

The Master of Arts in Communication Program provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the field of communication through experience and coursework. The knowledge gained from this program allows students to become familiar with the practical application of communication theories. Students consider the ethical and legal issues related to communication in diverse environments, and will become more critical media participants. This program's combination of experience, course work, and knowledge prepares students to handle real-world communication challenges within and outside the workplace.

Students study digital media, ethical communication in a culturally diverse workplace, media convergence and its impact on the workplace, and strategies for utilizing media more effectively. The curriculum includes 21 hours of required courses with options for the remaining 9 hours to complete the degree. Of the remaining 9 hours, students will take 3 Topics courses or take a combination of a Topics course, thesis and/or an independent study. Topics courses will vary by semester and the specialty of the faculty member instructing the course.

#### **Program Outcomes**

Specifically, the Master of Arts in Communication goals and anticipated outcomes are to ensure students will be competent to:

- 1. Cultivate critical participants of media.
- 2. Address communication questions from a variety of theoretical perspectives.
- 3. Address communication questions from a variety of methodological perspectives
- 4. Evaluate communication questions from multiple ethical and legal perspectives.
- 5. Develop an understanding of diversity in relation to communication.

#### **Tuition and Fees**

The cohort program is 30 hours with students taking 6 hours a semester for 5 semesters. The cost for tuition is \$620 a credit hour, totaling \$18,600. There is a \$35.00 course fee per class. Books and classroom supplies are additional expenses.

### **Requirements for Admission**

Please submit the following:

- Completed application.
- 2. A non-refundable application fee of \$40 (unless a BU alumna/e).
- 3. Personal statement: Please write a one page (typed) statement about your goals in pursuing a Master of Arts in Communication. This statement is used to assess your writing skills.
- 4. Two letters of recommendation (included in packet). Recommendations from persons able to evaluate either academic or professional potential are the most valuable.
- 5. Current Resume
- 6. Students are encouraged to submit GRE, GMAT, or LSAT scores, but it is not required for conditional admission.
- 7. If your undergraduate degree is from an international institution, you were born outside the United States, or English is your second language, you will be required to submit an official TOEFLiBT (internet-based test) score and receive a total score of 80 or higher. We will also consider an equivalent score on the IELTS or MELAB tests. The Admission, Progression and Graduation Committee reserves the right to require a TOEFL score from any applicant.
- 8. Final official transcript(s) from each college or university attended should be mailed to the Office of Graduate Admission and not be marked "Issued to Student."
- 9. If any transcript(s) or undergraduate degree(s) is from an international institution, you must provide an official copy of a third party course by course credential evaluation. The following organizations offer this service and information regarding processes and fees are available at: www.aacrao.org; www.wes.org, and www.ece.org.
- 10. Office of Graduate Admission reserves the right to request a certified copy of the original transcript(s).
- 11. Mail information to: Graduate Admission, Bellarmine University, 2001 Newburg Road, Louisville, KY 40205

For more information, contact the Office of Graduate Admission at 502.272.7200 or gradadmissions@bellarmine.edu.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to request all official transcripts and test scores. Official transcripts and test scores are mailed directly from the institution to Bellarmine University and should not be marked issued to student or addressed to the student.

#### **International Student Requirements**

### Please complete the items under Procedure for Admission and submit the following:

U.S. law requires financial statements from a bank or other financial institution certifying the student's ability to fund the cost of attendance for one academic year minus the amount of any scholarship dollars received. Figures should be in U.S. dollars and must be certified as an official document by the bank or financial institution. A sponsor may be used if the sponsor attaches a signed affidavit stating that he/she will financially support the student until completion of a degree at Bellarmine University. If a sponsor is used, the sponsor's bank statement should accompany the letter. The amount that would need to be shown for this program is \$37,736.00. This amount includes tuition and fees associated with the program and an average cost for living expenses, books, supplies, health insurance, transportation and personal expenses.



### **Core Curriculum (21 hours)**

### **COMM 600 - INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDY IN COMMUNICATION (3)**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the discipline of communication, including but not limited to language, issues, breadth, contexts, and definitions. In addition, this course will prepare students for the master's program by developing their writing, research and presentation skills. Students will begin the process of identifying their definition of communication as well as the ability to construct an argument to support that choice.

### **COMM 605 - COMMUNICATION THEORY AND LITERATURE (3)**

This course introduces students to the multiple and conflicting explanations of the process of human communication. Theories to be examined include structural and functional theories, cognitive and behavioral theories, interactive oral and conventional theories, and interpretive and critical theories.

#### **COMM 607 - COMMUNICATION RESEARCH METHODS (3)**

Students learn essential quantitative and qualitative techniques used in communication research. The course will include such methods as survey research, content and interaction analysis, ethnographic research, rhetorical criticism, and conversation and discourse analysis.

# COMM 611 - INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION IN THE WORKPLACE (3)

This course examines communication and the changing dynamics of the global workplace. Students learn how cultural values affect all aspects of corporate communication, from negotiation and conflict strategies to advertising, public relations, and marketing communication. Intercultural communication issues faced in the workplace are also addressed, as in perception, nonverbal communication, religious issues that arise, and conflict.

## COMM 613 - DIGITAL MEDIA (3)

This course examines the convergence of media and emergence of digital media, the effects these media have on individuals, communities, and society. Students examine political, technological, industry-specific, and production aspects of new media.

