BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY
IN VERITATIS AMORE

Master of Arts in Communication

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. Students have an option to take either 3 hours per semester or 6 hours.

The cost for tuition is $640 a credit hour, totaling $19,200. There is a $40.00 course fee per class. Books and classroom supplies are additional expenses.

Requirements for Admission

Please submit the following:

1. 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 $45,617**. **A part-time student would need to show $37,737.** 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.

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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.

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This application is for: ☐ Fall of 20____ ☐ Spring of 20____

Personal Data

Name _____
FAMILY NAME FIRST MIDDLE MAIDEN

Preferred Name _____ Social Security Number _____ Gender _____

Place of Birth _____ Date of Birth _____
CITY STATE/PROVINCE COUNTRY

Permanent Address _____
STREET ADDRESS

_____
CITY COUNTY STATE/PROVINCE ZIP CODE COUNTRY

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Number (____) _____ Extension _____

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? _____

Is English your first language? ☐ Yes ☐ No Are you Hispanic or Latino? ☐ Yes ☐ No

In addition, select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself:
☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American
☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White

Current Employer _____ Present Position _____

Address of Employer _____
STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE/PROVINCE ZIP CODE

Previous Employer _____ Position _____ From/To _____

Will tuition be subsidized by your employer? ☐ Yes ☐ 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

List all colleges/universities attended. Transcripts should be sent to the Office of Graduate Admission.

INSTITUTION	LOCATION	DATES ATTENDED	DEGREE RECEIVED	GPA

Students are encouraged to submit GRE, GMAT, or LSAT scores, but a standardized test score is not required for provisional acceptance. The code for Bellarmine is 1056.

GRE Score or date to be taken _____ GMAT Score or date to be taken _____

LSAT Score or date to be taken _____

Employment

Please attach a current resume.

Current Employer _____ Position _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Previous Employers

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. In the event you are admitted and enrolled at Bellarmine University and your status changes, you are required to contact the Dean of Students immediately at 502.272.8426. Failure to report a change of status could result in immediate expulsion.

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 DATE

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.

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Master of Arts in Communication

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 to this recommendation form.

I, _____ do not waive right of access that I may have to this recommendation form.

Waiver of Access (print your name): _____
LAST FIRST MAIDEN

_____
SIGNATURE DATE

RESPONDENT - Please complete this form and mail it in the envelope provided to you by the applicant. Early receipt of this recommendation is extremely important to the applicant.

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.

AREA	OUTSTANDING	ABOVE AVERAGE	SATISFACTORY	BELOW AVERAGE	UNABLE TO COMMENT
Capacity for Graduate Study					
Quality of Research Skills					
Intellectual Curiosity					
Motivation for Graduate Work					
Quality of Oral Communication					
Quality of Written Communication					
Ability to Meet a Deadline					

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

_____

_____

_____

What do you consider to be the applicant's strengths?

_____

_____

_____

In what area(s) do you believe the applicant needs more development?

_____

_____

Additional comments (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

_____

_____

☐ **I recommend this individual**

_____ without reservation.

_____ with reservation. (Please explain.) _____

☐ **I do not recommend this individual**

_____

SIGNATURE DATE

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_____ with reservation. (Please explain.) _____

☐ **I do not recommend this individual**

_____

SIGNATURE DATE

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2001 Newburg Road | Louisville, KY 40205 | www.bellarmine.edu

7/15/13