

COMMUNICATION ARTS (COM ARTS)

COM ARTS 100 – INTRODUCTION TO SPEECH COMPOSITION

3 credits.

Develop written and spoken communication skills through hands-on learning while studying audience-centered public speaking. Focus on becoming more confident and comfortable as a speaker and writer. Strengthen your library research skills and digital literacy. Gain essential skills for success in college courses and life beyond the university, from job interviews to professional presentations, to research talks.

Requisites: Students required to take the MSN ESLAT cannot enroll until the ESL 118 requirement is satisfied. Not open to students who have credit for COM ARTS 105 or 181.

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part A
Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Write effective public speeches
Audience: Undergraduate

2. Deliver effective public speeches
Audience: Undergraduate

3. Think critically and to apply the skills of critical thinking to the analysis of written and oral texts
Audience: Undergraduate

4. Listen effectively to public speeches
Audience: Undergraduate

5. Utilize research skills and strategies
Audience: Undergraduate

6. Demonstrate an awareness of diversity in audiences by using language that is attentive to people's cultural backgrounds, values, viewpoints, and experiences
Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 155 – INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION

4 credits.

Teaches the skills needed to produce, engage with, and understand new and emerging technologies within the context of communication and creative expression. Become a more critical consumer and producer of digital media.

Requisites: Not open to special students

Course Designation: Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Employ aesthetic and design principles in the creation of digital media
Audience: Undergraduate

2. Integrate ethical and legal considerations in the creation of digital media
Audience: Undergraduate

3. Create works of digital media through the bringing together of concepts, aesthetic choices, and technical execution
Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze how stories are constructed and told across forms of digital media
Audience: Undergraduate

5. Critically reflect on the relationship and communication dynamic between artistic self-expression and audience engagement
Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 181 – ELEMENTS OF SPEECH-HONORS COURSE

3 credits.

The process of oral communication; principles of effective speaking; application of principles in selected speaking and reading projects.

Requisites: Declared in an Honors program. Not open to students with credit for COM ARTS 100 or 105. Students required to take the MSN ESLAT cannot enroll until the ESL 118 requirement is satisfied.

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part A Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Write effective public speeches

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Deliver effective public speeches

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Think critically and to apply the skills of critical thinking to the analysis of written and oral texts

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Listen effectively to public speeches

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Utilize research skills and strategies

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Demonstrate an awareness of diversity in audiences by using language that is attentive to people's cultural backgrounds, values, viewpoints, and experiences

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 198 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Elementary level directed study project(s) under supervision of faculty member. Graded on a credit/no credit basis.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2020

COM ARTS 199 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Elementary level directed study project(s) under supervision of faculty member. Graded on a lettered basis.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2007

COM ARTS 200 – INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

An introduction to digital communication and how it shapes our everyday lives. Develop digital communication skills, explore digital media tools and trends, and examine expressions of power online.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Consider the relationship between digital media and communication

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain basic concepts in digital communication theory

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Imagine a specific audience for digital communication

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Fashion digital messages that can effectively engage that audience

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Deploy basic design principles in text, photo, and video digital communications in communication to a chosen institutional audience

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Deploy basic video production techniques in video digital communications to a chosen non-institutional audience

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 213 – INTRODUCTORY TOPIC IN COMMUNICATION ARTS: STUDY ABROAD

1-6 credits.

A course carried with a UW-Madison study abroad program which has no equivalent on this campus. Current enrollment in a UW-Madison study abroad program

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify and describe core concepts within the topic area of communication arts

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 250 – SURVEY OF CONTEMPORARY MEDIA

3 credits.

Key concepts for the critical analysis of television, film, radio, and digital media. Focusing primarily on meanings, aesthetics, technology, media industries, representations, and audiences.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain what media are and why it's important to study media

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Develop media literacy and skills for engaging in critical analyses of contemporary media

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Understand how media industries developed and how they have changed over time

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Challenge common understandings about the relationship between media technologies and society

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Analyze the different ways that audiences engage with media as individuals and as communities

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Develop the study skills and habits of independent learners to be successful in more advanced Communication Arts courses

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 260 – COMMUNICATION AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR

3 credits.

