

Accelerated MA Program in Communication

The Accelerated MA Program (AMP) in Communication is designed to enable outstanding University of Arizona undergraduates to complete both the B.A. and M.A. in Communication in five years of study. This program is intended for students interested in enhancing their skill set and competitiveness on the job market and/or in admission to professional graduate programs (law school, etc.). The accelerated program is not ideal for students wanting to pursue research careers, entry into research-based PhD programs, or seeking experience teaching. For those students we recommend our two-year MA degree program.

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.3 are eligible to apply for admission in the spring of their *junior* year. If accepted into the program, they take 12 graduate credits in their fourth (senior) year (which apply toward *both* the BA and MA). In the fifth (graduate) year they complete the remaining graduate coursework (see below for AMP Timeline, Unit Distribution, and potential course offerings).

To apply, students must complete the online application at www.grad.arizona.edu, submit required paperwork and pay application fees with the Graduate College. Once admitted, students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in graduate coursework and a 3.3 undergraduate GPA. Additional eligibility and degree policies are also available on the Department of Communication website. **Consideration of Fall 2017 applications will begin on May 15th and continue until the program is full. Applications must be received by June 30th.**

Accelerated MA Timeline

	Accelerated MA
Semester 1 (undergraduate senior year)	<u>6 credits</u> : 500, 561
Semester 2 (undergraduate senior year)	<u>6 credits</u> : 571, 500-level elective
Semester 3 (graduate year)	<u>12 credits</u> : electives and first theory class
Semester 4 (graduate year)	<u>9 credits</u> : electives and second theory class <u>1 credit</u> : Comprehensive Exams (Comm 599)
Total	34 credits

These courses also count toward the undergraduate degree and are taken during the undergraduate senior year

Communication Accelerated MA Unit Distribution

A	Required Core Courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500: Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication • 561: Research Methods I • 571: Research Methods II 	9 credits	total of 34 credits required minimum overall graduate level GPA 3.0 minimum overall undergraduate level GPA 3.3 2 graduate courses outside of Communication can count toward degree
B	Theory Courses (selected from COMM 609, 610, 620, and 669; one course is offered per semester, and students must take both courses offered in the second year of their program; one in Fall and one in Spring)	6 credits	
C	Communication Electives (see page 3 for all course options; up to 6 credit hours of electives can be graduate level courses from outside of the Communication department; courses must be pre-approved by the graduate director)	18 credits	
E	Comprehensive Exam Prep (Comm 599)	1 credit	
	TOTAL	34	

COURSE NUMBER, NAME, AND CREDITS BELOW

(COMPLETE UPDATED LIST AVAILABLE AT CATALOG.ARIZONA.EDU):

500/600 Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication (3) Familiarize students with the structure of the discipline, prominent theorists and historical developments, as well as beginning to understand more about the process of research and writing in the discipline of Communication.

501 Life-Span Communication (3) This course is aimed at providing a broad overview of the ways in which communication affects, and is affected by, the aging process from birth to death.

503 Theories of Small Group Communication (3) Theory and research on social control and deviance in groups from the perspective of communication behavior.

505 Mass Communication and Children (3) This course employs a developmental perspective to examining the relationship between the mass media and young audience members. Major topics covered include issues related to children and adolescents as a unique audience (e.g., media use habits, attention and comprehension of media content), media and their content (e.g., media violence, advertising, educational programming), media effects (e.g., fear reactions, construction of role and reality perceptions), and intervention issues (e.g., parental mediation of media exposure, media literacy, and relevant public policy).

507 Family Communication (3) Focus on issues related to family interaction, functioning, and communication. We will examine research and theories from communication, sociological, and psychological perspectives. Readings and discussions will include coverage of marital, parent-child, sibling, and intergenerational interactions in the family. Research on topics such as marital satisfaction, divorce, courtship, and the impact of the family on its children (and vice versa) will be examined. We will also focus on the nature of family interaction as it is associated with family dysfunction.

