education	3
Arts – General Education	3	MTH 130 or higher– General Education	3
Cultural Competence – General Education	3	PHI 105 or 115** Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	<u>4</u>	Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 205	3	COM 210	3
COM 209	3	COM 315	3
PLS 101– American History General Education	3	HST 104*	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	HST 121 – American History General Education	3
Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>	Writing II– General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 322 or 328	3	COM 350	3
COM 336 or other listed elective	3	COM 325 or 326	3
Fine Arts I	3	Fine Arts II	3
Language I	3	Language II	3
Minor Elective	<u>3</u>	Minor Elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 332 or other listed COM elective	3	COM 495 or other listed COM elective	3
COM 405 or other listed COM elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	Language IV	3
Language III	3	Minor Elective	3
Minor Elective	<u>3</u>	Minor Elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

* HST 103 and HST 104 are required for a BA and double as the Humanities General Education requirements.

** PHI 105 or PHI 115 is required for a BA and double as the Public Issues General Education requirements.

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF SCIENCE COMMUNICATION STUDIES

***Suggested Course Sequencing: 15 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment***

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.

<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Hours</u>
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
COM 115 – General Education	3	MTH 130 or higher – General Education	3
Arts – General Education	3	Humanities – General Education	3
Cultural Competence – General Education	3	Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	<u>4</u>	Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 205	3	COM 210	3
COM 209	3	COM 315	3
PLS 101 – American History General Education	3	COM 322 or COM 328	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	HST 121 – American History General Education	3
Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>	Writing II – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 325 or COM 326	3	COM 350	3
COM 332 or other listed COM elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM 336 or other listed COM elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
Minor elective	3	Minor elective	3
Minor elective	<u>3</u>	Minor elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 405 or other listed COM elective	3	COM 495 or other listed COM elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
Minor elective	<u>3</u>	COM (or any) elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in CONFLICT AND INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

***Suggested Course Sequencing: 15 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment***

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.

<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Hours</u>
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
COM 115 – General Education	3	MTH 130 or higher – General Education	3
Arts – General Education	3	Humanities – General Education	3
Cultural Competence – General Education	3	Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	4	Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	3
	15		15

<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 205	3	COM 210	3
COM 209	3	COM 311	3
PLS 101 – American History General Education	3	COM 325 or COM 326	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	HST 121 – American History General Education	3
Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	3	Writing II – General Education	3
	15		15

<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 332	3	COM 350	3
COM 336 or other listed COM elective	3	COM 521	3
COM 511	3	COM (or any) elective	3
Minor elective	3	Minor elective	3
Minor elective	3	Minor elective	3
	15		15

<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 405 or other listed COM elective	3	COM 494	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM 523	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
Minor elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
	15		15

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

***Suggested Course Sequencing: 15 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment***

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.

<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Hours</u>
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
COM 115 – General Education	3	MTH 130 or higher – General Education	3
Arts – General Education	3	Humanities – General Education	3
Cultural Competence – General Education	3	Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	<u>4</u>	Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 209	3	COM 210	3
COM 260*	3	COM 307	3
PLS 101 – American History General Education	3	COM 360	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	HST 121 – American History General Education	3
Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>	Writing II – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 350	3	COM 325 or other listed COM elective	3
COM 368	3	COM 468	3
Minor elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
Minor elective	3	Minor elective	3
	<u>3</u>	Minor elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 512	3	COM 495 or other listed elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
Minor elective	<u>3</u>	COM (or any) elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

*COM 260 is required for this major and does not double for Cultural Competence General Education.

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION

***Suggested Course Sequencing: 15 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment***

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.

<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Hours</u>
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
COM 115 – General Education	3	MTH 130 or higher – General Education	3
COM 260* - Cultural Competence – General Education	3	Humanities – General Education	3
Arts – General Education	4	Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	15	Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	3
			15

<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 205	3	COM 210	3
COM 209	3	COM 315	3
PLS 101 – American History General Education	3	COM 336	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	HST 121 – American History General Education	3
Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	3	Writing II – General Education	3
	15		15

<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 332	3	COM 338 or 436	3
COM 350	3	COM 437	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM 360 or 512	3
Minor elective	3	Minor elective	3
Minor elective	3	Minor elective	3
	15		15

<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 511 or COM 521	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
Minor elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
	15		15

*COM 260 is a pre-requisite for COM 360 in semester 6 and fulfills the Cultural Competence General Education requirement.

