# Program Request - Abbreviated Template <br> University of Utah <br> BA / BS Communication <br> 02/14/2012 

## Section I: Request

The Department of Communication at the University of Utah is requesting a consolidation of its 2 current majors (BA/BS Mass Communication and BA/BS Speech Communication), into 1 major ( BA/BS Communication; see attachment A for current and proposed curriculum). The Department is collapsing the current ten narrowly defined sequences into three sequences and increasing the required number of courses from 13 to 14.

## Section II: Need

The consolidation of the two current degrees into one degree reflects fundamental changes in the discipline of Communication, the Department of Communication faculty, as well as adapting to the needs of students. In 1972, the former Departments of Journalism and Speech Communication were merged to form the present Department of Communication, thus creating one of the first (if not the first) fully integrated academic units in the nation. Originally, all of the degree programs maintained the designation of journalism and mass communication or speech communication at the bachelor's and master's levels, though the Ph.D. degree was in Communication from the time of the Department's inception in 1972. Over time, the separate designations at the master's level disappeared, leaving only the mass communication and speech communication curriculum and degree distinctions at the undergraduate level. Given the faculty's decision not to seek continued ACEJMC accreditation two years ago -consistent with a growing trend among major Research I institutions -- the faculty was free for the first time to fully explore the potential of a truly integrated curriculum.

The Communication faculty engaged in more than a year of systematic data collection, involving alumni and professional interviews, student feedback, and a review of curriculum trends across the nation as it considered how to best meet the needs of students. Technological innovation, the impact of the Internet, and the increased availability of information and connections to others has obfuscated the traditional separation of Mass and Speech Communication. For example, concepts in Interpersonal Communication (Speech) would apply to people using Facebook, a mass medium. Concepts in Organizational Communication (Speech) would apply to Integrated Marketing (Mass) and both could be distributed on the web (New Media).

While the single major provides a symbolic commitment to the study of all aspects of communication, collapsing the current 10 narrowly defined sequences into three sequences and increasing the required number of courses from 13 to 14 allows students to take and faculty to teach courses in all areas of Communication and better reflects the integrated world in which people communicate. The single undergraduate major will offer increased flexibility to students wishing to fully benefit from the breadth of Utah's integrated curriculum.

Students will be able to focus their studies within the general interdisciplinary program designated as Communication Studies, or pursue more concentrated sequences in Strategic Communication (for careers in public relations, advertising, and integrated marketing) or Journalism (for careers in online, broadcast, and print journalism). These changes should result in programs of study for all of our students, regardless of their academic and professional interests that prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow.

## Section III: Institutional Impact

The Department of Communication does not anticipate any negative effects on enrollments within the Department or enrollments at other state institutions. The new curriculum reorganizes the Department's existing course offerings, offering students increased flexibility while still retaining the academic rigor of the previous structure. One potential benefit of the new curriculum is that even with the increase of one required course within the major, students should be able to decrease their time to graduation. The previous 10 sequences often produced "bottleneck" courses and slowed down student progress when the final course in a sequence was only taught once a year.

## Section IV: Finances

The Department of Communication does not anticipate any costs or savings associated with this change. The changes simply repackage the current course offerings. The single major and curriculum reorganization will be attractive to current students, and may result in increased student demand for the major.

## Appendix A

## Proposed Curriculum Reorganization

COMMUNICATION MAJOR<br>14 courses - effective Fall 2012<br>You must pass all Communication courses with a grade C or better.



## Department of Communication

Mass Communication Degree - Effective August 24, 2009


| Communication |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| graduation requirement, |  |  |  |
| although it can fulfill a |  |  |  |
| University or General |  |  |  |
| Education requirement, <br> too. |  |  |  |

Updated 6/14/10

## Department of Communication Speech Communication Degree

All students must complete a sequence listed below. Sequence requirements consist of "Required Courses" and "Electives," for a total of thirteen (13) courses required for graduation.

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sequence | Sequence |
| Required three courses: <br> 1270 Analysis of Argument (HF, QB) <br> 3050 Theoretical Persp <br> Comm. <br>  <br> Dialogue <br> Choose one: <br> 2110 Interpersonal Comm. <br> (HF) <br> 3170 Org Communication <br> 3420 Performance \& Culture <br> (HF) <br> 3490 Comm \& Public Issues <br> Choose one: <br> 3330 Negotiation \& Interview <br> 5150 Dialogue \& Cultural St. <br> 5320 Freedom of Expression <br> Choose one: <br> 5270 Theories of Argument <br> 5340 Communication \& Law <br> 5360 Environmental Comm <br> Choose 7 electives | Required 4 courses: <br> 3050 Theoretical Persp Comm <br> 3190 Intercultural Comm <br> (DV) <br> 3420 Performance \& Culture <br> (HF) <br> 3460 Comm Criticism (HF, <br> CW) <br> Choose one: <br> 1270 Analysis of Argument <br> (HF, QB) <br> 2110 Interpersonal Comm <br> (HF) <br> Choose one: <br> 5420 Contemp Social Mov. <br> 5490 Comm \& Social Justice <br> Choose 7 electives |