Concepts and processes relevant to the study of communication and human behavior including approaches to communication inquiry, the dynamics of face-to-face interaction, and the pragmatic and artistic functions of public communication.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain an array of communication theories and research methodologies that are applicable to our lives and the world

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze real life communication concerns, questions, and problems using insights from scholarly communication research

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply lessons from the course to better understand how communication shapes our lives and the world

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Practice forms of writing and communicating that are common in our relationships, workplaces, and communities

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 262 – ARGUMENTATION AND DEBATE

3 credits.

Develop your skills of argument to productively engage people in a diverse society. Learn to discuss differences with others and to contribute positively to a dynamic and diverse society. Critically examine the roles of advocates and audience members. Gain an understanding of the contexts and significance of argument in democratic societies, identify the components and qualities of arguments, construct cogent ethical arguments, and evaluate the arguments of others.

Requisites: Satisfied Communications A requirement

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B

Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the contexts and significance of public argument in democratic societies

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify the components and qualities of arguments and processes of argumentation

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Construct cogent arguments on political and public issues

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Evaluate the arguments of others on political and public issues

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Employ critical reading, logical thinking, and evidence in your arguments

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Argue and communicate with fluency in writing and speaking conventions

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Use library resources in productive ways

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 266 – THEORY AND PRACTICE OF GROUP DISCUSSION

3 credits.

Structure and dynamics of small group decision-making. Critical and creative problems in group interaction processes.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the central theories related to the formation, functioning, and effects of group communication dynamics
Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain and evaluate the most influential lines of empirical research on the formation, functioning, and effects of group communication dynamic
Audience: Undergraduate

3. Demonstrate effective communication skills through the articulation of critical thinking about group communication dynamics through writing and informal oral presentation
Audience: Undergraduate

4. Hone skills in writing, public speaking, and library research
Audience: Undergraduate

5. Improve writing through responses to feedback and revision
Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 272 – INTRODUCTION TO INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

Survey of concepts, theories, and research concerning communication across all phases of interpersonal relationships, focusing on both theoretical and practical applications.

Requisites: Not open to students with credit for COM ARTS 273

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B
Breadth - Social Science

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the major theories and research findings in the field of interpersonal communication

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Describe how interpersonal communication affects vital relationships, such as those with family, friends, and romantic partners

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Reflect on your own interpersonal communication patterns within these relationships, and become better attuned to the needs, motivations, and communication styles of relational partners

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Develop your own interpersonal communication skills, such as emotional intelligence, active listening, and conflict management

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Hone skills in writing, public speaking, and library research

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 273 – THEORY AND PRACTICE OF INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

Survey of concepts, theories, and research concerning communication across all phases of interpersonal relationships, focusing on both theoretical and practical applications.

Requisites: Not open to students with credit for COM ARTS 272

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science
Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the major theories and research findings in the field of interpersonal communication

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Describe how interpersonal communication affects vital relationships, such as those with family, friends, and romantic partners

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Reflect on your own interpersonal communication patterns within these relationships, and become better attuned to the needs, motivations, and communication styles of relational partners

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 298 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Intermediate level project under the direction of faculty member e.g., independent reading with research paper, production project, or member of research team. Graded on a credit/no credit basis.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2021

COM ARTS 299 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Intermediate level project under the direction of faculty member e.g., independent reading with research paper, production project, or member of research team. Graded on a letter basis.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 300 – FILM COMEDY

3 credits.

An exploration of the comedy genre, examining theories of humor in film; introducing conceptual tools for critical appreciation and analysis; and investigating different subgenres and tendencies prominent in various phases and traditions of popular film comedy.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain what makes a comedy a comedy

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Draw pertinent distinctions among different forms and techniques of comedy

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Summarize key theories of humor and evaluate their pros, cons, and overlaps

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Discern formal, narrative, and rhetorical variables shaping particular comedic works

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Identify social and ethical values and pitfalls of humor and comedy

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 308 – TOPICS IN RHETORIC, POLITICS, AND CULTURE

3 credits.