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in PUBLIC RELATIONS

***Suggested Course Sequencing: 15 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment***

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.

<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Hours</u>
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
COM 115 – General Education	3	MTH 130 or higher – General Education	3
Arts – General Education	3	Humanities – General Education	3
Cultural Competence – General Education	3	Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	<u>4</u>	Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 209	3	COM 205	3
JRN 270	3	COM 210	3
PLS 101 – American History General Education	3	COM 328	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	DES 300	3
Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>	HST 121 – American History General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 309	3	COM 439	3
COM 336	3	COM 350	3
COM 379	3	COM 469 or other listed COM elective	3
COM 459	3	COM 519 in spring (or COM 509 in fall)	3
ENG 321* - Writing II – General Education	<u>3</u>	COM (or any) elective if not taking 519	
	15	JRN 370 or other listed COM elective	<u>3</u>
			15

<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 509 in fall (or COM 519 in spring)	3	COM 495 or other listed COM elective	3
COM (or any) elective if not taking 509		COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	<u>3</u>
ENG 373 or other listed COM elective	<u>3</u>		15
	15		

*ENG 321 is recommended as the Writing II General Education course for PR majors

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in SOCIO-POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

***Suggested Course Sequencing: 15 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment***

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility.

<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>	<u>Hours</u>
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
COM 115 – General Education	3	MTH 130 or higher – General Education	3
COM 260* - Cultural Competence – General Education	3	Humanities – General Education	3
Arts – General Education	3	Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	<u>4</u>	Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 209	3	COM 210	3
JRN 270	3	COM 315	3
PLS 101 – American History General Education	3	COM 322	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	HST 121 – American History General Education	3
Social & Behavioral Science – General Education	<u>3</u>	Writing II – General Education	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 328	3	COM 360 or other listed COM elective	3
COM 332	3	COM 379	3
COM 350	3	COM 552	3
JRN 407 or other listed COM elective	3	COM 554	3
PLS 316 or other listed COM elective	<u>3</u>	MED 454 or other listed COM elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>	<u>Hours</u>
COM 550	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	3	COM (or any) elective	3
COM (or any) elective	<u>3</u>	COM (or any) elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

*COM 260 is a pre-requisite for COM 360 in semester 6 and fulfills the Cultural Competence General Education requirement.

Sample Course Sequencing Guides

Missouri State University - Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in EDUCATION SPEECH & THEATRE/COMMUNICATION OPTION (Grades 9 – 12)

**Suggested Course Sequencing: 15-18 semester hours is recommended;
however, many students attend summer school or transfer HS dual enrollment**

This degree program can be completed in eight semesters. All statements in this document concerning requirements, prerequisites, conditions or other matters are for informational purposes and subject to change. Effective academic advisement is a partnership, with advisees sharing in the responsibility. ****Save artifacts for Portfolio***

Semester 1	Hours	Semester 2	Hours
GEP 101 OR UHC 110 – General Education	2	ENG 110 – General Education	3
*COM 115 – General Education	3	Humanities – General Education	3
MED 120 ^a - Social & Behavioral Science General Education	3	MTH 135 or higher – General Education	3
Arts – General Education	3	PSY121 ^a - Social & Behavioral Science General Education	3
Cultural Competence – General Education	3	Public Issues – General Education	3
Life Sciences – General Education	4	THE 130	3
	18		18

(Apply for BSE-Speech & Theatre Program admission)

Semester 3	Hours	Semester 4 Take the C-BASE test (CARR 311)	Hours
COM 205	3	COM 307 or other listed COM elective	3
*COM 209	3	COM 320 or other listed COM elective	3
EDC 150 ^b – transfer students only	0	*COM 322	3
*THE 150 with 151	3	HST 121 – American History General Education	3
PLS 101 – American History General Education	3	*SEC 302	3
Physical Sciences – General Education	3	THE 222	3
	15		18

(Apply for Teacher Education Program admission)

Semester 5	Hours	Semester 6	Hours
*COM 417	3	COM 534	3
COM 321 or other listed COM elective	3	*COM 536	3
*EDC 345	3	*EDT 365	3
*RDG 474	2	ENG 310 ^c - Writing II – General Education	3
THE 323	3	*SPE 340	2
*THE 430	3	*THE 530 Directing II	3
	17		17

Semester 7	Hours	Semester 8 Student Teaching	Hours
COM 332 or other listed COM elective	3	COM 490 ^d	6
COM 532	3	COM 491 ^d	6
EDC 350	3		12
PSY/SFR 486	3		
*PSY 360	3		
	15		

- GPA Requirements include: 2.5 on all course work; no grade lower than a “C” in all professional education courses.
- Other Requirements include: CBASE and PRAXIS exams; Completion of Portfolio Checkpoints I, II, and III

^a MED 120 & PSY 121 are pre-requisite for classes in this major and double for the Social & Behavioral Sciences General Education requirements.

