

COMMUNICATION

bachelor of arts

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Communication underlies all human endeavors. To what extent that communication is effective impacts human relationships, an individual's career success and an organization's reputation, profitability and even its continued existence. This degree prepares you to interpret and execute communication in a variety of situations and contexts. Our graduates leave with marketable skills in writing, speaking and understanding what others are communicating.

ADVANTGE UIS

- **Faculty expertise.** Faculty members have diverse backgrounds in teaching and professional experience. Students benefit from their broad range of specialties, which includes interracial, interpersonal, organizational, non-verbal and family communication; mass media and journalism; new media technologies; criticism; and more.
- **Internships.** The Applied Study Program places undergraduate students in outstanding internships throughout central Illinois. For communication majors, that means in newsrooms, public relations offices, not-for-profit organizations, multi-media production companies and more.
- **Professional Ties.** Students are encouraged to explore professional affiliation early in their academic careers. The department and its faculty enjoy close relationships with the Illinois Broadcasters' Association, Association for Women in Communication, Association for Women Journalists and other organizations.

Multi-media.

If you are interested in electronic media, you will find excellent training grounds in the department's own TV and photography studios and a new campus radio station. In addition, students find opportunities to intern at WUIS-WIPA public radio, UIS' Office of Electronic Media and area broadcasting stations.

What can I do with this degree?

Our graduates are directors of communication and/or public relations, graphic artists, television news reporters, radio personalities, newspaper reporters and editors, executives in non-profit organizations, human resource directors and independent consultants. A number go on to earn advanced degrees at UIS or institutions such as Indiana University, Michigan State University and Arizona State University. **Recent employers include:**

WICS Channel 20
American Red Cross
State Journal-Register

U.S. Sen. Barack Obama
Central Illinois Tourism Council
Prairie Capital Convention Center

State of Illinois
WYMG Radio
Girl Scouts of America

Wise Words

Paris Ervin, news reporter
WICS-TV Springfield, Illinois

"For as long as I can remember, I've wanted to be a reporter. UIS gave me the opportunity to work at a television station while still in school and that made all the difference. Having a degree is one thing but to have a degree and job experience to go along with it gives you an edge."

On message. Students interested in public relations can choose to focus on interpersonal/organizational communication courses, which will prepare them to be strategists and chief communicators for business, government and not-for-profit organizations.

Center stage.

UIS Theatre is part of the Communication Department, providing students the opportunity to hone their speaking, acting, directing and production skills.



Communication offers students the chance to study how we exchange messages in individual, group and mass media contexts. Students will examine how that exchange may be hindered or helped and how the messages affect people locally and globally. The curriculum offers students opportunities to improve skills in writing, speaking and interpreting messages. It also addresses the theoretical, critical and technical aspects of communication. Students may choose a degree emphasis in either interpersonal communication or journalism/media studies.

Faculty Mary Bohlen, Michael Cheney, J. Michael Duvall, Jim Grubbs, Kathy Jamison, Amie Kincaid, Henry Nicholson, Elizabeth Ribarsky, Hazel Rozema, Eric Thibodeaux-Thompson, Missy Thibodeaux-Thompson

Adjunct Faculty Thomas Bartl, Kavitha Cardoza, Cindy Greene, Nan Vehovic, Peter Stott, Nancy Zimmers

The Bachelor's Degree

The undergraduate degree in Communication has three main objectives: 1) to instruct the student in general communication theory and practice, 2) to provide the student an opportunity for intensive study in a specific area of communication, and 3) to ensure that the graduate is capable of applying knowledge of general communication theory and technology to specific social problems. The baccalaureate curriculum covers two topical areas: interpersonal communication and journalism/media studies.

Entrance Requirements

Requirements for admission to the program as a candidate for the bachelor of arts degree are identical to general UIS requirements. Students who are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination must achieve a score of 580 or above to be admitted to the program.

Credit/No Credit

Communication majors may not take any COM course as part of the requirements for the major on a credit/no credit basis.

Engaged Citizenship Common Experience (ECCE Requirement) 300-400 level

All undergraduate students are required to take a minimum of 13 hours in the following categories which reflect UIS' heritage, mission, vision, and values:
U.S. Communities - 3 hrs.; Global Awareness - 3 hrs.; Engagement Experience - 3 hrs.; ECCE Elective - 3 hrs.; Speakers Series - 1 hr.

Department Requirements

At the bachelor's level, candidates must satisfy general UIS and elective requirements and also complete 32 hours in communication courses for their major. COM 302 and 303 should be taken prior to or concurrent with any other course work in their respective curricular areas.

Major Requirements

COM 302 Introduction to Interpersonal/Organizational Communication	4 Hrs.
COM 303 Introduction to Mass Media Communication emphasis requirements (primary topical area)	4 Hrs.
Communication distribution requirements (from other than primary area)	16 Hrs.
UIS Requirements	8 Hrs.
Electives (at least eight hours must be other than communication courses)	13 Hrs.
	16 Hrs.
Total	60 Hrs.

Course Offerings

Crosslisted courses from other departments may be used as part of the 32-hour major. No more than eight credit hours of crosslisted courses may be used as part of a student's concentration. Any crosslisted course used for the major must bear the COM course prefix.

Minor in Communication

Core

COM 302 Introduction to Interpersonal/Organizational Communication or
 COM 303 Introduction to Mass Media 4 Hrs.
 Plus a choice of two courses in the same curricular area as the course selected above 8 Hrs.

Elective

Any 300-level or 400-level COM course 4 Hrs.
Total 16 Hrs.

There are no prerequisites for entry into the minor. Students are advised to take the basic core courses (COM 302 or 303) before or concurrent with other courses in the same curricular area. The elective course may be from within or outside this curricular area; if outside, it may be taken without the corresponding introductory course.

Visit our website for more information on

- UIS Admission Requirements
- Credit for Prior Learning
- Grading policy and advising
- Application for Admission
- Financial Aid
- Transfer credit

To view course descriptions

www.uis.edu/uiscatalog

CONTACT INFORMATION

Communication

(217) 206-6790 or com@uis.edu.

Website

www.uis.edu/com

Office of Admissions

(217) 206-4847
 or Toll free (888) 977-4847
admissions@uis.edu
www.uis.edu/admissions

IMPORTANT! — Information effective fall 2009. Subject to change without notice. The information is not to be considered final, nor does it constitute a contract between the student and UIS. See uis.edu/uiscatalog for current program requirements.