509 Theories of Mass Communication (3) An in-depth analysis of theories of social effects of various mass media sources on society.

510 Struggle for the Presidency (3) Examination of the campaign strategies and tactics of those seeking the nation's most powerful office from the 1960 to the present. (Identical with Pol. 510.)

511 Communication and Conflict Management (3) Consideration of theory and research pertaining to the handling of conflict across diverse contexts.

514 Verbal Communication (3) Theory and research on verbal messages. Topics include patterns of conversational interaction, process of message construction and interpretation, functions and contexts of messages.

515 Nonverbal Communication (3) Theory and research on nonverbal communication codes (kinesics, touch, voice, appearance, use of space, time and artifacts) and social functions (impression formation and management, relational communication, emotional expressions, regulation of interaction, social influence).

517A Relational Communication (3) The relational communication process and messages people use to define their interpersonal relationships, including affection, involvement, and similarity, and phenomena such as relationship development and deterioration.

519 Mass Media Policy and Regulation (3) Surveys the fundamental laws and regulatory policies governing electronic mass media, with an emphasis on broadcast television. The focus is on structural as well as content-based regulation.

520 Communication and the Legal Process (3) Presents a number of accomplishments and challenges in the social scientific study of law, with special emphasis on the effects of communication and social structure on the legal processes. (Identical with Soc. 520.)

522 Presidential Leadership & Communication (3) Examination of presidential leadership and communication strategies of the modern presidents from Kennedy to the present.

524 Media and Politics in America (3) Survey of field; media in political campaigns; media coverage of leaders, issues, and institutions; leadership strategies to influence media.

528 Communication Research Methods (3) Theories of communication and their research backgrounds; research methodology in communication behavior studies.

550 Communication and Cognition (3) Interrelations between human communication and cognitive processes; emphasis on theory and research in social cognition.

561/661 Research Methodologies I (3) An introduction to research methods and designs used in contemporary communication research.

571/671 Research Methodologies II (3) An introduction to statistical analysis in contemporary communication research.

576 Field and Observational Methods (3) Comprehensive and critical examination of the collection, coding, analysis, and presentation of ethnographic/qualitative field data (original field research required) P, admission to graduate program or departmental approval. (Identical to Soc. 576, which is home.)

589 Scholarly Communication (3) Structure and workings scholarly communication and products in the U.S. Examines the content and technology of scholarly communication in various disciplines. (Identical to Li.S. 589 which is home.)

599 Independent Study (1-3) Qualified students working on an individual basis with professors who have agreed to supervise such work. Also used for AMP comprehensive exam prep.

609 Advanced Mass Communication Theory (3) A theory seminar addressing theoretical perspectives and topics related to media research. ** *Theory class*

610 Interpersonal (3) A theory seminar addressing theoretical perspectives on the role of verbal and nonverbal communication in the process of generating and understanding development of interpersonal relationships. ** *Theory class*

620 Social Influence (3) A theory seminar of historical and theoretical perspectives on communication strategies used in social influence attempts from interpersonal to mass media contexts. ** *Theory class*

640 Research Methodologies III (3) Issues in measurement and sampling in laboratory and field research in communication.

669 Health (3) A theory seminar addressing theoretical perspectives and topics related to health communication research. ** *Theory class*

693 Internship (1-6) Specialized work on an individual basis, consisting of training and practice in actual service in a technical, business, or governmental establishment.

696 Seminar : a. Nonverbal Communication (3) d. Social Influence (3) e. Mass Media (3) f. Linguistics Investigations and Applications (3) (Identical with Psych 696f and Ling. 696f, which is home.) g. Message Analysis (3) h. Organizational Communication (3) i. Interpersonal Communication (3) j. Information Processing and Management (3) k. Research Methods (3)

699 Independent Study (1-3) Qualified students working on an individual basis with professors who have agreed to supervise such work.

900 Research (1-4) Individual research, not related to thesis or dissertation preparation, by graduate students.

909 Master's Report (2) Individual study or special project or formal report thereof submitted in lieu of thesis for certain master's degrees.