"Electives" may be any course in the Communication Dept. See the back of this sheet for Suggested Electives. Prerequisites are listed in (parentheses).
(Effective Fall 2009)

| Interpersonal Sequence | Organizational Comm |
| :---: | :---: |
| Required three courses: | Sequence |
| 2110 Interpersonal Comm (HF) |  |
| 3050 Theoretical Persp | Required |
| Comm | 3170 Org Communication |
| 5110 Interpersonal Comm (2110) | Choose two courses: |
| Choose one: | 1270 Analysis of Argument (HF, QB) |
| 1270 Analysis of Argument (HF, QB) | 2110 Interpersonal Comm (HF) |
| 3170 Org Comm | 3050 Theoretical Persp |
| 3420 Performance \& Culture | Comm |
| (HF) 3490 Comm \& Public Issues | 3420 Performance \& Culture |
| 3490 Comm \& Public Issues | (HF) |
| Choose one: | 3490 Comm \& Public Issues |
| 3710 Quant. Comm | Choose two courses: |
| Research (QI) | 4170 Applied Org Comm |
| 5710 Comm Research (3710 | (3170) |
| or equivalent) Choose one: | 5170 Issues Org Comm |
| 3040 Comm \& Relationships | (3170) Org Comm |
| 3110 Interpersonal Comm | 5180 Sem: Org Comm (3170) |
| (2110) | Choose one course: |
| 3120 Family Comm (2110 rec.) | 3710 Quant. Comm Research |
| 5140 Comm \& Aging | 5710 Comm Research (3710 |
| 5160 Comm \& Emotion | or equivalent) (QI) |


| Teaching \& Training | General Sequence |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sequence | Choose three courses: |  |  |
| Required 4 courses: | 1270 Analysis of Argument |  |  |
| (HF, QB) |  |  |  |
| (HF, QB) | 2110 Interpersonal Comm |  |  |
| 2110 Interpersonal Comm | (HF) |  |  |
| (HF) | 3050 Theoretical Persp. |  |  |
| 3050 Theoretical Persp | Comm |  |  |
| Comm | 3170 Org Communication |  |  |
| 5010 Teaching Speech \& | 3420 Performance \& Culture |  |  |
| Com (CW) | (HF) |  |  |
| Choose one: | Choo Comm \& Public Issues |  |  |
| 3270 Forensics Lab | Choose two 5000-level |  |  |
| 4270 Forensics Practicum | courses: |  |  |
| CW) |  |  |  |
| 5060 Teaching Mentorship |  |  |  |
| Electives, choose 8 courses |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## Suggested Electives by Sequence

| Argumentation \& | Communication \& | Interpersonal |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Conflict | Culture |  |  |
| Suggested Electives, choose 7 |  |  | Organizational |
| 3180 Comm \& Social | Suggested | Suggested | Comm. |
| Behav (HF) | Electives, | Electives, |  |
| 3200 Persuasion Th. \& Prac. (CW) | Electives, | choose 7 |  |
| 3270 Forensics Lab | 2210 Intro Performance | (DV) |  |
| 3330 Neg \& Interviewing | St. | 3110 Interpersonal | Electives, choose |
| 3460 Comm Criticism | 3030 Comm \& Social | (2110) |  |
| (HF, CW) | Resp. (HF, CW) | 3120 Family Comm | 2120 Group Decision |
| 3490 Comm \& Public | 3070 Comm \& Gender | (2110 rec.) | Making |
| Issues | (DV) | 3170 Org Comm | 3030 Comm \& Social Resp |
| 4270 Forensics Practicum | 3180 Comm \& Social | 3180 Comm \& Social | (HF, CW) |
| (CW) | Behav. (HF) | Behav. (HF) | 3190 Intercultural Comm |
| 5120 Teamwork | 3410 Literature in | 3190 Intercultural (DV) | (DV) |
| 5150 Dialogue \& Cultural | Perform. (HF) | 3330 Negotiation \& |  |
| St. | 3490 Comm \& Public | Interview | Interview |
| 5200 Persuasion \& | Issues | 5120 Teamwork | 3420 Performance \& Culture |
| Political | 5140 Comm \& Aging | 5140 Comm \& Aging | (HF) |
| 5270 Theories of | 5150 Dialogue \& Cultural | 5150 Dialogue and | 3460 Comm Criticism (HF |
| Argument | St. | Culture St. | CW) |
| 5320 Freedom of | 5200 Persuasion | 5160 Comm \& Emotion | 3490 Comm \& Public Issu |
| Expression | Political C. | 5350 Ethics | 3510 Intro Web Design |
| 5340 Comm \& Law | 5350 Ethical Practices in |  | (3550) |
| 5360 Environmental |  |  | 3670 Prin. of Advertising |
| Comm | 5360 Environmental |  | 3680 Advertising Media |
| 5420 Contemp. Social | Comm |  | Analysis \& Planning (3670) |
| Mov. | 5540 Media \& Diversity |  | 4580 Strategic Comm |
| 5490 Comm \& Social | (DV) |  | 5150 Dialogue \& Cultural |


| Justice <br> 5540 Media \& Ethnicity <br> (DV) | 5640 Comm Tech \& Culture <br> 5650 Videogames Studies (3550) |  | St. <br> 5180 Sem: Org Comm <br> (3170) <br> 5200 Persuasion \& Political <br> 5360 Environmental Comm <br> 5590 Integrated Marketing <br> C. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Teaching \& Training |  |  |  |
| Suggested <br> Electives, choose 8 <br> 1020 Public Speaking <br> 2120 Group Decision <br> Making <br>  <br> Interview. <br> 3270 Forensics Lab <br>  <br> Culture (HF) <br> 3460 Comm Criticism <br> (HF, CW) <br> 4270 Forensics Practicum <br> (CW) |  |  |  |

