Communication (COMM)

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http://www.uark.edu/depts/comm/

Degree Conferred:
M.A. (COMM)

Areas of Study: Communication, with general studies of the discipline or with specific emphasis areas in: 1) rhetoric and public communication; 2) interpersonal/small group/organizational communication; or 3) mass communication (television and film studies). Each student will design a specific curriculum of study in consultation with his or her major professor, and it may include one of the above emphasis areas. A student who plans to teach in the public schools may elect a combination of courses appropriate for the teaching area.

Prerequisites to Degree Program: A student entering graduate studies should have a minimum of 24 semester hours in undergraduate credit within the area of communication or closely related studies. A student who presents less than 24 hours may be admitted with deficiencies subject to the decision of the department. A student may eliminate deficiencies while concurrently enrolling in graduate courses. In addition, prospective students must supply: 1) three letters of recommendation, 2) an essay-length writing sample, 3) a statement of their goals for graduate study in Communication, and 4) scores from the GRE examination.

Requirements for a Master of Arts Degree: A minimum of 30 semester hours in graduate-level courses or 24 hours of course work and a thesis (6 hours). The following departmental requirements must be met by students pursuing the M.A. in Communication:

1. At least one course must be completed from two of the three emphasis areas (rhetoric and public communication; interpersonal, small group, and organizational communication; and mass communication);
2. Two graduate courses in communication research methods (COMM 5123 and one of the following: COMM 5113, COMM 5353, or COMM 5143);
3. In addition to the two required methods courses, at least five three-hour 5000-level courses must be completed in the Department of Communication;
4. The remaining hours of graduate credit must be selected from the following options:
   A. Additional 5000-level departmental seminars;
   B. 4000-level courses in the Department of Communication that are approved for graduate credit. However, students are strongly urged to limit the number of 4000-level courses to no more than six hours;
   C. Up to six hours of graduate-level courses outside the department that directly relate to the student’s plan of study;
   D. Three hours of internship credit in COMM 5913;
   E. Up to six hours of credit in COMM 590V;
   F. Up to six hours of thesis credit.
5. In addition to the above requirements, each student must enroll in COMM 5111 during his or her first semester of resident graduate study in which it is offered. Hours earned in COMM 5111 will not count towards the minimum hours listed above. Each student must pass a comprehensive examination over the thesis and/or all course work.