Explore various topics in rhetoric, politics, and culture.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the role of a rhetorical perspective in interpreting emerging topic areas.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Demonstrate knowledge of the cultural and/or historical aspects of emerging topic areas.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Describe and compare key rhetorical theories, concepts, and/or methods

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Critically analyze emerging topic areas using key rhetorical theories, concepts, and/or methods.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 309 – TOPICS IN COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL DYNAMICS

3 credits.

Explore topics related to emerging communication practices and experiences, including those related to new information and communication technologies or new applications of such technologies.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explore communication practices and experiences in newly emerging topic areas.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Review and critically evaluate social scientific theories and research in these topic areas.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply social scientific concepts, theories, and methods to understand and enhance the communication practices and experiences in these topic areas.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 310 – TOPICS IN RHETORIC AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCE

3 credits.

Explore various topics in rhetoric or communication science.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify and describe key theories, concepts, and methods used to analyze communication within its historical, technical, cultural, social or political contexts

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify and describe key theories, concepts, and methods used to analyze how communication structures shape the flow of information, policy law, culture, or power

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply key theories, concepts, and methods in the analysis of communication

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS/JOURN/RP & SE 312 – DISABILITY AND THE MEDIA

3 credits.

Examines the interaction between disability and media in modern society. Explore representations of disability in various forms of mass media, including television and film, social media, advertising, and others. Analyze how these representations affect disabled people directly, including the development of their identities, as well as how they influence disability attitudes and stigma throughout society. Discuss overt and casual ableism within media, as well as how the disability community uses media for activism. Discuss issues of access for disabled people (e.g., assistive technology, captions, audio descriptions), as well as the future of disability representations within media.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify key concepts and terminology for understanding the intersection of disability and the media, including the medical and social models of disability, definitions and conceptualizations of disability, ableism, stigma, disability justice, disability identity development, and others.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify how disability is represented within various forms of media, and how these representations affect disabled people both directly and indirectly.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Describe how technology can facilitate access to media for disabled people

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Discuss how the media is and can be utilized in pursuit of disability justice.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 313 – TOPICS IN FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES

3 credits.

Explore various topics in film and media studies, history, and theory.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain core concepts within the topic area of film and media studies

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze film and media texts, institutions, or audiences from theoretical, historical, and critical perspectives appropriate to the topic under examination

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Communicate effectively about the topic area in film and media studies

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Participate in discussions about diversity, equity, and inclusion for the historically marginalized within the topic area of film and media studies

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 315 – THE RHETORIC OF REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

3 credits.

Study the history of reproductive justice activism in the United States. Consider the legal basis for reproductive rights and key Supreme Court decisions relating to birth control and abortion. Examine core questions: how have reproductive rights been defined differently in different historical moments? What are rights in the context of reproduction? Who has reproductive freedom, and whose reproduction has been controlled? What role does race play in the history of reproductive justice? How does class influence people's access to reproductive healthcare? How does analyzing gender help us understand the history of reproductive justice?

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify key moments in the organized movement for reproductive justice in the United States

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain key concepts from rhetorical criticism and social movement studies

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply theoretical concepts to primary and secondary texts

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Evaluate the links between reproduction and power

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Collaborate with classmates to develop an understanding of how historical and contemporary movements for reproductive freedom emerged

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS/GEN&WS 316 – GENDER AND COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

Effective communication requires awareness of how gender influences communication and our capacity to build lasting and meaningful relationships. Learn about theories and concepts to understand how gender influences our interpersonal, professional, and social lives. Topics include terms and concepts relevant to the study of how we communicate about gender, sex and sexuality, including identity, language and nonverbal behavior, socialization, close personal relationships, education, work, violence, media and social movements.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Employ the definitions and theoretical explanations of gender and communication

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Examine how gender intersects with our personal identity

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Raise self-awareness concerning our communication behaviors within a gendered context

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Foster an open mind so that we may fully comprehend the complex social constructs that influence gender and communication

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Critically evaluate the impact gender has as a tool of power

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Create a safe space for online discussion and learning

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 317 – RHETORIC AND HEALTH

3 credits.

