

Communication and Media Studies

Communicating is something we all do on a daily basis. An understanding of human communication, and the ability to communicate well, is key to a successful career.

Communication and media studies offers courses that help students learn how to be effective creators and critics of communication in relationships, the workplace, the media, the political and legal spheres and organizations (both non-profit and for-profit). Students learn through dynamic, discussion-rich classes as well as in internships, field experiences and a capstone senior research project.

A Distinctive Program

Stetson University's communication and media studies program offers students the ability to tailor the program to their interests, study human communication from a rhetorical and qualitative perspective and gain a broad understanding of human communication.

Fast Facts

Number of faculty: 6

Can you major in this program? Yes

Can you minor in this program? Yes

Emphasis within the major: culture, applied communication, theoretical perspectives, rhetorical criticism, qualitative research, media

Popular second majors: Political Science, Art, Philosophy

Popular minors: journalism, marketing, political science, business law, art, psychology, religious studies

Program website:

stetson.edu/communication-and-media-studies

Students in this major learn to be creators and critics of communications.

Academics and Research

Independent research

Many students present at the Stetson Showcase, which presents student research in disciplines across the university. Students can also apply for a Stetson Undergraduate Research Experience grant, a summer research program in which students work closely with faculty mentors on a topic of their choice.

Our students have recently presented their work at the following conferences; Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender, Florida Communication Association Convention, DePauw Undergraduate Honors Conference, Undergraduate Communication Honors Conference sponsored by FAU and the Governor's Hurricane Conference.

Facilities and opportunities

Elizabeth Hall room 202 is equipped with 15 student stations and one teacher station featuring the latest Apple computing technology. Elizabeth 202 and 204 have HD projection systems and Elizabeth 204 features digital recording technology for student presentations.

To emphasize the importance of technology, the department sponsors an annual public lecture by a guest scholar with expertise related to communication and technology.

Preparation for graduate study

Communication and media studies students are prepared for graduate study in a variety of ways. Students take courses in both rhetorical and qualitative theories and methodologies and complete multiple assignments in both areas. The program is both writing- and speaking-intensive, leading to completion of a senior thesis on a subject of the student's choosing.

Awards and Recognition

Distinguished faculty

Faculty include:

- [Andrew Dehnart](#), M.F.A., Bennington College
- [Antonio Golan](#), M.A., College of Staten Island (CUNY)
- [Michael McFarland](#), Ph.D., Northwestern University
- [Jelena Petrovic](#), Ph.D., University of New Mexico
- [Mario Rodriguez](#), Ph.D., Annenberg School of Communication, University of Pennsylvania
- [Tara Schuwerk](#), Ph.D., Arizona State University

Grant-funded research

Students are encouraged to take part in the Stetson Undergraduate Research Experience grant program. Communication and media studies has had four recipients of the SURE grant.

Undergraduate awards and honors

The department awards prizes to undergraduates including the Outstanding Senior in Communication Arts and the Josephine Field Davidson Award for Integrity in Journalism. Students also have the opportunity to be inducted into Lambda Pi Eta, a national honor society.

Beyond the Classroom

Internships

DeLand is conveniently located near Daytona Beach and Orlando for internships. Students gain valuable on-the-job experience and connections through internships in print and broadcast media, public relations, corporate communication, museums, law firms and more. Examples of recent internships in the area include Fox Sports Florida/SunSports, Fox 35 News (Orlando), the Museum of Florida Art, Halifax Hospital public relations and NASCAR public relations.

After Stetson

Diverse careers

Our graduates go on to work in media, public relations, journalism, business, education, ministry, law, medicine and other pursuits. Some recent alumni job roles include; production technician for Fox 35 Broadcasting in Orlando, account coordinator for Creative Media Marketing, associate marketing manager at John Hancock Financial, social media strategist at Max Borges Agency and attorney at Presley Law and Associates, P.A. In addition, we have an excellent record of placing students in graduate programs in communication or public relations as well as in law school. Our graduates have studied at Northwestern University, Stetson University College of Law, University of South Florida, Florida State University, Charleston School of Law, University of Florida, Universidad de Alcalá and Emerson College.

More Information



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