^b This course reviews the process for obtaining admission to Teacher Education for transfer students and assists students in uploading documentation and artifacts created at the students' sending academic institutions. The transfer student should have had an introduction to teaching course and have completed a 30-hour field experience (practicum) at the secondary level or middle school level in the student's major area of study. Graded Pass/Not Pass only.

^c ENG 310 is required for this major and doubles for the Writing II General Education requirement

^d Student teaching meetings are held each January for the coming academic year. Attendance is required. You are required to participate in all extra-curricular activities with your cooperating teacher to receive the full 12 hours of credit.

Course Sequencing Maps

In order to achieve maximum benefit from your time and education dollars, it is important that you look ahead and begin planning your future semesters now. This form is designed to assist you in your planning. Before completing this form, be sure that you...

- Get a copy of your audit and study it closely
- Review general education program requirements and coursework still needed
- Review Communication major and minor requirements
- Pay attention to sequencing and pre-requisites
- Include internship opportunities and intersession courses

Be sure to consult with your academic advisor for assistance in planning these courses. Bring this list with you each time you both meet to discuss your progress. Begin by listing the courses you have already taken, including those in progress this semester. Then proceed to map out your remaining semesters, starting with next semester. Map out two different major/minor scenarios to determine which fits best for your needs.

Major/Minor Possibilities

Major option #1: _____

Minor option #1: _____

Major option #2: _____

Minor option #2: _____

General Education courses already completed/remaining (circle one):

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Courses in Major(s) already completed:

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Courses in Minor(s) already completed:

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Schedule for Major/Minor Option #1:
--

Semester #1		Semester #2	
Course Code	Hours	Course Code	Hours
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
Total Hours	_____	Total Hours	_____
Semester #3		Semester #4	
Course Code	Hours	Course Code	Hours
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
Total Hours	_____	Total Hours	_____
Semester #5		Semester #6	
Course Code	Hours	Course Code	Hours
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
Total Hours	_____	Total Hours	_____

Total hours through six semesters _____

Schedule for Major/Minor Option #2:
--

Semester #1

Course Code	Hours
-------------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

Total Hours	
-------------	-------

Semester #2

Course Code	Hours
-------------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

Total Hours	
-------------	-------

Semester #3

Course Code	Hours
-------------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

Total Hours	
-------------	-------

Semester #4

Course Code	Hours
-------------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

Total Hours	
-------------	-------

Semester #5

Course Code	Hours
-------------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

Total Hours	
-------------	-------

Semester #6

Course Code	Hours
-------------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

-------	-------

Total Hours	
-------------	-------

Total hours through six semesters

The Center for Dispute Resolution

Housed in the Department of Communication and the Judith Enyeart Reynolds College of Arts and Letters, the Center for Dispute Resolution provides education, trainings, programs, and research aimed at supporting individuals, families, organizations, and communities in communicating effectively and managing conflict productively.

For nearly 20 years the Public Affairs mission of Missouri State University has infused the CDR's work, which has included the following:

- Supporting and administering interdisciplinary academic programs in conflict management that help students understand the conflicts they experience and provide them with the tools they need to manage conflicts in their personal and professional lives, as well as in their communities and beyond.
- Connecting students with outstanding experiential learning opportunities through work with high-impact community programs that apply classroom learning to real-world problems.
- Encouraging sustained volunteer efforts for students that increase cultural competence, provide leadership opportunities, and foster personal growth.