Investigate how the concept of health is rhetorically constructed and deployed in a number of different contexts. Explore how language and argument shape our understanding of health, how health is positioned in opposition to illness and disability, and how the meaning of health has become a site of argument and controversy.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Apply critical communication and cultural theory to issues of health, illness, disability, and healthcare

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Critically reflect on how structural inequity impacts the health and healthcare experiences of historically marginalized communities

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Illustrate how creative engagement can enhance the understanding of illness and the patient-provider relationship

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Demonstrate written and visual communication skills

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Demonstrate research and critical thinking skills

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 318 – INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

Explore the diversity of health experiences and the ways in which health communication affects our lives, whether it is through interpersonal conversations about health issues, exposure to health information in the media, or through our personal involvement with the healthcare system.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2022

Learning Outcomes: 1. Communicate how the healthcare system is structured and its influence on health perceptions and interactions

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify differences in insurance plans and associated payments

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Discuss how interpersonal and media messages influence our perceptions of health

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Critically reflect on the diversity in individuals' health experiences

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Read and synthesize social scientific research on health communication

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 323 – THE BUSINESS AND CULTURE OF DISNEY

3 credits.

Analyze The Walt Disney Company and its prominence as a purveyor of narratives, consumer products, and dreams in global culture. Examine the business and culture of Disney to reveal how creators, capitalists, and consumers all relate to the corporate media empires that shape everyday life.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the industrial and cultural dynamics that animate the Walt Disney Company empire

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze the many products and practice of Disney from a cultural studies perspective attuned to the meaningful relationships between business and culture

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Communicate effectively about Disney in writing, discussion, and/or creative work

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Interrogate the ideologies, hierarchies, and inequalities that impact the production and consumption of Disney products

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 325 – MEDIA AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR

3 credits.

Investigate the ways in which individuals use, create, and respond to media content in the context of increasingly blurred boundaries between "mass" and "interpersonal" media. We will consider social scientific theories and research on a wide array of topics, including media uses and effects with regard to social connection, learning, judgments, perceptions, stereotypes, violence, consumption, and political participation.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe a range of theories of media uses and effects

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain the social scientific logic that you may employ to address questions about media and human behavior

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Read and critically evaluate social scientific studies on media uses and effects

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 330 – MUSIC INDUSTRIES AND POPULAR CULTURE

3 credits.

The popular music industries are a vital part of the media industries. Music is the soundtrack to our lives. It provides the score to our quietest moments alone and our loudest parties with friends. Music helps us create and understand our identities and those of others. It is both a form of subversive activism and one of the most commercially valuable commodities in the media industries. Explore the contemporary popular music industries and the roles businesses, artists, audiences, fans, and technologies play in shaping music as a media industry. Focus specifically on the disruption that the internet, digital technologies, and social media have ushered in over the last two decades and the new ways artists, listeners, and businesses are discovering, promoting, sharing and experiencing music. Talk about the music you love, how it gets made, and why that matters for how we understand creative industries, ourselves, and each other.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Assess the structure of the contemporary popular music industries, with attention to the inequalities it creates for artists and workers

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze the role the music industries play in governing the circulation, discovery, and experience of popular music

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Employ audio production tools to create media about music and the music industries

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Develop communication skills for writing and speaking critically about the intersections of music, popular culture, identity, and power

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 335 – SOCIAL MEDIA AS LITERATURE

3 credits.

Analysis of artistic and expressive communication in social media as forms of literature.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Articulate definitions of literature in terms of literary elements that constitute genres

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Articulate some possible relationships between genres and the cultures and contexts that shape them

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Identify social media use in terms of culture, context, literary elements, and genre

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Create social media expressions based on culture, context, and the literary elements from specific social media genres

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Analyze social media expressions based on culture, context, literary elements, and genre

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Articulate ethical implications and possibilities of analyzing artistic and expressive communication online

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 343 – HUMAN COMMUNICATION IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

3 credits.

