COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION - PH.D.

College of Communication and Information
www.kent.edu/cci

Examples of Possible Careers*

Communications teachers, postsecondary
- 3.2% about as fast as the average
- 35,600 number of jobs
- $71,030 potential earnings

Media and communication workers, all other
- 8.1% much faster than the average
- 35,200 number of jobs
- $49,730 potential earnings

Web developers and digital interface designers
- 8.0% much faster than the average
- 174,300 number of jobs
- $77,200 potential earnings

Contact Information
- Program Coordinator: Miriam Matteson | mmattes1@kent.edu | 330-672-2464
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Fully Offered
- Kent Campus

Admission Terms
- Fall

*Source of occupation titles and labor data is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'
Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment
over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at
which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned
less.

Description
The Ph.D. degree in Communication and Information prepares
individuals for traditional and emerging careers in teaching, research
and administration in the converging fields of communication and
information. The degree program consists of a prescribed core of
interdisciplinary courses and varied selection of elective coursework
within and across disciplines. The study is flexibly structured and
designed to provide both an integrative and historical overview, as well
as specializations in communication (media, technology and society;
global communication; interpersonal communication) and information
(human information behavior; cultural heritage informatics; knowledge
organization).

Admission Requirements
- Completion of the academic requirements of a master's degree in one
  of the disciplines represented in the College of Communication and
  Information or a discipline closely related to the applicant’s proposed
course of study.¹ for unconditional admission
- Minimum 3.300 graduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale (3.500 GPA or
  higher is recommended) for unconditional admission
- Official transcript(s)
- Goal Statement²
- Letters of recommendation from those in a position to evaluate
  graduate academic performance and potential
- Sample of superior scholarly writing (published paper, major term
  paper, thesis chapter, etc.).
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide
  proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific
  exceptions) by earning one of the following:
  - Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
  - Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
  - Minimum 82 MELAB score
  - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
  - Minimum 65 PTE score
  - Minimum 120 Duolingo English Test score
- Effective spring 2022, a résumé or curriculum vitae will be required.

The Ph.D. degree is strongly research oriented. Applicants are expected to
demonstrate previous research experience such as thesis or conference
paper. Admission will be restricted to the most promising applicants.
Applications are viewed holistically to evaluate the student's likelihood of
success in the program. Applicants normally are accepted for admission
only for the fall semester and for full-time enrollment. Applicants who
do not meet all of the requirements listed above but who have otherwise
exceptional credentials may apply and may be admitted conditionally.
To ensure full consideration for funding opportunities, all application
materials must be received by January 2. The program will continue to
review applications through March 31 or until all available spaces filled.
Late applicants are encouraged to submit materials as soon as possible.

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the
Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on
international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission
website.

¹ Applicants with academic preparation in other fields may be required
to enroll in preparatory coursework at the master's level that will not
count toward the Ph.D. degree.

² The goal statement must describe the applicant’s academic goals
and intended topics of study that are compatible with the focus of
the doctoral program including area of specialization based on the
six specializations. It is expected that this statement will clearly
indicate why the applicant wishes to pursue doctoral education.
Included in the statement should be an indication of the theoretical
area or areas the applicant wishes to study and the line of research
the applicant wishes to pursue. Statements that make reference
only to the applicant’s teaching or administrative goals are strongly
discouraged.

Program Learning Outcomes
Graduates of this program will be able to:
1. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of an area of expertise within one or more disciplines within the field of communication and information.
2. Produce doctoral dissertations that advance existing areas of scholarly investigation within the field of communication and information.
3. Be prepared to succeed as research-oriented, tenure-track faculty at research universities.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCI 80000</td>
<td>FOUNDATIONS OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION INQUIRY</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCI 80001</td>
<td>FOUNDATIONS OF RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCI 80097</td>
<td>COLLOQUIUM IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION (taken four times)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisor-Approved Theory Courses from the College of Communication and Information</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Research Methods Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Methods Courses</td>
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<td>Electives</td>
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Culminating Requirement

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<tr>
<td>CCI 80199</td>
<td>DISSERTATION I</td>
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Minimum Total Credit Hours: 70

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1. Students choose two courses from any subject area.
2. Courses in the elective category are selected with the approval of the student's advisor and supervisory committee to support the student's research interests. Students planning to enter the professoriate should include CCI 80094 in their electives.
3. Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for CCI 80199 for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for CCI 80199 for each semester, until all requirements for the degree have been met.

Graduation Requirements

- The Ph.D. degree in Communication and Information requires a minimum of 40 credit hours of graduate coursework beyond the master's degree and 30 credit hours of dissertation work for a total of 70 credit hours.
- Students should begin developing their programs of study during their first semester and have them approved by the time they have completed 15 credit hours. Students may adopt templates for study in such areas as media, technology and society; cultural heritage information; knowledge organization; human information behavior; global communication; and interpersonal communication. All proposed programs of study are subject to review by the Doctoral Studies Committee as well as by the students' committee(s). Students are expected to become engaged in a variety of research projects before they begin dissertation work.

CANDIDACY REQUIREMENTS

To achieve candidacy, doctoral students must pass the doctoral comprehensive examination.