COMMUNICATION

Courses offered by the Department of Communication are listed under the subject code COMM on the Stanford Bulletin’s ExploreCourses web site.

Stanford’s Department of Communication focuses on media in all its forms. The department studies the processes and effects of mass communication: the nature and social role of the various media; their structure, function, and ethics; and their impact on the political system, culture, and society. In this context, it considers not only traditional mass media, such as newspapers, magazines, radio, television, and film, but also information technology, online media, virtual reality, and the Internet. Students are trained as social scientists who can study the media and as potential practitioners in the use of the media in journalism, mass communications, and digital media. The department combines theory and practice and fosters individual research opportunities for its students, employing both quantitative and qualitative approaches.

The Department of Communication engages in research in communication and offers curricula leading to the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. The M.A. degree prepares students for a career in journalism. The department also offers current Stanford University undergraduates a coterminal program with an M.A. emphasis in Media Studies. The Ph.D. degree leads to careers in university teaching and research-related specialties.

The John S. Knight Journalism (JSK) Fellowships champions innovators and entrepreneurs from around the world as they reinvent journalism. Each year, the program gives up to 20 fellows the resources to test their ideas for improving the quality of news and information reaching the public, while challenging misinformation and disinformation; holding the powerful accountable; strengthening local news; and fighting bias, intolerance and injustice.

Mission of the Undergraduate Program in Communication

The mission of the undergraduate program in Communication is to expose students to a broad-based understanding of communication theory and research. Students in this major are expected to become familiar with the fundamental concerns, theoretical approaches, and methods of the field, and to acquire advanced knowledge in one or more sub-areas of the discipline. This is accomplished by several levels of study: a core curriculum; intermediate-level electives; and optional internships. Majors also have the opportunity to do advanced research projects. The department is committed to providing students with analytical and critical skills needed for success in graduate programs, professional schools, or immediate career entry.

Learning Outcomes (Undergraduate)

The department expects undergraduate majors in the program to be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes. These learning outcomes are used in evaluating students and the department’s undergraduate program. Students are expected to demonstrate:

1. an understanding of core knowledge within the discipline of communication.
2. the ability to communicate ideas clearly and persuasively in writing.
3. the ability to analyze a problem and draw correct inferences using qualitative and/or quantitative analysis.
4. the ability to evaluate theory and critique research within the discipline of communication.

Learning Outcomes (Graduate)

The purpose of the master’s program is to further develop knowledge and skills in Communication and to prepare students for professional careers or doctoral studies. This is achieved through completion of courses in the primary field, as well as related areas, and experience with independent work and specialization.

The Ph.D. is conferred upon candidates who have demonstrated substantial scholarship and the ability to conduct independent research and analysis in Communication. Through completion of advanced coursework and rigorous training in research, the doctoral program prepares students to make original contributions to the knowledge of Communication and to interpret and present the results of such research.

Admission

Prospective Undergraduates: Applications are available at Undergraduate Admissions (http://admission.stanford.edu).

Prospective Coterminal Students: See the University Registrar’s (https://registrar.stanford.edu/students/coterminal-degree-programs/applying-coterm) web site for information on how to apply.

Prospective Graduate Students: Applications are available online at Graduate Admissions (http://gradadmissions.stanford.edu).

The department requires that applicants to the doctoral program submit verbal, quantitative, and analytic scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Admission to each graduate degree program is competitive and based on the pool of applicants each year rather than on standard criteria that can be stated in advance. See Communication Department admission procedures and requirements (https://comm.stanford.edu/phd/applications) for detailed information about admission to the department.

Stanford students who are completing an M.A. degree and who desire entry into the Ph.D. program must file a Graduate Program Authorization Petition (https://registrar.stanford.edu/students/graduate-degree-progress/graduate-program-authorization-petition) in Axess. Such students are considered alongside all other doctoral applicants.

Bachelor of Arts in Communication

Preparation

Before declaring the major, students must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1 Introduction to Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1B Media, Culture, and Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 106 Communication Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 108 Media Processes and Effects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students interested in declaring the major should apply via Axess and meet with the student services administrator in Building 120, Room 110A, during scheduled office hours. Students are required to take at least 60 units (approximately 12 courses), not counting statistics, to complete the major.