Explore the rapidly evolving landscape of communication technologies, with a particular focus on generative artificial intelligence (AI), and discuss its role in communication contexts. Examine the transformative effects of these emerging technologies on individual, social, and professional lives. Consider the potential dark sides of AI, including ethical concerns, biases, and the implications of over-reliance on technology in communication.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe key terms and definitions related to artificial intelligence (AI)

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain the characteristics of AI and how it is applied in various human communication contexts

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Demonstrate the use of theoretical frameworks to analyze the impacts of AI on personal and professional lives

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Compare and contrast different AI tools and their effectiveness in real-life scenarios

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Evaluate the use of today's emerging technologies, with an emphasis on the potential impacts they may have on users and society

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 344 – SOCIAL MEDIA & WELL-BEING

3 credits.

One of the most widely debated and consequential issues of our time is how social media use affects users' well-being. Examine the ways in which social media use can promote well-being (e.g., by being a source of self-affirmation, social support, and social capital) and hinder it (e.g., by provoking envy and fear-of-missing out). Special attention is paid to how users' well-being deficits (e.g., low self-esteem, depression, anxiety) prompt them to use social media in beneficial or harmful ways.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Summer 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Define well-being and its multiple components, including positive (e.g., high self-esteem, relationship satisfaction) and negative elements (e.g., depression, anxiety)

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Apply theories of human behavior to understand how social media activities can benefit or hurt users' well-being, and how users' well-being shapes their social media activities

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Synthesize current research findings on the relationship between social media use and well-being

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze how characteristics of users (e.g., life experiences, personality traits), specific social media activities and information (e.g., browsing, actively posting) and social media design features (e.g., access to audiences) work together to shape users' well-being

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Evaluate the potential of various social media platforms to support users' well-being

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 345 – ONLINE COMMUNICATION AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

3 credits.

Examines how personal relationships unfold in online communication contexts (social network sites, online dating, mobile computing). Topics include impression formation and management, deception and trust, self-perception and identity, social support and relationship maintenance.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify features of online environments that affect people's ability to express themselves and to manage relationships

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain how information flow between people in online environments shapes social interaction

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Describe the latest research findings in the area of online relationships

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Discuss the main theories and models of how online technologies and online information shape human social behavior

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Use research methods, practices, and tools for studying online technologies and online information flow in social spaces

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 346 – CRITICAL INTERNET STUDIES

3 credits.

Traces the Internet's history, reception, audience, industries, rhetorics, fictional and filmic narratives, and potential as a purveyor and transmitter of culture and values.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Define key terms/concepts related to the Internet and digital culture and use them in written work and everyday discussions

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain how digital divides intersect with elements of identity, including race, gender, class, and ability, and how this structures different experiences of the Internet and its possibilities

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Use methods from the course to enhance their Internet-based research skills

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS/CHICLA 347 – RACE, ETHNICITY, AND MEDIA

3 credits.

Introduction to the changing images of race and ethnicity in U.S. entertainment media and popular culture. Surveys history, key concepts and contemporary debates regarding mediated representation of ethnic minorities. Critical and cultural studies approaches are emphasized.

Requisites: None**Course Designation:** Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Connect the way that racial minorities have historically been represented in mainstream media to the way that they are represented in contemporary media

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze the representation of race/ethnicity in contemporary media in a sophisticated way

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Point to evidence of the way that racism is upheld systemically in society, and the ways racism has been and is currently being challenged

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Reflect on and articulate your own participation in contributing to or fighting against racial inequalities

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Increase your ability to understand different perspectives on race in your everyday life, and respectfully engage in discussions of race with colleagues and peers

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Articulate some of the effects the past has had on present day circumstances, perceptions of, and disparities in, race in the U.S.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Recognize and question cultural assumptions, rules, biases, and knowledge claims as they relate to race and ethnicity

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 350 – INTRODUCTION TO FILM

3 credits.

