

COMT - COMMUNICATION & THEATRE

COMT 501 Communication Law and Ethics. Term Typically Offered: Spring Examines both legal responsibilities and ethical decisions in communication. Key principles and court rulings will be examined that are necessary for public communication professionals to understand. Topics include libel, privacy, press rights, advertising, broadcast regulations, and other cases relevant to contemporary legal issues. This course also examines ethical theories and moral responsibilities for practitioners in communication contexts. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 520 Advertising, Media & Culture. (every other year) Provides a critical look at the role of advertising in a market economy, its contributions to and influences upon the mass media, and its powers as a mirror and a shaper of society and culture. Students will acquire insights into the methods, policies, problems, opportunities, and ethical issues of advertising as a business, as a cornerstone of Western-world media systems, and as a socio-cultural force. Assignments will include the development of original creative work as well as critical assessments of current advertising. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
COMT 502 Research Methods. Term Typically Offered: Fall Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Surveys qualitative and quantitative research methods utilized in the field of communication. Reviews principles and purposes of social science research, engaging students in critical discussions of measures, methods, theory, and research design. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 521 Communicating Online. (every other year) Examines the major principles influencing the construction and dissemination of online communication. May address topics such as the conventions of web page design, effective utilization of the internet as a communication channel, differentiating useful messages from spam, and identifying the strengths and limitations of online communication. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
COMT 510 Adv Interpersonal Comm. Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. (alternating Sp) Considers major concepts relevant to the study of interpersonal communication, explores some of the most important and recent research in the area of interpersonal communication, and provides experiences for the practical application of these ideas. The content centers on such issues as self-disclosure, interpersonal conflict, perception of self and others, empathic listening, and the study of various specific types of interpersonal relationships such as inter-personal guidance and loving relationships. Graduate students will be required to present an extensive research paper/project. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 522 Issues in Public Relations. Term Typically Offered: Summer Explores advanced public relations strategies and the role of public relations in society. Topics may include (but are not limited to) Corporations and their publics, Not-for-profit public relations, Socially responsible marketing, Public relations theory, Crisis communication, and Public Relations for Multicultural Audiences. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
COMT 514 Issues in Org Comm. Term Typically Offered: Fall, Summer Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Covers climate, leadership, and conflict issues related to organization. Includes assessment center process, communication training, managing work team effectiveness, functional managerial metaphors, communication audits, communication ethics, planned change in organizations, cognitive mapping as a managerial skill, dealing with ambiguity, and managerial creativity. Graduate students will be required to present an extensive research paper/project. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 525 Media Criticism. (every other year) Engages students in the in-depth exploration, analysis, and criticism of the media as foundational components of democracies, as economic institutions, as producers of text (rhetoric), and as meaning-making systems. Students will learn a variety of critical methods and apply them to the analysis of pressing contemporary issues of media and society. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
COMT 516 Leadership & Communication. (every other Sp & Su) Presents material related to leadership theories, leader-participant relations, vision/mission/goals, structure and design, culture, capacity building and social responsibility. Offered ONLY Online. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 526 Case Studies in PR. (alternating Sp) Uses actual cases to assess strategic decisions concerning internal and external publics and appreciate the accompanying ethical, legal, economic, psychological, organizational, political, and media impact of such decisions. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
		COMT 530 Public Influence. Term Typically Offered: Spring (odd years) Examines the leading theories of persuasion/rhetoric and argumentation—including their nature and history—with special time and attention given to contemporary perspectives on rhetorical theories of influence. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
		COMT 531 Political Communication. Term Typically Offered: Fall (even years) Explores communication methods and strategies employed by political campaigns to influence voters. Students will analyze political discourse produced by national, state, and local campaigns in order to understand the communication patterns and interactions that occur. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits

