**Program core classes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Com 502</td>
<td>Communication Theory and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>5:45-8:35p</td>
<td>PC 355</td>
<td>Piotr Szpunar</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Exploration of the interrelationship between theory and practice, employing either a general theory of communication or a theory located in one of the three departmental areas of concentration.

**COM 525**  Communication Research Methods

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5007</td>
<td>Communication Research Methods</td>
<td>5007</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>5:45-8:35p</td>
<td>BI 152</td>
<td>Timothy Stephen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The goal of this course is to survey basic concepts in research methodology and design as practiced in the field of human communication studies. The course will provide a general orientation to the process of research that will serve students pursuing advanced or specialized work. This is not a first course in quantitative or qualitative methods, though selected topics from both areas will be examined and the course will provide a valuable foundation for students going forward in any direction.

**Substantive core classes**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Com 520</td>
<td>Theories and Research in Political Communication</td>
<td>8535</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>5:45-8:35p</td>
<td>BB 368</td>
<td>Alyssa Morey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey of key theories and research findings in the field of political communication covering concepts such as political image, issues, agenda setting, language, debates, socialization, and advertising. (Area/track: P)

**COM 575**  Interpersonal Interaction

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<tr>
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<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1575</td>
<td>Interpersonal Interaction</td>
<td>1575</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>4:15-7:05p</td>
<td>BB 356</td>
<td>Alan Zemel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examines language and nonverbal practices adopted by individuals interacting in personal relationships and professional settings. Examines participants' struggles, and shows how those are consequential for the direction of the interaction, and for the participants' identities and relationships. (Area/track: IP)
### Elective classes

**COM 655  Communication, Work & Organization Life**  
8536  W  5-7:50pm  BB 003  Annis Golden  
This course examines how individuals negotiate their relationships with organizations – primarily as employees of organizations, but also as consumers of services offered by organizations. Topics include organizational controls, employee identification and resistance, and the management of work and personal-life interrelationships, including the impact of new information and communication technologies. Organizations are considered as sources of identity, sites for entertainment and socializing, sites for enacting spirituality and religion, sources of social relationships and support, and substitutes for different aspects of family (e.g., mentor-parents; co-worker spouses). Relationships of external stakeholders to organizations are also considered, focusing on consumers of health care services. In this context, external organizational communication by healthcare organizations, individual encounters with healthcare systems, and the impact of health information technology will be addressed.

**Com 659  Computer-Mediated Communication**  
9498  T  4:15-7:05p  BB 005  Archana Krishnan  
This course is designed to examine how technology mediates the communication process. We will read about the evolution of computer-mediated communication (CMC) theory and be introduced to various theoretical perspectives and methodologies in order to observe how mediated environments influence communication at the individual, interpersonal and mass media levels. This course, though rooted in the social-scientific realm of mass communication and media effects research, borrows from related disciplines such as psychology, sociology, cognitive science, and human-computer interaction.  
(Area/track: H/IP/O)

**Com 660  Digital and Social Media & Strategic Communication**  
10052  ONLINE  ONLINE  ONLINE  Masahiro Yamamoto  
The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of theories and concepts regarding strategic communication in digital and social media platforms, with a specific interest in digital content creation and promotion. Topics covered in this course include message characteristics of social media posts and their effects on user engagement, social media influencers/opinion leadership, and Web design, among others. The course will explore these topics in a variety of contexts, including political, civic/non-profit, health, and marketing communication. The course primarily takes a quantitative approach. Students will develop an understanding of the subject through readings, critique of published articles, discussion, and participation in a research project.  
(Area/track: H/P/O)
Com 664    Corporate Communication: Theory & Practice
10074    ONLINE    ONLINE    ONLINE    Alan Belasen
This course explores corporate communication as a strategic area of management and as an academic field of study. The effectiveness of corporate communication is largely determined by the development of an optimal balance between a strong, centralized perspective and a network of decentralized operatives. This balance is vital for keeping communication programs and activities consistent throughout the organization while adapting the function to the special needs of the independent business units. While stressing the importance of integrating conventional functions of corporate communication into a more unified and coherent strategic framework of communications, the course also draws on research and theories that trace the evolution of the field. Topics include the function of corporate communication, building strong identity and managing corporate image using mass advertising and public relations, communication strategies to deal with shareholders and other important constituencies, developing internal communication programs, and responding to corporate crises. (Area/track: O/P)

Independent and Applied Courses (permission of instructor is required)

Com 693    Studies in Specialized Areas
Arranged    Staff
Supervised readings to give students mastery over the literature in the area of a student’s comprehensive examination. A list of supervised readings is developed by advisor and student for each individual student. **Prerequisite: Consent of Director of Graduate Studies.**

Com 696    Independent Study in Communication
Arranged    Staff
Guided research on topics in communication. May be repeated for up to six credits, with no more than three credits from the same instructor.

Com 697A, B    Guided Research Project
Arranged    Staff
Students work with a faculty advisor on an academic research project on a topic of interest to the student and faculty member, related to student's elected track in the program. Final projects should contain a statement of research questions, proposed method for addressing the questions, data collection and analysis or other analytic activity, and project discussion. Students are expected to complete the guided research project in two semesters. In the first semester (COM 697A), students will identify relevant research literature and formulate a plan for carrying out the project. In the second semester (COM 697B), students will conduct the research and write the research report. Students who pursue this option generally anticipate the possibility or likelihood of further study at the doctoral level. **Prerequisite: Completion of at least 18 credits, including program core courses and substantive area core courses.**

Com 698    Research Practicum
1581    M    4:15-7:05p    LI 220    Barry Eisenberg
Supervised applications of communication theory in agencies of business and government. Cannot be taken until student has completed at least 24 graduate credits in communication. Requires a written final report and seminar attendance. **Prerequisite: By advisor approval only.**
Com 899    Doctoral Dissertation
Arranged    Staff
Required of all candidates completing the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Communication. Load graded. Appropriate for doctoral students engaged in research and writing of the dissertation. Prerequisites: Completion of all course work toward the doctoral degree in communication and admission to doctoral candidacy.

Note: “Areas” refers to tracks in which electives can count toward fulfillment of the 12 credits of the core. Key: O = Organizational, P = Political, H = Health, IP = Interpersonal/Intercultural