# **Core Curriculum (continued)**

#### **COMM 615 - MEDIA STUDIES (3)**

This course provides a fundamental understanding of media. We will analyze media institutions, their history, technological capabilities, and effects. It is designed to offer an overview of theories, methods, contemporary debates and lasting issues in media studies.

#### **COMM 699 - ETHICS IN COMMUNICATION (3)**

This course addresses ethical dilemmas that arise within all forms of communication — interpersonal, corporate, mass media, or other forms of communication. It asks the students to develop a deep understanding of professional, philosophical, religious and pragmatic perspectives that shape ethical behavior.

# Other Courses (9 hours)

#### **COMM 692 - SPECIAL TOPICS IN COMMUNICATION (3)**

This designation applies to courses offered in fields related to communication. Topics courses will vary by semester and the specialty of the faculty member instructing the course.

### **COMM 698 - THESIS OPTION (6)**

This course is designed for the student who desires to conduct a significant research project under the guidance of a faculty member and thesis committee. It involves a written scholarly document as well as a formal presentation.

### **COMM 694 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (3)**

Guided reading or research in an area of special interest under the direction of a faculty member. Requires approval from the Graduate Committee. Prerequisites: COMM 605 and COMM 607 or permission of the Director of Graduate Studies.



This application is for: Fall of 20 \_\_\_\_ Spring of 20\_\_\_\_

# **Personal Data** Name \_\_\_\_ FIRST MIDDLE Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PROVINCE Permanent Address \_\_\_\_ STREET ADDRESS COUNTY STATE/PROVINCE ZIP CODE Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship U.S. Permanent U.S. Resident Non U.S. Citizen If you are not a U.S. citizen, what is your country of citizenship? What is your current country of residence? No Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No In addition, select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself: Black or African American American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian White Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Current Employer \_\_\_\_\_\_ Present Position \_\_\_\_ Address of Employer \_\_\_\_\_\_street address STATE/PROVINCE Will tuition be subsidized by your employer? No Will you be applying for aid with the Veterans Administration? Yes No Where did you hear about Bellarmine's Master of Arts in Communication program?

# **Educational Data**

INSTITUTION	LOCATION	DATES ATTENDED	DEGREE RECEIVED	GPA
	ouraged to submit GRE tance. The code for Bel		but a standardized test scor	e is not required for
GRE Score or dat	e to be taken	GMAT	Score or date to be taken	
LSAT Score or da	te to be taken			
Employment				
Please attach a cu	rrent resume.			
Current Employe	r	Po	osition	
Address				
City		S	tate 7	Zip
Previous Employe	ers			
EMPLOYER		POSITION		DATES

### **Background Data**

Have you ever been dismissed from a high school, college or university for disciplinary reasons, or been sanctioned by a disciplinary board? 

Yes No

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No

If you answered yes to either of the last two questions, please explain on a separate sheet of paper how you were held accountable (i.e. outcomes, sanctions), when the incident occurred and any additional information you wish to provide. Please note that we may need to request additional information.

# **Signature of Applicant**

I declare that the information provided on this form is true, correct, and complete. Bellarmine University has my permission to verify information by obtaining documents as needed. I understand that providing false information may result in Bellarmine University revoking my student status as an accepted or enrolled student.

SIGNATURE

Bellarmine University admits qualified students of any age, sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, and national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, sexual orientation, race, disability, color, religion, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs. Bellarmine University is an affirmative action-equal opportunity employer.



#### **Recommendation Form**

**APPLICANT -** Print and sign your name and forward one copy to each respondent. Please provide a stamped, addressed envelope along with each form.

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, you have the right, if you enroll at Bellarmine University, to review your educational records. The Act further provides that you may waive your right to see recommendations for admission. Please indicate whether or not you wish to waive this right and sign your name.

I,	waive right of access that I may have	ve to this recommendation form.
ſ,	do not waive right of access that I	may have to this recommendation form.
Waiver of Access (print your name):	FIRST	MAIDEN
SIGNATURE		DATE
RESPONDENT - Please complete this form a this recommendation is extremely importa		d to you by the applicant. Early receipt of
Respondent's Name		Title
Institution/Agency		
City	State	Phone

Please rate the applicant in the areas indicated below by checking the appropriate responses: outstanding, above average, satisfactory, below average, or indicate unable to comment.

ABOVE AVERAGE

SATISFACTORY

BELOW AVERAGE

OUTSTANDING

AREA

UNABLE TO COMMENT

with reservation. (Please ex	plain.)					
without reservation.						
I recommend this individual				I do not rec	ommend t	his individua
Additional comments (Attach additio	onal pages if neo	cessary.)				
n what area(s) do you believe the ap	plicant needs n	nore developn	nent?			
What do you consider to be the appli	cant's strength	s?				
	unc unc m wnu	e cupucity:				
How long have you known the applic	ant and in wha	t capacity?	l	l		
Quality of Written Communication Ability to Meet a Deadline						
Quality of Oral Communication						
Motivation for Graduate Work						
Intellectual Curiosity						
Quality of Research Skills						

SIGNATURE DATE



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Intellectual Curiosity						
Quality of Research Skills						

SIGNATURE DATE

