Prerequisites to Graduate Work

Admission to graduate study at the master's level normally requires 36 quarter hours or 24 semester hours of undergraduate work in mass communication fields. Students with undergraduate majors in fields other than mass communication will be considered for admission on an individual basis; she/he may be required to take undergraduate course work in appropriate mass communications courses as part of her/his program. In special circumstances, a student with appropriate professional background may be admitted to advanced study. A student who has obtained a master's degree in mass communication from an accredited institution may be admitted to advanced graduate study beyond the master's level if the School judges that her/his record indicates potential for successful advanced work.

Requirements for the Master's Degree

Two plans of study (Plan I and Plan II) are available to students pursuing the master's degree. To meet the minimum requirements for a degree under either plan, the student must successfully complete nine hours of core course requirements: MCOM 500 (1 hour); MCOM 505 (3 hours); MCOM 510 (2 hours) and MCOM 511 (3 hours), plus at least six hours of MCOM 600-level courses.

**Plan I**, the 30 semester hour thesis option, requires a planned program of 15 hours of course work in addition to the core courses and completion and successful oral defense of a master's thesis on selected topics.

**Plan II**, the 36 semester hour non-thesis option, requires a planned program of 21 hours of course work in addition to the core courses and successful completion of a comprehensive written examination based on course work and a list of required readings.

Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree

The basic requirements for the Ph.D. degree are established by the Graduate Council of the Graduate College and are published elsewhere in this catalog. Each candidate should read them carefully, as well as the information below. The Ph.D. degree in mass communication requires a minimum of 60 semester hours beyond the master's degree. Students must successfully complete core courses: MCOM 505, MCOM 506, MCOM 510 or 611 and MCOM 610. Additional minimum requirements include three to six hours of Research Practicum (MCOM 698), 16 hours of 600- and 700-level courses in MCOM, successful presentation of three major papers and the dissertation proposal. An approved research tool sequence of three courses or its equivalent beyond the minimum 60-hour requirement is also obligatory.

Ph.D. candidates must pass a qualifying examination, a written preliminary examination and the oral defense of a completed dissertation. The dissertation must be an appropriate culmination of the candidate's program of study and should represent scholarly research appropriate in method and subject to the degree program.

The following areas are presented as areas of strength within the doctoral program and thus represent broad areas within which doctoral dissertations are being written: mass communication, internation communication, law and policy, and theory and methodology.

All requirements are detailed in doctoral guidelines available to applicants and to enrolled candidates for the degree.

Areas of Study in Mass Communication

The student seeking an M.A. degree may specialize in a number of sub-areas including, but not limited to, audio, video and film writing and production, programming, audience research, newspaper journalism, magazine journalism, photojournalism, broadcast journalism, public relations, media management, new communications technology, mass communication theory, media history and criticism, mass communication law, international/development communication and mass media research. The doctoral student may specialize in media law and policy, international/development communication or mass communication and related social research. Interdisciplinary study by taking cognate courses in related areas is encouraged on both the M.A. and Ph.D. levels.

Courses for Graduates

**MCOM 500. Introduction to Mass Communication Study** (1). Survey of field of mass communication studies. Introduces primary and secondary resources and approaches to study of mass communication. Graded S/U.

**MCOM 503. Assistantship Activities** (1-I, II). Practice in assistantship requirements, activities and problems. Must be taken by all graduate assistants. Graded S/U.

**MCOM 505. Introduction to Mass Communication Research** (3). Development of research literature in mass communication, including major psychological and sociological streams. Role of theory construction in social science. Includes introduction to mass communication research and techniques.

**MCOM 506. Introduction to Qualitative Methods** (3). Methods of researching and presenting data and critical problems relating to mass communication.

**MCOM 510. Proseminar in Mass Communication** (1-I, II). Study of general or cross-disciplinary topics. May be repeated with permission of adviser. Graded S/U.

**MCOM 511. Master's Seminar in Mass Communication Theory** (3). Examines development of research in mass communication. Considers the role of their construction in social science. May be repeated with permission of adviser.

**MCOM 520. History of American Broadcasting** (3-I). Technical and economic development of radio and television in the United States; programs and personalities of broadcast industry since its inception.


**MCOM 522. Educational Broadcasting** (3-I). Role of educational radio and television station in formal and informal education. Program planning from inception through production, scheduling, evaluation.

**MCOM 523. History and Criticism of Film** (3-II). Early development of technology and production of motion picture; film as art as viewed by filmmakers and critics.

**MCOM 524. Producing and Directing for Television** (3-I). Action and practice of television program production and directing; creative, experimental program forms. Laboratory fee.

**MCOM 525. Producing and Directing for Film** (3-I). Producing, writing, directing, editing feature films. Experimentation with new and creative techniques. Laboratory fee.

**MCOM 526. Writing for Radio, Television and Film** (3-II). Practical and theoretical applications of writing technique in radio, television, film. Style and development in content realization.


**MCOM 528. Broadcast Station Management and Operations** (3-I). Broadcast management functions, advertising, network and labor relations, internal organizational structure, operational procedures.

