

New Program Proposal

Communication, BA/MA (2+3)

The 2+3 Combined BA/MA program in Communication provides an opportunity for students of recognized academic ability and educational maturity to complete the requirements for both degrees in 5 years of full-time study. When all the requirements of the B.A./M.A. program have been completed, students will be awarded both the B.A. and M.A. degrees.

The combined program requires a minimum of 135 credit hours of which at least 30 must be at the graduate level. In qualifying for the BA, students must meet all University and College requirements.

Student should apply to the Department for admission to the 2+3 combined degree program in Communication during the semester they will complete 60 undergraduate credit hours. A cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or higher and three letters of recommendation from faculty are required. Students will be admitted to the 2+3 program under provisional status until they have completed 15 hours in that program with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. After completion of the provisional period, with the recommendation of the Graduate Director, students can be granted full admission into the 2+3 program. Students must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or higher throughout the combined program. Students who officially withdraw from the Combined Program who have successfully completed all the requirements for the B.A. degrees will be awarded the B.A. degree.

Core Requirements for the Communication BA Major

COMM 1030	Interpersonal Communication I (MOTR COMM 120)	3
COMM 1050	Introduction to Mass Communication	3
COMM 2231	Communication in the Organization	3
COMM 2235	Professional Communication	3

COMM 2332	Intercultural Communication	3
COMM 3330	Research Methods in Communication I	3
COMM 4950	Internship in Applied Communication	3
or COMM 4920	Practicum in Applied Communication	

Core Requirements for the Communication MA

COMM 6500	Seminar in Communication Theory	3
COMM 6510	Advanced Communication Research Methods I	3
Choose 3 from the following:		9
COMM 6600	Seminar in Strategic Communication in Organizations	
COMM 6650	Seminar in Interpersonal	
COMM 6700	Seminar in Mass Communication	
COMM 6800	Seminar in Health Communication	

All of the Masters coursework must be taken under graduate status. However, with advance permission (Graduate Form C-1), students may take up to 6 credit hours of 5000/6000 level courses while still classified as an undergraduate. No 4000-level courses taken as an undergraduate may be applied to the Master's degree. This means all cross-listed classes need to be taken as graduate-courses in order to count for the graduate degree. These 6 hours will be treated by the Graduate School as "undergraduate status" and they may be counted toward a master's degree. Up to 15 credit hours of graduate courses can be applied to the undergraduate degree.

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

None

Rationale

In order to better serve our undergraduate students, we'd like to add a combined B.A./M.A. program that allows high-performing students to complete both degrees in five years.