All COM students can benefit from the learning opportunities offered by the CDR, particularly students in the Conflict Certificate programs and the Conflict and Interpersonal Communication major. The CDR's expansive offerings of community programs and collaborative partnerships with area organizations and agencies provide student interns, practicum students, and student volunteers with unparalleled learning opportunities. Through these service opportunities students build their skills and gain real-world experience working with diverse populations in a variety of contexts. Examples of the CDR's high-impact programs include the following:

- **Victim Offender Mediation** programs at the juvenile and adult level, which facilitate dialogue between those who cause harm and those impacted by their actions.
- A **Victim Impact Program** for youthful offenders, which utilizes storytelling, dialogue, and reflection to help youth understand and internalize how crime impacts individuals and communities.
- **Circles for Girls** talking circles in area schools, in which college-age facilitators work with at-risk girls to increase positive connections among the youth, build their communication skills, and increase their personal and collective strengths.
- **Guys' Gathering** talking circles in area schools, where college-age facilitators work with at-risk boys in an action-oriented context to help boys learn to communicate more effectively, express their unique and diverse personalities, and connect with the important people in their lives.
- **Peer Mediation and Conflict Coaching** programs in area schools, which train school-aged youth to help their peers manage conflict, supported by college-age mentors.
- **Dialogue Facilitation** programs for area organizations and schools, in which Missouri State students are trained to support CDR-sponsored dialogue processes that encourage participants to deeply discuss challenging issues and explore each others' diverse perspectives.
- **Restorative Justice in Campus Conduct** programs on the Missouri State University campus, which support students who have violated the Code of Student Conduct in exploring how their violations have impacted others, how they can repair the harm caused, and how they can make different choices in the future.
- **Community Mediation** programs, which provide an avenue for community members to peacefully resolve a variety of types of disputes.

Additionally, students can take advantage of unique educational and professional networking opportunities by attending CDR workshops and professional trainings (which focus on a variety of communication and conflict management topics) provided by CDR faculty and guest expert trainers.

For more information on these programs and trainings visit www.MissouriState.edu/CDR.

Dr. Char Berquist

Professor of Communication

Director of the Center for Dispute Resolution

The Holt V. Spicer Debate Forum

Debate is a high-impact legacy program at Missouri State University. The success of the program is best measured by the successful of its students after they graduation. MSU debate alumni Tom Strong & Tom Black are just two of the many highly successful program alumni. Over the past decade, MSU debaters have a GPA average of 3.5, a graduation rate over 97%, and 70% have attended graduate school (including law school). This shouldn't be surprising, because MSU debaters successfully square off against the most talented students from both private colleges (Harvard, Dartmouth, Cornell, Northwestern, Wake Forest, Emory, etc.) and major public research universities (Michigan, Michigan State, Indiana, Texas, Kansas, Georgia, Minnesota, Oklahoma, UC Berkeley, etc.). Our record of success against such top ranked academic institutions demonstrates the quality of education than a self-motivated student can achieve at Missouri State University.

The debate forum, now named after former coach and NDT Champion Holt V. Spicer, is over 100 years old (as old as Missouri State University). Debate is a program within the Communication Department, which is itself housed in Craig Hall (named after the first debate coach, Virginia Craig). The program is financed with both University and [alumni contributions](#). We cover the travel costs for our student competitors, including ground and air transportation, lodging, tournament entry fees, and meal money for debaters. We are committed to creating the infrastructure that debaters need to succeed, as the program's recent success attests.

Our program competes in policy debate (NDT-CEDA) at both the national and regional levels. We added NFA-LD, another evidence-based form of policy debate, and reached the national finals in our 1st season. We are perennially in the top 25 in national sweepstakes awards, and have a strong record and a strong history. Our FAQ page will help you learn more about the program. If you are interested in joining us as a debater, please fill out a scholarship application. The online application can be completed in a matter of minutes. Also, please contact Director of Forensics [Eric Morris](#) to discuss the team, scholarship opportunities, etc.

The debate team is housed in the Missouri State University [Department of Communication](#) (inside the [College of Arts and Letters](#)). Many debaters are communication majors, but several also major in political science, philosophy, etc. We are eager to talk to prospective students about opportunities on the team, scholarships (both [debate](#) and [academic](#)), or the university in general. Please note that academic scholarships typically require application to Missouri State by January 15th for incoming freshmen.

Perhaps most significant, we are committed to debaters at all levels, not just our top team. Only a handful of schools have had the depth to qualify the maximum of three teams to the National Debate Tournament or to qualify the maximum of four teams to the Wake Forest tournament. Most other colleges with a similar competitive record charge over \$35,000/year for tuition - Missouri State is comparatively [inexpensive](#) (and has strong [scholarship](#) support). Nonetheless, our debaters with strong academic profiles have been accepted at several of the highest ranked law schools and graduate schools in the country.

