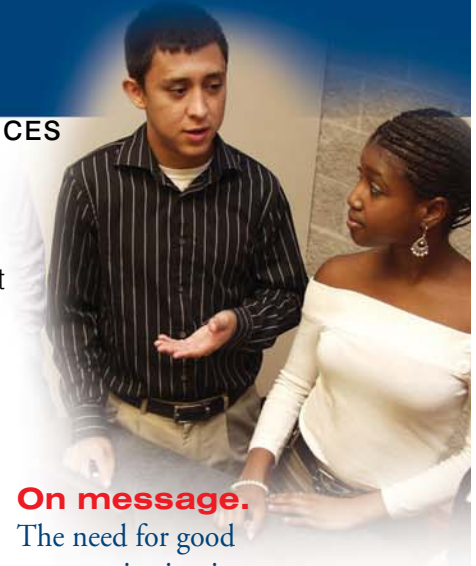


# COMMUNICATION

master 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.



### On message.

The need for good communication in an increasingly competitive business environment will spur demand for public relations specialists in organizations of all sizes. Students in this degree program can choose from a variety of interpersonal communication and mass media classes, which will help prepare them to speak and write on behalf of business, government and not-for-profit organizations.

### ADVANTAGE 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.** Graduate students at UIS build career portfolios through outstanding internship opportunities such as the Graduate Public Service Internship. The GPSI places graduate students in state government, including public information offices, multi-media centers, research offices and more. The icing? The GPSI provides a tuition waiver and monthly stipend on top of academic credit.

### What can I do with this degree?

Our graduates enjoy a high placement rate in jobs such as communication faculty, directors of communication and/or public relations, television news reporters, new media producers, executives in non-profit organizations and graphic artists, to name a few.

#### Recent employers include:

- Ketchum Public Relations*
- Illinois State Senate*
- Illinois Wesleyan University*
- Girl Scouts of America*
- State Journal-Register*
- Walgreen's Corporate Office*
- National Cancer Institute*
- WICS Channel 20*
- National City Bank*



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

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



### Wise Words

Catherine Rahe, executive director  
Hannibal, MO Convention and Visitors  
Bureau

"Enrolling in the Communication program at UIS was the best career decision I have ever made. Each class built upon the next, so that the curriculum left you searching for the bigger picture. At the end of the program, I was able to see how much I'd learned, and how it all connected together. The staff and faculty knew us all by first name and were mentors in the true sense of the word."

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 writing, speaking and interpreting messages. It also addresses the theoretical, critical and technical aspects of communication.

**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 Master's Degree**

The graduate degree in Communication has two main objectives: 1) to guide students in an intensive exploration of the structure and function of human communication and 2) to educate students in the methods and theory of communication inquiry.

**Entrance Requirements**

For admission to the master of arts degree, the student must have a bachelor's degree with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or greater (on a 4.0 scale), must complete all regular UIS graduate admissions procedures and must pass the department's graduate admission writing examination. The department reserves the right to require additional coursework where undergraduate deficiencies are indicated. 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 department.

**Department Requirements**

Students must complete department-required courses (COM 501, COM 504, COM 506) at UIS to graduate. No waivers or substitutions are accepted. Courses with a 300 number that advisers require of graduate students as prerequisites must be passed with a minimum grade of B. Hours so earned may not be counted toward the graduate degree.

All Communication M.A. candidates are required to complete at least 36 hours of graduate study in communication, including at least three 500-level graduate seminars. Graduate seminars are numbered 511 through 589. A student may not take more than eight semester hours of COM before taking COM 504. A student may not register for COM 501 Closure Experience until registering for COM 506.

**Requirements**

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| COM 504 Introduction to Graduate Study in Communication | 4 Hrs.         |
| COM 506 Research Methods in Communication               | 4 Hrs.         |
| 500-level graduate seminars                             | 12 Hrs.        |
| Graduate-level COM courses                              | 12 Hrs.        |
| Elective  | 4 Hrs.         |
| COM 501 Closure Experience (minimum)                    | 4 Hrs.         |
| <b>Total (minimum)</b>                                  | <b>40 Hrs.</b> |

Additional courses may be required by the adviser, with program approval, in order to meet deficiencies. COM 599 Tutorial credit may not be used to satisfy the 500-level seminar requirement.

**Master's Closure**

All UIS graduate students must complete a closure experience (COM 501) consisting of a thesis, a project or comprehensive exams. Specific guidelines on any of the three options are available from the Communication Department faculty.

**Visit our website for more information on**

- UIS Admission Requirements
- Credit for Prior Learning
- Grading policy and advising
- Course repetition
- Financial Aid

**To view course descriptions**

[www.uis.edu/uiscatalog](http://www.uis.edu/uiscatalog)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Communication**

(217) 206-6790 or [com@uis.edu](mailto:com@uis.edu).

**Website**

[www.uis.edu/com](http://www.uis.edu/com)

**Office of Admissions**

(217) 206-4847  
 or Toll free (888) 977-4847  
[admissions@uis.edu](mailto:admissions@uis.edu)  
[www.uis.edu/admissions](http://www.uis.edu/admissions)

*IMPORTANT*—Information effective fall 2007. 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 [www.uis.edu/uiscatalog](http://www.uis.edu/uiscatalog) for current program requirements.

The University of Illinois at Springfield is one of three campuses of the world class University of Illinois. Located on 746 picturesque acres in the state capital of Illinois, UIS is a small, public liberal arts university where you learn in small classes with professors who know you. UIS offers 42 degree programs -

21 bachelor's, 20 master's, and the Doctorate of Public Administration. The University has a special mission in public affairs and is known for extraordinary internships, extensive online offerings, and a commitment to engaging students in the community and the world. Enrollment is 4,855 (fall 2007).



11.07-001 36-44935