Program of Study

The undergraduate curriculum is intended for liberal arts students who wish to develop an understanding of communication in society, drawing on the perspective of the social sciences. Undergraduates majoring in Communication are expected to become acquainted with the fundamental concerns, theoretical approaches and methods of the field,
and to acquire advanced knowledge in one or more of the sub-areas of communication: institutions, processes, and effects.

While the department does not attempt to provide comprehensive practical training at the undergraduate level, the curriculum provides a diverse range of internship opportunities, including professional print journalism, some of which are funded by the department’s Rebele Internship Program. The department is committed to providing students with analytical and critical skills for future success in graduate programs, professional schools, or immediate career entry.

The major is structured to provide several levels of study: a core curriculum intended to expose students to a broad-based understanding of communication theory and research, and a number of intermediate-level options and electives. Majors also have the opportunity to do advanced research in the form of an honors thesis.

All undergraduate majors are required to complete a set of core communication courses which include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 1B</td>
<td>Media, Culture, and Society</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 106</td>
<td>Communication Research Methods</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 108</td>
<td>Media Processes and Effects</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 104W</td>
<td>Reporting, Writing, and Understanding the News</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 120W</td>
<td>The Rise of Digital Culture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 137W</td>
<td>The Dialogue of Democracy</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 142W</td>
<td>Media Economics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 143W</td>
<td>Communication Policy and Regulation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 177SW</td>
<td>Specialized Writing and Reporting: Sports</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 186W</td>
<td>Media, Technology, and the Body</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMM 104W, COMM 120W, COMM 137W, COMM 142W, COMM 143W, COMM 177SW, and COMM 186W satisfy the WIM (Writing in the Major) requirement. Core courses are usually offered only once each year.

The department also requires completion of, or concurrent registration in an introductory statistics course (STATS 60 Introduction to Statistical Methods: Precalculus) when registering for COMM 106 Communication Research Methods in preparation for courses in methodology and advanced courses in communication processes and effects. It is recommended that this be done as soon as possible so as not to prevent registration in a course requiring statistical understanding. The statistics course does not count toward the 60 units to complete the Communication major.

In addition to the core courses and the statistics requirement, undergraduate majors select courses from the two areas described below. Many of the courses require core courses as prerequisites. Majors select a total of four area courses, taking at least one from each area.

**Area I: Communication Processes and Effects**

Area I emphasizes the ways in which communication scholars conduct research in, and consider the issues of, human communication. These studies aim to provide expert guidance for social policy makers and media professionals and include the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 121</td>
<td>Behavior and Social Media</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 124</td>
<td>Lies, Trust, and Tech</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 135</td>
<td>Deliberative Democracy and its Critics</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 137W</td>
<td>The Dialogue of Democracy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 145</td>
<td>Personality and Digital Media</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area II: Communication Systems and Institutions**

Area II considers the roles and interaction of institutions such as broadcasting, journalism, constitutional law, and business within communication and mass communication contexts and includes the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 104W</td>
<td>Reporting, Writing, and Understanding the News</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 116</td>
<td>Journalism Law</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 120W</td>
<td>The Rise of Digital Culture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 125</td>
<td>Perspectives on American Journalism</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 142W</td>
<td>Media Economics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 143W</td>
<td>Communication Policy and Regulation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 151</td>
<td>The First Amendment: Freedom of Speech and Press</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 152</td>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 153</td>
<td>Political Campaigning in the Internet Age</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 154</td>
<td>The Politics of Algorithms</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 157</td>
<td>Information Control in Authoritarian Regimes</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 158</td>
<td>Censorship and Propaganda</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 177I</td>
<td>Investigative Watchdog Reporting</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 177P</td>
<td>Programming in Journalism</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 177T</td>
<td>Building News Applications</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 177Y</td>
<td>Specialized Writing and Reporting: Foreign</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 184</td>
<td>Race and Media</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 186W</td>
<td>Media, Technology, and the Body</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Requirements**

The remainder of the 60 required units may be fulfilled with any elective Communication courses or crosslisted courses in other departments.

To be recommended for the B.A. degree in Communication, the student must complete at least 60 units (approximately 12 courses) in the department. No more than 10 units of course work outside of the department or transfer credit may be applied to meet department requirements. Communication majors must receive a letter grade for all Communication courses unless they are offered only for satisfactory/no credit (S/NC), and must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) in courses towards the major. Only courses with a grade of ‘C-’ or above count towards the major. Therefore, majors who receive a grade of ‘D+’ or below in one of the core courses must repeat the course.

