

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION - PH.D.

College of Communication and Information

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Kent Campus
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www.kent.edu/ci

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).

Fully Offered At:

- Kent Campus

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)
- GRE scores: 160 verbal, 148 quantitative
- 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

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, applicants are strongly encouraged to include a CV with their application. 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. Effective spring 2019, 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

[PHD-CCI]

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
CCI 80000	FOUNDATIONS OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION INQUIRY	3
CCI 80001	FOUNDATIONS OF RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION	3
CCI 80097	COLLOQUIUM IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION	4
CCI 80199	DISSERTATION I ¹	30
Advisor Approved Theory Courses from the College of Communication and Information		6
Quantitative Research Methods Course		3
Qualitative Research Methods Course		3
Additional Methods Courses ²		6

Electives ³	12
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	70

- ¹ 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, including summer, until all requirements for the degree have been met.
- ² Choose two courses from any subject area.
- ³ 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.

Candidacy requirements

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

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.