**MCOM 570. Readings in Mass Communication** (1-3-I, II). Supervised independent program of tailored readings in selected topics, issues or problems pertinent to student's interests or needs. Proposed program must be approved by instructor prior to registration. May be repeated. Graded S/U.

**MCOM 580. Graduate Seminar in Mass Communication** (1-3-I, II). Supervised seminar program in tailored readings in selected topics, issues or problems pertinent to student's interests or needs. Proposed program must be approved by instructor prior to registration. May be repeated. Graded S/U.

**MCOM 595. Workshop on Current Topics in Mass Communication** (1-3-I). On demand. Readings, experiences; topics vary from semester to semester. May be repeated on approval of director of graduate studies.
MCOM 598. Research Problems in Mass Communication (1-3) On demand. Directed research in mass communication, including specialization areas such as broadcast journalism, newspaper or magazine journalism, public relations, photojournalism, international communication or development, radio-television film, etc. Prerequisites: consent of instructor and MCOM 558 or 556.

MCOM 599. Dissertation Research (1-16) I, II. Summer. Student must register for minimum of 16 hours in 799 while working on doctoral dissertation. May be repeated to a total of 36 hours in degree program.

Courses for Graduates and Undergraduates

MCOM 402. Journalism Law and Ethics (3) I, II, Summer. Legal concept of freedom of the press, constitutional guarantees, libel, privacy, copyright, broadcast regulation, contempt, obscenity, ethical problems, right to know.

MCOM 403. The Editorial (3) I. Techniques of persuasive and critical writing and the role of editorial opinion in modern mass media.

MCOM 414. Supervision of High School Publications (3) II. For teachers or prospective teachers of high school journalism or advisers of school newspapers or yearbooks. Problems of editorial supervision, business management and production.

MCOM 431. Interpretive Reporting (3) I. Research and writing of in-depth reports, interpretive news profiles, background stories, news analyses. Investigative reporting of current events and issues.

MCOM 432. Newsroom Decision Making (3) II. Newspaper editorship, goal setting, problem analysis, readership analysis, publication conception and creation, staff management.

MCOM 433. Government and the News Media (3) I. Origins and concept of freedom of information and evolution in constitutional law and judicial decisions; contemporary problems of censorship in publishing, broadcasting and film.

MCOM 435. Press and Society (3). Press as institution; its role, content, effects and responsibilities as a cultural force in society.

MCOM 440. Public Relations Techniques (3) I, II. Application of public relations theories, tools and techniques to public relations campaign. Research, planning and execution are practiced.

MCOM 470. Foreign Press Systems (3) I. Social, economic and political factors, organization and controls in the national news and information systems problems. Practical projects or intensive reading to meet needs of student's special interests. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

MCOM 471. International Media Networks (3) I. Factors affecting flow of world news and public information, regional and international networks.

MCOM 490. Special Problems in Journalism (1-3) I, II, Summer. Research problems, practical projects or intensive reading to meet needs of student's special interests. Prerequisite: Instructor's consent.

Doctor of Philosophy degree programs. The Master of Science in Applied Statistics is offered jointly with the Department of Applied Statistics and Operations Research. This program is described on page 57 of this catalog. In addition, a mathematics supervision program is available which leads to a Specialist in Education degree. The mathematics supervision program is described on page 86 of this catalog.

Prerequisites to Graduate Work

The preferred foundation for graduate work in the department is a college major in mathematics or a closely related area. A student with less than this level of preparation may be accepted if it appears that he/she is prepared to pursue graduate work with profit. Minimum preparation consists of a full year in differential and integral calculus and two courses for which calculus is a prerequisite. An applicant should submit Graduate Record Examination scores.

Requirements for the Master's Degree

To earn the Master of Arts degree in mathematics, the student must satisfy all of the University requirements for the degree. He or she must complete at least 30 hours of credit in graduate course work, with at least 18 of these credits earned in mathematics courses numbered 500 or above, excluding MATH 590, MATH 581 and MATH 585.

In addition, the student must satisfy all the requirements in one of the three groups A, B or C as described below. The group A required courses are MATH 533, 534, 556, 556.

The group B required courses are MATH 556, 541, 542 and two additional courses in specialized areas of statistics selected from among MATH 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 571, 640.

The group C required courses are MATH 439, 516, 518, 536 and 556.

Group A is designed for students who are interested in obtaining a broad background in pure mathematics, or who are interested in pursuing a Ph.D. degree in mathematics.

Group B is intended for students interested in applied mathematical statistics. This track can also lead to study toward the Ph.D. in mathematical statistics with the addition of MATH 566.

Group C is intended for students interested in applied mathematics (scientific computation). Students entering the program who intend to follow the Group C option are expected to have completed courses in linear algebra, advanced calculus, ordinary differential equations, and programming in FORTRAN 77 OR PASCAL before (or soon after) entry.

Each of the three programs may be accomplished under plan I (thesis) or plan II (nonthesis) as described elsewhere in this catalog. Cognate courses

Mathematics and Statistics

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Graduate Degrees Offered

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics offers the Master of Arts, the Master of Arts in Teaching and the