**Honors Program**

The honors program provides Communication majors the opportunity to undertake a significant program of research in an individual professor/student mentoring relationship. The aim is to guide students through the process of research, analysis, drafting, rethinking, and redrafting, which is essential to excellence in scholarship. Working one-on-one with a faculty adviser, seniors earn 15 Communication units culminating in an honors thesis. In order to be eligible for the honors program, interested majors must have a GPA of 3.3 in Communication courses, completed the
following requirements, and received a grade of ‘B+’ or better in COMM 106, Communication Research Methods:

1. Core Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 1B</td>
<td>Media, Culture, and Society</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 106</td>
<td>Communication Research Methods (receive a grade of B+ or better)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 108</td>
<td>Media Processes and Effects</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATS 60/</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistical Methods: Precalculus</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Select an adviser; and
3. Submit an application to the department by the end of their junior year. See the department’s honors web site to download an application form (https://comm.stanford.edu/mm/2013/02/HonorsApp.pdf).

Students are expected to make steady progress on their honors thesis throughout the year.

A final copy of the honors thesis must be submitted to the thesis advisor for review and grading and a second copy uploaded to the Stanford Digital Repository (https://sdr.stanford.edu) by the end of week eight of Spring Quarter of the student’s senior year (exact date to be arranged). Honors work may be used to fulfill Communication elective credit, but must be completed and a letter grade submitted prior to graduation. A student failing to fulfill all honors requirements may still receive independent study credit for work completed, which may be applied toward fulfilling major requirements.

The designation “with honors” is awarded by the Department of Communication to those graduating seniors who, in addition to having completed all requirements for the Communication major:

1. complete an honors thesis;
2. maintain a distinguished GPA in all Communication course work;
3. are recommended by the Communication faculty.

**Minor in Communication**

**Preparation**

Before declaring the minor, students must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1B</td>
<td>Media, Culture, and Society</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 106</td>
<td>Communication Research Methods</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 108</td>
<td>Media Processes and Effects</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students interested in declaring the minor should do so no later than the deadline to for their application to graduate by applying via Axess and meeting with the student services administrator in building 120, room 110A.

**Program of Study**

The minor is structured to provide a foundation for advanced course work in communication through a broad-based understanding of communication theory and research.

Students are required to take 35 units (approximately 7 courses), not counting statistics, to complete the minor. The curriculum consists of three introductory communication core courses that include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 1B</td>
<td>Media, Culture, and Society</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 106</td>
<td>Communication Research Methods</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 108</td>
<td>Media Processes and Effects</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Core courses are usually offered only once each year. The department also requires completion of – or concurrent registration in – an introductory statistics course (STATS 60 Introduction to Statistical Methods: Precalculus) when registering for COMM 106 Communication Research Methods in preparation for courses in methodology and advanced courses in communication processes and effects. It is recommended that this be done as soon as possible so as not to prevent registration in a course requiring statistical understanding. The statistics course does not count toward the 35 units to complete the Communication minor.

In addition to the three core courses and the statistics course, students are required to take one course in each of the two areas as specified below.

The remainder of the 35 required units may be fulfilled with any intermediate-level elective Communication courses or crosslisted courses in other departments. No more than 5 units of course work outside of the department or transfer credit may be applied to meet department requirements. Communication minors must receive a letter grade for all Communication courses unless they are offered only for satisfactory/no credit (S/NC), and must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) in courses towards the minor. Only courses with a grade of C- or above count towards the minor. Some courses are not offered every year. Refer to ExploreCourses (http://explorerourses.stanford.edu) for details.

