COMMUNICATION STUDIES - M.A.

College of Communication and Information
School of Communication Studies
www.kent.edu/comm

About This Program
The Master of Arts degree in Communication Studies provides a broad spectrum of knowledge about human communication in various social contexts, and the ways in which information is produced and processed. The program prepares individuals to pursue a doctorate degree, as well as for non-academic careers in which a broad understanding of communication theory and research is desirable. Read more...

Contact Information
- Paul Haridakis | comm@kent.edu | 330-672-2659
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

Program Delivery
- Delivery: In person
- Location: Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*
Communications teachers, postsecondary
- 3.2% about as fast as the average
- 35,600 number of jobs
- $71,030 potential earnings

Market research analysts and marketing specialists
- 17.7% much faster than the average
- 738,100 number of jobs
- $65,810 potential earnings

Public relations and fundraising managers
- 9.2% much faster than the average
- 88,000 number of jobs
- $118,430 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes 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.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements
- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Goal statement
- Sample of scholarly writing
- Three letters of recommendation
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following: 1
  - Minimum 94 TOEFL iBT score
  - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
  - Minimum 65 PTE score
  - Minimum 120 DET score

Starting with the spring 2025 admission term, minimum English language proficiency scores will be the following:
- Minimum 79 TOEFL iBT score
- Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
- Minimum 58 PTE score
- Minimum 110 DET score

1 International applicants who do not meet the above test scores may be considered for conditional admission.

Application Deadlines
- Fall Semester
  - Application deadline: April 15
- Spring Semester
  - Application deadline: November 15

Applications submitted after these deadlines will be considered on a space-available basis.

Program Requirements
Major Requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCI 61000</td>
<td>QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>or CCI 62000</td>
<td>QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION</td>
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Coursework-Only Option

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 30

1 A minimum of 9 credit hours must be at the 60000 level. A maximum of 6 credit hours may be taken from courses outside of the School of Communication Studies. A maximum of 4 credit hours of workshop coursework may be taken. Some examples of routinely offered electives include COMM 65070, COMM 65662, COMM 65686, COMM 65851 and COMM 66501.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA: 3.000
Minimum Overall GPA: 3.000

- No more than one-half of a graduate student’s coursework may be taken in 50000-level courses.
- Grades below C are not counted toward completion of requirements for the degree.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Read, critique and engage in theory-based research involving a broad spectrum of topics in human communication.
2. Understand and master appropriate methodological skills for the study of human communication and apply them to relevant and shifting real-world contexts that often include newer communication technologies.
3. Utilize theory-based and state-of-the-art knowledge to stimulate and improve communication processes in educational, business and nonprofit environments.

Dual Degree with Master of Business Administration

Students have the opportunity to complete a dual degree program with the M.A. degree in Communication Studies and the M.B.A. degree in Business Administration. A separate application must be submitted for each program. Students can view admission requirements for each program on their respective catalog page.

The dual M.A./M.B.A. degree program is designed for students and professionals whose career goals focus on communication, particularly global communication, and provides direction and leadership in economic and business development processes.

Dual Degree Requirements

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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACCT 63037</td>
<td>FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING FOR DECISION MAKING</td>
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<td>ACCT 63038</td>
<td>MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING FOR DECISION MAKING</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA 64005</td>
<td>ANALYTICS FOR DECISION MAKING</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>or COMM 65020</td>
<td>QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION</td>
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<td>BA 64026</td>
<td>SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT</td>
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<td>CIS 64042</td>
<td>GLOBALIZATION AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY</td>
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<td>COMM 65000</td>
<td>FOUNDATIONS OF COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY</td>
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<td>COMM 65652</td>
<td>THEORIES OF COMMUNICATION</td>
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<td>COMM 65851</td>
<td>ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION</td>
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<td>ECON 62021</td>
<td>MACROECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS</td>
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<td>ECON 62022</td>
<td>MANAGERIAL ECONOMICS</td>
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<td>FIN 66050</td>
<td>LAW AND ETHICS</td>
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<td>FIN 66060</td>
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<td>HRM 64271</td>
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<td>MGMT 68051</td>
<td>BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT I</td>
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<td>MKTG 65051</td>
<td>MARKETING MANAGEMENT</td>
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<td>Business Electives</td>
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<td>Communication Studies (COMM) Electives ¹</td>
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<td>BUSINESS STRATEGY</td>
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<td>COMM 61198 MASTERS PROJECT IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES</td>
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<td>COMM 64092 MASTERS INTERNSHIP IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES</td>
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Coursework

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 60

Full Description

The Master of Arts degree in Communication Studies is intended to provide a broad spectrum of knowledge about human communication in various social contexts, and the ways in which information is produced and processed. Curriculum focus is on the social and behavioral study of communication theory and research. The program prepares individuals to pursue a doctorate degree, as well as for non-academic careers in which a broad understanding of communication theory and research is desirable.