COMT 540 Pop Culture & Cultural Studies. (every other year) Provides an introduction to the history, theory, and practice of studying popular culture. Explores a variety of theoretical approaches to pop culture, including classical Marxism, the Frankfurt School, structuralism, feminism, and postmodernism. Throughout the course, theoretical methodologies will be illustrated through their ability to interpret and/or decode cultural objects ranging from HBO television to science fiction to hip hop. Students will be encouraged to take these applications as models for their own work in choosing, reading, and analyzing specific instances of pop culture. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 582 Women, Media and Society. Provides students an opportunity to become familiar with feminist rhetorical scholarship, to be able to apply academic research to an original research project on a contemporary issue of topical importance, and to evaluate local community organizations and/or campaigns that appeal to women on the bases of ethicality and effectiveness. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
COMT 561 Multicultural Mass Comm. (every other year) Explores and critically analyzes mass mediated communication in a multicultural world and the U.S. as a multicultural nation. Provides an understanding of the roles of media corporations and media texts in the construction of cultural, subcultural, and individual identities. Considers media as transnational businesses, as expressive forms, and as mirrors and shapers of culture. Investigates theories, practices, and outcomes of mediated cultural imperialism and the unique role played by U.S. media organizations and U.S.-produced texts. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 587 Applied Communication Theory. Term Typically Offered: Summer Prerequisite(s): master's degree. Addresses some of the subfields of communication studies, and introduces graduate students to graduate-level study of persuasion, rhetorical theory and criticism, public address, and mediate communication theories. Lecture Hours 9 Department: Communication & Theatre	9 Credits
COMT 565 Communication Theory. Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Provides the student with a theoretical/conceptual framework for understanding human communication. Graduate students will be required to present an extensive research paper/project. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 590 Internship. Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Provides graduate students on-site observational and involvement opportunities. Department: Communication & Theatre	1-6 Credits
COMT 570 Applied Communication Studies. Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Provides the opportunity to develop an applied graduate-level professional and/or academic communication project that explores how people apply their knowledge of communication in practical contexts. Addresses applied topics such as dealing with conflict, conducting meetings, leading effectively, managing rumors, advocacy, political communication, and the practices of the media. Students will base their course work upon an independent project or communications-related internship that they identify and complete. Class does not meet regularly. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 591 Independent Study. Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Provides graduate students of outstanding ability an opportunity to explore material not covered by regular Communication courses. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
COMT 580 Health Communication. (every other year) Explores key findings in health communication research and practice, focusing on a wide range of media (e.g., brochures, posters, radio, television, telephone hotlines, Internet) and a wide range of health objectives (e.g., STD/HIV prevention, smoking cessation, cardiovascular disease prevention). We will examine the literature and key health communication campaigns to determine what are the key ingredients of successful or effective approaches in each medium, for different types of messages and target audiences. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 592 Seminar. Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. This course may be Provides graduate students an opportunity to investigate topics pertinent to the field of Communication. Offered ONLY Online. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
COMT 581 Media for Social Change. (every other year) Examines the application of commercial campaign technologies to the analysis, planning, execution, and evaluation of programs designed to influence the voluntary behavior of target audiences in order to improve their personal welfare and that of their society. Lecture Hours 3 Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits	COMT 593 Workshop. Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor. Provides graduate students an opportunity for experimental study in areas of Communication. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
		COMT 595 Comprehensive Exams. Term Typically Offered: Fall, Spring Prerequisite(s): COMT 502, COMT 514, COMT 525, COMT 565, and consent of instructor. Serves as the culmination of the MSPR. Students choosing this option will answer a series of questions that correspond to core courses in the program and will write a paper, in conjunction with the supervising professor, that demonstrates their mastery of the ability to research and write in their area of specialty. Must be taken during or after the final semester of coursework. Department: Communication & Theatre	3 Credits
		COMT 596 Cooperative Educ/Internship. Provides university credit for graduate work experience in the area of Communication and Theatre, supervised by faculty. Learning agreement must be completed prior to registration (restricted). Department: Communication & Theatre	1-8 Credits