**Area I: Communication Processes and Effects**

Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 121</td>
<td>Behavior and Social Media</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 124</td>
<td>Lies, Trust, and Tech</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 135</td>
<td>Deliberative Democracy and its Critics</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 137W</td>
<td>The Dialogue of Democracy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 145</td>
<td>Personality and Digital Media</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 162</td>
<td>Campaigns, Voting, Media, and Elections</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 164</td>
<td>The Psychology of Communication About Politics in America</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 166</td>
<td>Virtual People</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 172</td>
<td>Media Psychology</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 326</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Human Virtual Representation</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Area II: Communication Systems/Institutions**

Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 104W</td>
<td>Reporting, Writing, and Understanding the News</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 116</td>
<td>Journalism Law</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 120W</td>
<td>The Rise of Digital Culture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 125</td>
<td>Perspectives on American Journalism</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 142W</td>
<td>Media Economics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 143W</td>
<td>Communication Policy and Regulation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMM 151  The First Amendment: Freedom of Speech and Press  5
COMM 152  Constitutional Law  3
COMM 153  Political Campaigning in the Internet Age  3
COMM 154  The Politics of Algorithms  5
COMM 157  Information Control in Authoritarian Regimes  5
COMM 158  Censorship and Propaganda  5
COMM 177I  Investigative Watchdog Reporting  5
COMM 177P  Programming in Journalism  5
COMM 177T  Building News Applications  5
COMM 177Y  Specialized Writing and Reporting: Foreign Correspondence  5
COMM 184  Race and Media  5
COMM 186W  Media, Technology, and the Body  5

Elective courses
Totaling 10 units.

Master of Arts in Communication / Graduate Program in Journalism

University requirements for the master's degree are described in the "Graduate Degrees [http://www.stanford.edu/dept/registrar/bulletin/4901.htm]" section of this bulletin. The Department of Communication does not require the GRE for admission.

The department awards a terminal M.A. degree in Communication with a subplan in Journalism. This subplan prints on the transcript, but not on the diploma. Applicants for this program are evaluated for admission on different criteria. Work to fulfill graduate degree requirements must be in courses numbered 100 or above.

Journalism

Stanford's graduate program in Journalism focuses on the knowledge and skills required to report, analyze, and write authoritatively about public issues and digital media. The curriculum combines a sequence of specialized reporting and writing courses with seminars and courses devoted to deepening the students' understanding of the roles and responsibilities of American news media in their coverage of public issues.

The program emphasizes preparation for the practice of journalism and a critical perspective from which to understand it. The program's objective is twofold:

1. to graduate talented reporters and writers to foster public understanding of the significance and consequences of public issues and the debates they engender; and
2. to graduate thoughtful journalists to respond openly and eloquently when called upon to explain and defend the methods and quality of their reporting and writing.

Curriculum

The curriculum includes several required courses as shown below, including a master's project class:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 216</td>
<td>Journalism Law</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 225</td>
<td>Perspectives on American Journalism</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 273D</td>
<td>Public Affairs Data Journalism I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 274D</td>
<td>Public Affairs Data Journalism II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 275</td>
<td>Multimedia Storytelling: Reporting and Production Using Audio, Still Images, and Video</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 279</td>
<td>News Reporting &amp; Writing Fundamentals</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 289P</td>
<td>Journalism Thesis</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additionally, students are required to take two specialized reporting courses, chosen from a list of about ten, and three approved electives from among graduate-level courses in the Department of Communication, or from among courses on campus that deal substantively with issues of public importance. The M.A. degree in Communication (Journalism) requires a minimum of 45 units. Coterminal journalism students may count coursework taken after summer of freshman year towards the 45 units of unduplicated work with approval by the Director of the Graduate Program in Journalism.

Except for COMM 289P Journalism Thesis, all courses must be taken for a letter grade unless they are offered only for satisfactory/no credit (S/NC). To remain in good academic standing, students must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better. Graduation requires a GPA of 3.0 or better.

Journalism Project

The Journalism Thesis (COMM 289P), a requirement for graduation, is intended as an opportunity for students to showcase their talents as writers and reporters. It is also an opportunity to undertake an in-depth critique of an area of journalism in which the author has a special interest. Work on the project usually begins during Winter Quarter and continues through Spring Quarter in the form of the class Journalism Thesis (COMM 289P). Completed master's projects must be submitted to the project adviser and an electronic copy uploaded to the Stanford Digital Repository [https://sdr.stanford.edu] no later than the last day of classes in the Spring Quarter.

The project represents a major commitment of time, research, and writing. Although it is not a requirement that the project be published, it must be judged by a member of the faculty to be of a quality acceptable for publication. At a minimum, the project should demonstrate the rigor and discipline required of good scholarship and good journalism; it should offer ample evidence of students' ability to gather, analyze, and synthesize information in a manner that goes beyond what ordinarily appears in daily news media.