Explains how films work using classics such as "Citizen Kane," "Vertigo," "Battleship Potemkin," and "Do The Right Thing." Study film as an art form and a medium, cover all the major film types (silent, classical, and contemporary narrative cinema, art cinema, animation, documentary, and experimental film), and get introduced to two basic approaches to film criticism: authorship criticism and genre criticism. Learn to recognize film techniques--mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing, and sound--and to analyze how filmmakers make us watch, think, and feel.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or COM ARTS 250**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Use the basic analytical tools that are required for a sustained critical engagement with cinematic narrative and form

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Examine the formal elements, historical and contextual specificities that shape film

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Demonstrate how directors, actors, cinematographers, producers, sound engineers and VFX artist build up a film brick-by-brick

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze the aesthetic and stylistic aspects of film through form and content

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Identify the vocabulary of film language and criticism

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Combine course concepts to investigate contemporary media production in a sustained way

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 351 – TELEVISION INDUSTRIES

3 credits.

Critical overview of the cultural industries driving television in the United States, from broadcast networks and cable to downloading and streaming, focusing on economic and regulatory structures, programming practices, labor, globalization, audiences, and adaptations to changing conditions in the digital age.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or COM ARTS 250

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe the economic, technological, and regulatory pressures reshaping American television

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Evaluate the relationship between industry and programming aesthetics, constraints, and conventions

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Critically examine the hierarchies of power that shape identity, community, and inclusion in television production cultures

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Develop strong arguments about industry through sustained research and analysis of trade journals and other primary evidence

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Use feedback to improve critical insights about industry through the process of revision

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Apply industry principles of long-term planning, development, and scheduling to course work

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 354 – FILM GENRES

3 credits.

Explores six major film genres -- musical; thriller; comedy; horror; drama; and melodrama -- investigating their narrative and stylistic conventions and the principles underlying them. Critical, historical, and theoretical approaches examine definitional criteria and ambiguities; key elements, functions, goals, and effects; and significant subgenres, cycles, and trends.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain and evaluate theories on the nature, functions, and appeals of popular storytelling

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Define the concept of genre

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Summarize various types of conventions informing classifications of film by genre

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Describe primary earmarks of specific major genres

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Recount historical developments, cycles, and variations shaping particular genres

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 355 – INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA PRODUCTION

4 credits.

Theory and practice of media production and screenwriting.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or COM ARTS 155**Course Designation:** Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Employ the basics of videography and composition

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Apply the concepts of cinematic storytelling to the production of short video projects

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Examine a variety of cinematic forms, styles, and production strategies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Use industry-standard production tools for screenwriting, pre-visualization, video recording, and motion picture editing

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Articulate the relationship and deployment of media production to other industries and fields of study

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 357 – HISTORY OF THE ANIMATED FILM

3 credits.

Survey of the development of animation as a motion picture production technique, as a film genre, a part of the Hollywood classical cinema, and an independent art form.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Summer 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Identify the major studios, directors, technologies and techniques shaping film, television, and avant-garde animation

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Compare the history and practice of animation in different cultural, commercial, and artistic contexts

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Conduct close analysis of character-animation techniques on a frame-by-frame level

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Explain strategies of "limited animation" as a resource for production efficiency and artistic stylization

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Articulate relationships between industrial configuration, technology, technique, and style in animation

Audience: Graduate

6. Examine and evaluate the academic literature on animation history, criticism, and theory and discern opportunities for fruitful scholarly contribution

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 358 – HISTORY OF DOCUMENTARY FILM

3 credits.

Development and history of documentary film and video from Lumiere to the present.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350 or declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify major trends in classical and contemporary documentary film practice.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Critically reflect on assumptions pertaining to genre and representation.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain the unfixed boundaries between documentary, narrative, and avant-garde film modes.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Apply theoretical terminology through detailed film analysis.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Analyze similarities, differences, and intersections in the philosophies of nonfiction filmmakers and film scholars.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 359 – SPORTS MEDIA

3 credits.

