

# Communication

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## College of Communication & Information

The College of Communications and Information offers programs leading to the Master of Arts (either Plan A or Plan B) and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Communication. The program offers special opportunities for students to apply communication theory and research across many contexts. Students may develop a program of study emphasizing (or combining) research areas such as health communication, information studies, instructional communication, media and mass communication, risk and crisis communication as well as strategic and organizational communication. The program is designed to serve the needs of students whose goals may include teaching and academic research, professional research, or communication careers in the media or other organizations.

Students pursuing work in health communication are encouraged to develop interdisciplinary programs involving the Department of Behavioral Science, the College of Medicine, as well as the Colleges of Dentistry, Health Sciences, Pharmacy, and Nursing. Communication also participates in interdisciplinary research programs with the Center for Prevention Research, the Sanders-Brown Center for Aging, and a variety of other health-related departments and institutes.

### **Admission Requirements**

Students with an undergraduate degree from a fully accredited institution of higher learning and a grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale are admissible to the graduate program. Only students who have previously completed a master's degree may apply for admission into the doctoral program. Master's degree applicants are expected to have had at least twelve hours of appropriate undergraduate work in communication. Students with degrees in areas not directly related to communication are encouraged to apply, but they may be required to take course work without graduate credit. Should the Admissions Committee feel there is a deficiency in the applicant's studies, it may require enrollment in specific undergraduate courses. Courses taken to remove a deficiency cannot be counted towards the master's degree. In some cases, successful professional experience in a communication field will be considered in admitting students to the program.

Applicants must complete the University of Kentucky's Graduate School online-application and pay the application fee. Per the Graduate School's instruction, all applicants are required to submit official scores on the Graduate Record Examination and official transcripts of all work taken at and beyond the college level. Students whose native language is not English must also submit an official score of at least 550 (or 213 on the computer version or 79 on the internet-based version) of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a minimum of 6.5 of the International English Language Testing Service (IELTS). Additionally, all applicants must submit to the College of Communications and Information Studies Graduate Admissions office: (1) transcripts of all work taken at the college level (unofficial or photocopies are acceptable), (2) at least three letters of recommendation focusing on their academic abilities accompanied by the supplied Reference Form and (3) the completed Application Essay indicating why they want to pursue a graduate degree with their reasons for applying to the program. No additional forms are required for financial assistance consideration—all applicants will be considered for funding at the time of review.

The Admissions and Financial Aid Committee will review only completed admission files after January 5 of each year. Applications must have their completed file on record with the Associate Dean for the Graduate Programs in Communication by the deadline in order to be considered for fall admission. New graduate

students are permitted to enroll only during the fall semester.

Exceptions will be made only because of circumstances beyond the control of the applicant. This deadline does not apply to: (1) UK undergraduate students in the College of Communications and Information Studies applying as University Scholars, who may be admitted for summer, fall or spring semesters, and (2) current students in the M.A. Program in Communication or the M.L.S., M.S.L.S or M.S. in ICT.

## **Master of Arts**

The M.A. program requires that every student become familiar with the important theories and concepts and the principal investigation methods used to expand knowledge of communication. All students are required to complete 30 credit hours to complete the Master of Arts degree. Students will be required to take 12 core credit hours consisting of Communication Theory (CJT 651), and Communication Research Methods (CJT 665), plus Statistics 570 (or its equivalent as determined by the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies). In addition, all students will be required to take either Interpersonal Communication (CJT 631) or Mass Communication (CJT 608 or CJT 645). Students may choose from either the Plan A (Thesis option) or Plan B (non-thesis) options to complete their Masters degree requirements.

**Plan A:** Students choosing Plan A will take a minimum of 24 credit hours of actual course work, and write a thesis (Note: the six thesis credits must be taken under CJT 768 - Residence Credit for the Master's degree). All students will also complete an oral examination in defense of the thesis.

**Plan B:** Students choosing Plan B, will take a minimum of 30 hours of course work, followed by a written and oral examination over the student's program.

At least 21 credit hours of the minimum requirements for the master's degree must be from offerings within the College of Communications and Information studies (both Plan A and Plan B). Plan A students may include six hours of CJT 768 in the 21 hours, since the thesis involves work in an area of communication. Also, at least 15 credit hours of the minimum requirements must be in courses at the 600 and 700 levels (both Plan A and Plan B). Plan A students may include six hours of CJT 768 in the 21 hours. No more than three credit yours in Plan A and 6 credit hours in Plan B (of the minimum requirements) may be earned in directed study, directed reading, or internship courses (e.g., CJT 696, CJT 700, CJT 781, and CJT 790).

Students without previous course work in communication may be required to take undergraduate work that does not count toward graduate credit, as determined by the Admissions Committee. Individuals without significant practical experience are strongly encouraged to take CJT 696 - Internship in Communication, which could include opportunities to work with external agencies and funded projects, both within and outside the university.

## **Doctor of Philosophy**

The Ph.D. program emphasizes communication as a social science. Graduates are prepared for university positions and careers in government, the media and other organizations as researchers, consultants and policy makers. Students must demonstrate general knowledge of communication across various contexts, as well as competence in a core area of specialization. Current core areas include health communication, information studies, instructional communication, media and mass communication, risk and crisis communication as well as strategic and organizational communication.