Coterminal Master's Program in Communication

The Department of Communication offers current Stanford University undergraduates the opportunity to apply for a one-year coterminal master's program with an M.A subplan in Media Studies or Journalism. This subplan prints on the transcript, but not on the diploma.

Admission

Applicants must submit their application and, if admitted, respond to the offer of admission no later than the quarter prior to the expected completion of their undergraduate degree. Applicants must have declared an undergraduate major and earned a minimum of 120 units toward graduation (UTG) as shown on the undergraduate unofficial transcript (including allowable advanced placement (AP) and transfer credit) and completed at least six academic quarters.

Applications must be submitted no later than January 29, 2020, for admission beginning in Spring Quarter 2019-20.

Requirements include:

- Application for Admission to Coterminal Masters’ Program (https://www.applyweb.com/stanterm)
- preliminary program proposal
- statement of purpose
• letters of recommendation and recommendation forms from Stanford professors (two for media studies, three for journalism track)
• a written statement from a Communication professor agreeing to act as a graduate adviser (media studies track only)
• three samples of writing (journalism track only)
• undergraduate coterm application approval form
• a current unofficial Stanford transcript

GRE scores are not required.

Coterminal applications are submitted online.

University Coterminal Requirements
Coterminal master's degree candidates are expected to complete all master's degree requirements as described in this bulletin. University requirements for the coterminal master's degree are described in the "Coterminal Master's Program (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/cotermdegrees)" section. University requirements for the master's degree are described in the "Graduate Degrees (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees/#masterstext)" section of this bulletin.

After accepting admission to this coterminal master's degree program, students may request transfer of courses from the undergraduate to the graduate career to satisfy requirements for the master's degree. Transfer of courses to the graduate career requires review and approval of both the undergraduate and graduate programs on a case by case basis.

In this master's program, courses taken during or after the first quarter of the sophomore year are eligible for consideration for transfer to the graduate career; the timing of the first graduate quarter is not a factor. No courses taken prior to the first quarter of the sophomore year may be used to meet master's degree requirements.

Course transfers are not possible after the bachelor's degree has been conferred.

The University requires that the graduate adviser be assigned in the student's first graduate quarter even though the undergraduate career may still be open. The University also requires that the Master's Degree Program Proposal be completed by the student and approved by the department by the end of the student's first graduate quarter.

Degree Requirements
The coterminal master's program in Communication provides a broad introduction to scholarly literature in mass communication and offers a media studies and a journalism track.

Media studies track students must satisfy the following four requirements:

1. Required Units and GPA: students must complete a minimum of 45 units in Communication and related areas, including items 2 and 3 below. Courses must be taken for a letter grade if offered. Courses in related areas outside the department must be approved by the student's adviser. A minimum of 36 units must be in the Communication department. No more than two courses (not including the statistics prerequisite) may be at the 100 level. To remain in good academic standing students must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better. Graduation requires a GPA of 3.0 or better.

2. Core Requirements: students must complete COMM 206 Communication Research Methods, COMM 208 Media Processes and Effects and an approved statistics course such as STATS 160 Introduction to Statistical Methods: Precalculus. Other courses may be approved as a substitute. The statistics course does not count toward the 45 units.