Dr. Eric Morris
Associate Professor of Communication
Director of Spicer Debate Forum

Master of Arts in Communication

Graduate education provides individuals with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills, developing a level of expertise in the field that affords both enhanced career opportunities and increased earning potential. Furthermore, graduate education offers individuals the means to engage in focused personal development and growth. Given the ever-increasing demands for communication skills across all industries and sectors, a graduate degree in communication is a meaningful investment in yourself and your future.

The Master of Arts in Communication at Missouri State University is committed to a diverse and pluralistic approach to the study and practice of communication. Our mission is to provide a graduate experience that will develop students into successful communication scholars and professionals. As a terminal master's program with a strong emphasis on graduate student development, our MA provides students with the ability to work with and learn from published experts in the field. Graduate students in our program cultivate skills in a variety of research methods and focus their studies in areas such as Organizational Communication, Interpersonal Communication and Conflict, Communication and Culture, and Socio-Political Communication and Rhetoric. We also offer graduate certificates in [Conflict and Dispute Resolution](#) and graduate certificate in [Applied Communication](#). Through these comprehensive learning and growth opportunities, graduates of our program possess fine-tuned, cultivated skills in research and investigation, data interpretation and visualization, audience-based message design, and crisis and cultural communication.

We also invest in our graduate students by offering a variety of funding support. We encourage our applicants to apply for one of our many available [graduate assistantships](#) in teaching, research, The Center for Dispute Resolution, and the award winning Holt V. Spicer Debate Forum. Our assistantships offer a complete tuition and fee waiver and also provide a stipend for the duration of the assistantship appointment. A number of [scholarships](#) are also available specifically for graduate students in our program.

We have made it our mission to ensure students have the opportunity to be actively engaged in the discipline as academics during their time in our program. To this end, we provide generous funding to our graduate students for conference travel to any communication conference at which they present research.

The priority deadline for applications is February 1st of each year. Applications received after February 1st will be considered on a space-available basis. For more information about our program as well as our admission requirements, visit our website at communication.missouristate.edu.

Dr. Carrisa S. Hoelscher
Assistant Professor of Communication
Director of Graduate Studies

Missouri State University Declaration of Community Principles

The community of scholars that is Missouri State University is committed to developing educated persons. It is believed that educated persons will accept responsibility to act in accordance with the following principles:

- Practicing personal and academic integrity.
- Being a full participant in the educational process and respecting the right of all to contribute to the “Marketplace of Ideas.”
- Treating all persons with civility, while understanding that tolerating an idea is not the same as supporting it.
- Being a steward of the shared resources of the community of scholars.

Choosing to accept these principles suggests that each participant of the community refrains from and discourages behavior that threatens the freedom and respect each member deserves.

Our Commitment: **Excellence by any Standard**

Our vision for the Department of Communication is that our students will be recognized as the best communicators on this campus and in the organizations where they find employment. We hold communication students to a high performance standard and discipline in pursuit of this vision, which we very much hope each of you will share with us. Our objective is *excellence by any standard*.

Written Communication

When you declare a major in Communication, you are expected to be proficient in the use of standard written English. All written materials you produce will be evaluated for both content and form. Written material is expected to be free of errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and so forth. If you need assistance with basic writing, we encourage you to take advantage of resources available at the university, such as the Writing Center in the Meyer Library.

Oral Communication

Evaluation of your oral communication skills continues every day by people with whom you interact, including teachers. An important objective of the Communication faculty is to assure that you can communicate well in any context. You are expected to demonstrate acceptable skills of oral communication, including voice and diction, listening, and sensitivity to audience and occasion. You should also have a basic understanding of structure, argument, and linguistic choices needed to achieve your goals. In short, we expect you to speak and listen well.

Ethics

As a student at Missouri State University, you attend a university guided by a mission in public affairs and a set of community principles that emphasize ethical and responsible behavior in both public and private life. Beyond adhering to university policies regarding cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty, we expect you will exercise your responsibility to consider the ethical groundings and consequences of your communication choices. The social worlds in which we live are created by our communication, and we share an obligation to create environments that foster fairness, justice, and community.

Teaching Contexts

Written and oral communication skills, and the ethical judgments that guide them, are central to the discipline of communication, and many of the contexts in which you will apply those skills will occur outside the classroom. Because of this, we will avail ourselves of many opportunities to help you polish these communication skills, including opportunities outside of the classroom. You should be neither surprised nor offended if a professor asks you to stop and consider the communication choices you are making, or if he or she challenges you to rise to the higher levels of competence of which you are capable.