Students must demonstrate a thorough grasp of communication theory and research methods and must take course work in a cognate area outside of Communication. Proficiency in a foreign language is not required for successful completion of the Ph.D. in Communication. A student's advisory committee may, however, stipulate certain graduate-level courses in another language for the student's program that are consistent with the objectives of the student's program. The required curriculum is as follows:

**Fall Semester: Year 1**

CJT 651	Communication Theory
CJT 664	Qualitative Methods in Communication Research
STA 570	(or other advanced statistics course)

**Spring Semester: Year 1**

CJT 631	Proseminar in Interpersonal Communication	OR
CJT 645	Proseminar in Mass Communication	
CJT 665	Quantitative Methods in Communication Research	

**Fall Semester: Year 2**

CJT 751	Advanced Topics in Communication Theory Construction
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All students are also required to complete at least 3 credit hours of CJT 790 (Research Problems in Communication) by the last semester of course work.

The Associate Dean for Graduate Programs, in consultation with the Graduate Review committee, can waive any of the above requirements for a student who has previously taken the same or equivalent course at UK or another university for graduate credit. Each student works with a major professor and an advisory committee to plan course work and complete the dissertation. The committee also administers the qualifying examination and the final oral examination. The qualifying examination consists of a written and oral examination over general communication theory, the core area of specialization, research methods/statistics and the cognate area.

**Graduate Courses**

CJT 608	Mass Communications And Society	(3)
CJT 615	Proseminar In Communication And Information Systems	(3)
CJT 619	Proseminar In International/Intercultural Communication	(3)
CJT 625	Proseminar In Organizational Communication	(3)
CJT 630	Proseminar In Mass Media Law And Public Policy	(3)
CJT 631	Proseminar In Interpersonal Communication	(3)
CJT 637	Information Technology	(3)
CJT 638	Internet Technologies And Information Services	(3)
CJT 640	Health Sciences Libraries	(3)
CJT 645	Preseminar In Mass Communication Theory	(3)
CJT 650	Communication, Language And Culture	(3)
CJT 651	Communication Theory	(3)
CJT 664	Qualitative Methods In Communication Research	(3)
CJT 665	Quantitative Methods In Communication Research	(3)
CJT 668	Information Systems Design	(3)
CJT 671	Proseminar In Health Communication	(3)
CJT 682	Communication And Persuasion	(3)
CJT 684	Proseminar In Instructional Communication	(3)
CJT 685	Seminar: Preparing Future Faculty For The Multicultural Classroom	(1)
CJT 686	Practicum In Preparing Future Faculty	(1)
CJT 690	Special Topics In Library And Information Science	(3)
CJT 696	Internship In Communication	(3)
CJT 700	Directed Reading In Communication	(1-3)
CJT 719	Seminar In International/Intercultural Communication (Subtitle Required)	(3)

CJT 725	Seminar In Organizational Communication (Subtitle Required)	(3)
CJT 730	Seminar In Mass Media And Public Policy (Subtitle Required)	(3)
CJT 731	Seminar In Interpersonal Communication (Subtitle Required)	(3)
CJT 748	Master's Thesis Research	(0)
CJT 749	Dissertation Research	(0)
CJT 751	Advanced Topics In Communication Theory Construction (Subtitle Required)	(3)
CJT 765	Advanced Seminar In Communication Research Methods	(3)
CJT 767	Dissertation Residency Credit	(2)
CJT 768	Residence Credit For The Master' Degree	(1-6)
CJT 769	Residence Credit For Doctor's Degree	(0-12)
CJT 771	Seminar In Health Communication	(3)
CJT 775	Seminar In Health Communication Campaigns	(3)
CJT 780	Special Topics In Communication (Subtitle Required)	(3)
CJT 781	Directed Study In Communication	(1-6)
CJT 790	Research Problems In Communication	(1-6)

With The Consent Of The Instructor And The Associate Dean Of Graduate Studies, Students May Also Choose 500 Level Courses From The List Below To Include In Their Program Of Study.

COM 525	Organizational Communication	(3)
COM 555	Cyberspace And Communication (Same As TEL 555)	(3)
COM 571	Health Communication	(3)
COM 581	Studies In Small Group Communication Contexts	(3)
COM 584	Teaching Of Speech Communication	(3)
COM 591	Special Topics In Communication (Subtitle Required)	(1)
ISC 541	Critical Topics In Integrated Strategic Communication (Subtitle Required)	(3)
ISC 543	Regulation Of Strategic Communication	(3)
JOU 531	Media Law And Ethics	(3)
JOU 532	Ethics Of Journalism And Mass Communication	(3)
JOU 535	History Of Journalism	(3)
TEL 504	Media Organizations	(3)
TEL 510	Media Economics	(3)
TEL 520	Social Effects Of The Mass Media	(3)
TEL 525	Theory Of Multimedia	(3)
TEL 530	Pro-Seminar In Telecommunications	(3)
TEL 555	Cyberspace And Communication (Same As Com 555)	(3)
TEL 590	Advanced Telecommunications Topical Seminar (Subtitle Required)	(3)
CSD748	Master's Thesis Research	(0)
CSC 768	Residence Credit For The Master's Degree	(1-6)
CSD 772	Advanced Seminar In Aphasia	(3)

CSD 773	Seminar In Motor Speech Disorders	(3)
CSD 774	Seminar In Adult Speech And Language	(3)
CSD 775	Seminar In Literate Language	(3)
CSD 789	Independent Study In Communication Sciences & Disorders	(1-6)