3. Six Media Studies Courses: Students must complete a minimum of six additional Communication courses concerned with the study of media from the following list. Not all the listed courses are offered every year and the list may be updated from one year to the next. In addition to the core requirements and a minimum of six courses listed below, students may choose additional courses from the list and any related course approved by the student’s adviser.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 216</td>
<td>Journalism Law</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 220</td>
<td>The Rise of Digital Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 224</td>
<td>Lies, Trust, and Tech</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 225</td>
<td>Perspectives on American Journalism</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 235</td>
<td>Deliberative Democracy and its Critics</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 237</td>
<td>The Dialogue of Democracy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 242</td>
<td>Media Economics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 243</td>
<td>Communication Policy and Regulation</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 245</td>
<td>Personality and Digital Media</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 251</td>
<td>The First Amendment: Freedom of Speech and Press</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 252</td>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 253</td>
<td>Political Campaigning in the Internet</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 254</td>
<td>The Politics of Algorithms</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 257</td>
<td>Information Control in Authoritarian Regimes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 258</td>
<td>Censorship and Propaganda</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 262</td>
<td>Campaigns, Voting, Media, and Elections</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 264</td>
<td>The Psychology of Communication About Politics in America</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 266</td>
<td>Virtual People</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 272</td>
<td>Media Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 277B</td>
<td>BigLocal Journalism: a project-based class</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 277C</td>
<td>Specialized Writing and Reporting: Health and Science Journalism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 277D</td>
<td>Specialized Writing and Reporting: Narrative Journalism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 277I</td>
<td>Investigative Watchdog Reporting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 277P</td>
<td>Programming in Journalism</td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 277S</td>
<td>Specialized Writing and Reporting: Sports Journalism</td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 277T</td>
<td>Building News Applications</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 277Y</td>
<td>Specialized Writing and Reporting: Foreign Correspondence</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 271</td>
<td>Moving Pictures: Video Journalism for mobile and social platforms</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 275</td>
<td>Multimedia Storytelling: Reporting and Production Using Audio, Still Images, and Video</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 276</td>
<td>Advanced Digital Media Production</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or COMM 280</td>
<td>Immersive (VR/AR) Journalism in the Public Sphere</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM 284</td>
<td>Race and Media</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 286</td>
<td>Media, Technology, and the Body</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 324</td>
<td>Language and Technology</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 326</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Human Virtual Representation</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 339</td>
<td>Questionnaire Design for Surveys and Laboratory Experiments: Social and Cognitive Perspectives</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 354</td>
<td>Work, Technology, and Communication</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 385</td>
<td>Media as Ways of Knowing</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. The Media Studies M.A. Project: students following the media studies track enroll in COMM 290 Media Studies M.A. Project to complete a project over two consecutive quarters that must be preapproved and supervised by the adviser. The completed M.A. project must be submitted to the adviser and an electronic copy to the Stanford Digital Repository (https://sdr.stanford.edu) no later than the last day of classes of the second consecutive quarter. Additional courses are chosen in consultation with an academic adviser.

Doctor of Philosophy in Communication

Prospective graduate students should see the Office of Graduate Admissions (http://gradadmissions.stanford.edu) and the the Applications and Financial Aid (https://comm.stanford.edu/phd/applications) section of the department website for detailed information and application materials. Applicants must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS). The Communication Department does not require any GRE subject tests.

University requirements for the Ph.D. are described in the "Graduate Degrees (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees)" section of this bulletin. The minimum number of academic units required for the Ph.D. at Stanford is 135, up to 45 of which can be transferred either from a master's degree at the University or from another accredited institution.

The department offers a Ph.D. in Communication, which focuses on theory and research. First-year students are required to complete introductory courses in communication theory and research, research methods, and statistics. These core courses, grounded in the social science literature, emphasize how people respond to media and how media institutions function. In addition, Ph.D. students must complete a minimum of three literature survey courses and related advanced seminars in Communication. Students also take significant course work outside the department in their area of interest. Each student builds a research specialty relating communication to current faculty interests in such areas as ethics, computational journalism, information processing, information technology, law, online communities, politics and voting, and virtual reality. Regardless of the area of specialization, the Ph.D. program is designed primarily for students interested in university research and teaching or other research or analyst positions.

Students must complete the following department requirements for the Ph.D. degree in Communication:

1. Complete all departmental course requirements listed below with grades of 'B+' or above, with the exception of STATS 160 ('B' minimum) and an advanced methods course ('B-' minimum). Required courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 206</td>
<td>Communication Research Methods</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 208</td>
<td>Media Processes and Effects</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 301</td>
<td>Communication Research, Curriculum Development and Pedagogy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 311</td>
<td>Theory of Communication</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 314</td>
<td>Ethnographic Methods</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 317</td>
<td>The Philosophy of Social Science</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 318</td>
<td>Quantitative Social Science Research Methods</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATS 160</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistical Methods: Precalculus</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One advanced methods course.

2. Pass the general qualifying examinations by the end of the second academic year of study.

3. Apply for candidacy by the end of the first week of the student’s sixth quarter.

4. Complete three 200-level courses and the associated 300-level courses with grades of 'B+' or above by the end of the 9th quarter.

5. Complete at least two pre-dissertation research projects (the Major Project and the Minor Project) by the end of the student’s 11th academic quarter.

