

# Communication

## Master of Arts

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The Communication program incorporates the university's liberal arts and social sciences tradition in its curriculum, research, teaching, and outreach. The graduate program – offering the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees – seeks a purposeful and creative balance between specialization and integration among the various approaches to the study of human communication. You plan individualized programs of study to accommodate your particular areas of research and career goals, in cooperation with faculty advisers and committees. The graduate program creates the opportunity for you to flourish in a university culture committed to social, ethnic, and intellectual diversity. The graduate program has grown exponentially in recent years. Our Master's program provides a broad range of knowledge and skills for you to seek professional development and training.

## Admission Requirements

The Communication Graduate Faculty will recommend admission based on the following applications materials. Master of Arts in Communication:

1. Statement of interest, including personal goals and the relevance of the M.A. in Communication to those goals.
2. Acceptable performance on Graduate Record Examination General Test.
3. Completion of the equivalent of 20 undergraduate credits in speech communication and/or mass communication, journalism or related field, including at least 12 upper division credits.
4. Minimum 3.0 undergraduate Grade Point Average.
5. Three letters of recommendation.
6. To be considered for a teaching assistantship, the student must submit a statement of teaching philosophy.
7. Students whose native language is not English must submit results of the TOEFL, with a minimum score of 600 to be admitted.

## Degree Requirements

Students seeking the Master of Art degree at the University of North Dakota must satisfy all general requirements set forth by The Graduate School as well as particular requirements set forth by the Communication Program.

1. COMM 500 (Graduate Studies in Communication), COMM 501 (Theories of Communication), and COMM 502 (Research Methods in Communication).
2. A minimum of 30 credits in communication for the thesis option or 32 credits for the non-thesis option if a minor or cognate is not chosen.
3. If a minor or cognate is approved by the student's advisory committee, 30 credits are necessary for the thesis option or 32 credits for a non-thesis option.
4. A minor or cognate option will include a major with a minimum of 20 Credits in communication and a minimum of 9 credits in a minor or cognate.
5. Written and oral final examinations are administered to Master candidates.
6. Thesis option Master candidates will defend their theses in the final oral examination.
7. Non-thesis option Master candidates will be expected to defend orally independent study reports and

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two term papers or projects completed in any course on their program of study.

- Both thesis and non-thesis candidates are administered written comprehensive examinations after the completion of 18 hours of graduate credit. The Coordinator of Graduate Studies appoints three-person examining committees from the Graduate Faculty, normally drawn from the Communication Program, and chaired by the student's adviser to conduct the final oral examination for non-thesis students.

## Faculty and Areas of Expertise

- Slavka Antonova, Ph.D.**, global internet governance, international communication, communication law and policies, social implications of communication technologies, cross-cultural communication, gender, technology, and communication  
**Richard Aregood, journalist and Pulitzer-prize-winning editorial writer:** history of mass-market, radical and labor journalism
- Kyle Conway, Ph. D.**, media and cultural studies, media globalization and translation  
**Kimberly Cowden, Ph.D.**, advertising, public relations, risk and crisis communication with vulnerable populations, health communication
- Richard Fiordo, Ph.D.**, semantics and communication theory, relational and organizational communication, argumentation and human influence, and health and medical communication - especially through telecommunications
- Pamela Kalbfleisch, Ph.D.**, Interpersonal communication, personal relationships, mentoring, health communication and gender
- Brett Ommen, Ph. D.** The changing complexion of rhetorical theory in the face of advancements in media uses and technologies
- Timothy Pasch, Ph.D.**, communication technology and community building, classroom technology, online portals for native and marginalized communities, distance learning environments, virtual worlds, security and privacy in social networks  
**Sheila Peuchaud, Ph.D.**, feminism, international communication, health communication.
- Lana Rakow, Ph.D.**, gender and communication, history and philosophy of technology, and university administration and curriculum change
- Stephen Rendahl, Ph.D.**, communication and community, communication and society, interpersonal communication and organizational communication
- Richard Shafer, Ph.D.**, journalism, mass media, development communication for a free press

## Contact Information

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**Apply online at My GradSpace**  
<http://graduateschool.und.edu>

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