6. Demonstrate proficiency in tools required in the area of research specialization. Identified with the advice of the faculty, such tools may include detailed theoretical knowledge, advanced statistical methods, a foreign language, computer programming, or other technical skills. Pass an Area Examination by the end of the 12th quarter.

7. Teach or assist in teaching at least two courses offered by the Department of Communication, preferably two different courses, at least one of which is ideally a core undergraduate course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 1B</td>
<td>Media, Culture, and Society</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 106</td>
<td>Communication Research Methods</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 108</td>
<td>Media Processes and Effects</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Complete a dissertation proposal and proposal meeting approved by the dissertation committee.

9. Complete a dissertation satisfactory to a reading committee of three or more faculty members in the Department of Communication and one faculty member outside of the Department of Communication.

10. Pass the University oral examination, which is a defense of the dissertation.

Because the multifaceted nature of the department makes it possible for the Ph.D. student to specialize in areas that draw on different related disciplines, the plan of study is individualized and developed between the faculty adviser and the student.

Ph.D. candidacy is valid for five years.

Additional information is available on the Ph.D. program page (https://comm.stanford.edu/phd) of the department web site.

Ph.D. Minor in Communication

Candidates for the Ph.D. degree in other departments who elect a minor in Communication are required to complete a minimum of 20 units of graduate courses in the Department of Communication, including a total of three theory or research methods courses, and are examined by a representative of the department. A department adviser in consultation with the individual student determines the particular communication theory and methods courses.

Joint Degree Program in Communication with the School of Law

J.D./PH.D.

The Department of Communication and the School of Law offer a joint degree program leading to a J.D. combined with a Ph.D. in Communication.

The J.D./Ph.D. degree program offers students the opportunity to pursue academic, public policy, and private practice careers at the intersection of a variety of cutting edge debates in theory and policy, including: legal and normative First Amendment theories of speech and the press; media and communications economy and policy issues; questions of the
relationship between citizens and the state, especially regarding mass surveillance and big data; and cultural and normative questions about the implications of the shift to the digital realm.

Students interested in the joint degree program must apply and gain entrance separately to the School of Law and the Communication Ph.D. program, and, as an additional step, must secure permission from both academic units to pursue degrees in those units as part of a joint degree program. Interest in the joint degree program should be noted on the student’s admission applications and may be considered by the admission committee of each program. Alternatively, an enrolled student in either program may apply for admission to the other program and for joint degree status in both academic units after commencing study in either program.

Joint degree students may elect to begin their course of study in either the School of Law or the Communication Ph.D. program. Faculty advisers from each academic unit participate in the planning and supervising of the student’s joint program. Students must be enrolled full time in the Law School for the first year of Law School, and are required to be enrolled full time for the first year of the Ph.D. program in Communication. At all other times, enrollment may be in either academic unit, and students may choose courses from either program regardless of where enrolled. Students must satisfy the requirements for both the J.D. and the Ph.D. degrees as specified in this bulletin or by the School of Law. The sequencing and schedules for individual joint degree students may vary substantially depending on the student’s background and interests, and on the guidance of faculty advisers from both academic units.

No more than 54 quarter hours of approved courses may be counted toward both degrees, but no more than 36 quarter hours of courses that originate outside the Law School may count toward the Law degree. To the extent that courses under this joint degree program originate outside the Law School but count toward the Law degree, the Law School credits permitted under Section 17(1) of the Law School Regulations are reduced on a unit-per-unit basis, but not below zero. Students must complete 192 quarter units to complete both degrees.

Joint degree students are eligible for the same funding arrangements in both academic units, including scholarships and grants, as students who are not pursuing a joint degree plus one additional quarter of funding from the Communication Ph.D. Program.

Graduate Advising Expectations

The Department of Communication is committed to providing academic advising in support of graduate student scholarly and professional development. When most effective, this advising relationship entails collaborative and sustained engagement by both the adviser and the advisee. As a best practice, advising expectations should be periodically discussed and reviewed to ensure mutual understanding. Both the adviser and the advisee are expected to maintain professionalism and integrity.

Faculty advisers guide students in key areas such as selecting courses, designing and conducting research, developing teaching pedagogy, navigating policies and degree requirements, and exploring academic opportunities and professional pathways.

Graduate students are active contributors to the advising relationship, proactively seeking academic and professional guidance and taking responsibility for informing themselves of policies and degree requirements for their graduate program.

For a statement of University policy on graduate advising, see the "Graduate Advising (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees/#advisingandcredentialstext)" section of this bulletin.

Ph.D. in Communication

Students are assigned a temporary adviser upon admission to the department. By the end of the third quarter of the first year, students confirm in writing that they will remain with or change their adviser. The faculty adviser must be an Academic Council member and a member of the Communication department.

Faculty advisers guide students in key areas such as selecting courses, designing and conducting research, developing teaching pedagogy, navigating policies and degree requirements, and exploring academic opportunities and professional pathways.

It is the responsibility of the student to meet with their adviser at least once per quarter during the academic year to discuss academic standing and graduate degree progress.

In addition, the Director of Graduate Studies is always available to Ph.D. students for consultation.

Requirements and milestones, as well as more detailed descriptions of the program's expectations of advisors and students, are listed in the "Degree Requirements and Department Procedures for Ph.D. Students and Ph.D. Advisers" available on the department website (http://comm.stanford.edu).

Master's Program in Communication—Journalism Track

Before the start of graduate study, normally during Summer Quarter, each student is assigned an academic adviser: a member of our journalism faculty who provides guidance in course selection, course planning, and exploring short- and long-term career opportunities and professional pathways. The adviser serves as the first resource for consultation and advice about a student's academic program.

The Director of the Graduate Program in Journalism initially serves as the adviser for all coterminal journalism master's students until a final academic adviser is assigned.

In addition, the Director of the Graduate Program in Journalism is always available to journalism master's students for consultation.

Master's Program in Communication—Media Studies Track

To be accepted to the coterminal master's program in Communication, Media Studies track, students must find a professor in the Department of Communication to serve as coterminal adviser.

The coterminal adviser provides extensive guidance on a research project proposed in the student’s statement of purpose, helping students go through the process of conceptualization, study planning, data collection, analysis, and writing. The coterminal adviser also assists the student with course selection and course planning and serves as the first resource for consultation and advice about a student's academic program.

In addition, the Director of the Graduate Program in Coterminal Media Studies is always available for consultation.

Emeriti: (Professor) Theodore L. Glasser, Donald F. Roberts; (Professor, Teaching) Marion Lewenstein
Chair: James T. Hamilton
Director, Doctoral Program in Communication: Jeremy Bailenson
Director, John S. Knight Journalism Fellowships: Dawn E. Garcia
Director, Graduate Program in Journalism: James T. Hamilton

Director, Graduate Program in Coterminal Media Studies: Byron Reeves

Director, Undergraduate Studies: Fred Turner

Professors: Jeremy Bailenson, James S. Fishkin, James T. Hamilton, Jeffrey T. Hancock, Shanto Iyengar, Jon Krosnick, Byron B. Reeves, Fred Turner

Assistant Professors: Angèle Christin, Gabriella Harari, Xiaochang Li, Jennifer Pan

Courtesy Professors: Nathaniel Persily, Walter Powell

Lorry I. Lokey Visiting Professor in Professional Journalism: Cheryl Phillips, Serdar Tumgoren

Hearst Professionals in Residence: Geralyn Migielicz

Carlos Kelly McClatchy Visiting Lecturer: Janine Zacharia

Lecturers: R.B. Brenner, Gary Pomerantz, James Wheaton

Overseas Studies Courses in Communication

The Bing Overseas Studies Program (http://bosp.stanford.edu) manages Stanford study abroad programs for Stanford undergraduates. Students should consult their department or program's student services office for applicability of Overseas Studies courses to a major or minor program.

The Bing Overseas Studies course search site (https://undergrad.stanford.edu/programs/bosp/explore/search-courses) displays courses, locations, and quarters relevant to specific majors.

For course descriptions and additional offerings, see the listings in the Stanford Bulletin’s ExploreCourses (http://explorecourses.stanford.edu) or Bing Overseas Studies (http://bosp.stanford.edu).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OSPFLOR 11</td>
<td>Film, Food and the Italian Identity</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSPKYOTO 55</td>
<td>Exploring Japan’s Media Landscape</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSPKYOTO 56</td>
<td>Independent Study Topics on Japanese Media</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSPPARIS 30</td>
<td>The Avant Garde in France through Literature, Art, and Theater</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSPSANTG 118X</td>
<td>Artistic Expression in Latin America</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>