Examines sports media using the frameworks of media and cultural studies. The relationship between sports and popular culture provides an important site for understanding and critiquing the media's relationships to social, cultural, economic, and political structures. Topics for discussion will include sports media industries and technologies; representations of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, and other identities; and the intersection of sports media cultures with such issues as activism and social change, ethics and morality, gambling and fantasy sports, celebrity athletes, and fandom.

Requisites: COM ARTS 250 or 351

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Draw connections between sports media, sports, and culture

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain the development of sports media industries

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze representations of race, class, gender, sexuality, etc. in sports media

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explore the different ways audiences and sports fans engage with sports media

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 360 – INTRODUCTION TO RHETORIC IN POLITICS AND CULTURE

3 credits.

An introduction to the study of rhetoric in politics and culture. Explores the interrelationship of theory, criticism, and practice. Students gain an understanding of rhetoric as a social force emerging from political and cultural contexts and as an influence on those contexts.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or COM ARTS 260

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain, assess, and analyze key terms, concepts, theories, and themes scholars use to evaluate rhetorical action

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Apply these critical and theoretical lenses to historical and contemporary discourse and public culture

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Articulate a clear, compelling rationale for how and why rhetoric is valuable and necessary for civic participation & democratic life

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Identify evidences of various rhetorical strategies in our contemporary moment

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 361 – INTRODUCTION TO QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH IN COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

An introduction to social science research methods and statistical analyses applicable to the study of communication research and mass media effects.

Requisites: Sophomore standing and satisfied Quantitative Reasoning (QR) A requirement

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Quantitative Reasoning Part B

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Manipulate quantitative information to create models, and/or devise solutions to problems using multi-step arguments, based on and supported by quantitative information

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Evaluate models and arguments using quantitative information

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Express and interpret in context, models, solutions, and/or arguments using verbal, numerical, graphical, algorithmic, computational or symbolic techniques

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Become familiar with key issues in designing surveys, experiments, and content analyses

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Develop clear, falsifiable hypotheses

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Examine the validity and reliability of measures for an online survey to test your hypotheses

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Understand the logic of various statistical tests, which statistics are appropriate to examine your data, including univariate distributions, bivariate relationships, and moderated relationships

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Become competent in the use of Excel to conduct these analyses, and evaluate your hypotheses

Audience: Undergraduate

9. Assess the limitations of your study and the implications for your conclusions

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 368 – PERSUASION AND SOCIAL INFLUENCE

3 credits.

Study social influence and persuasion. Learn how to improve your persuasive and social influence skills, lower an audience's resistance to a persuasive message, and be a savvy consumer of persuasive messages and techniques. Explore nonconscious and emotional social influence processes in social media and other settings, especially in the context of influencers, marketing, advertising, and communication campaigns. Create a persuasion campaign, with both online and interpersonal components.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Develop an understanding of social influence and persuasion in online contexts, such as social media influencers, persuasive AI, and persuasive technologies.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Describe the fundamental assumptions and the causal mechanisms of selected theories of persuasion, social influence, and compliance gaining.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze multiple persuasive messages from the perspective of course theories.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Create persuasive messages utilizing theories from the course.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Create and use compliance-gaining techniques discussed in the course.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Become a more critical and savvy consumer of social influence and persuasive messages.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 369 – RHETORIC OF THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

3 credits.

Approach the U.S. presidential election from a rhetorical perspective. Analyze how individual candidates and political parties use and abuse language and other symbols to 1) identify with U.S. voters; 2) advance an agenda to address a current need; 3) present a particular narrative of U.S. history, identity, and national purpose; and 4) convince U.S. citizens to support their candidacy and policies on Election Day.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or COM ARTS 260

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the rhetorical norms and expectations for U.S. presidential rhetoric throughout history.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Assess and analyze how presidential speech (and the speech of potential U.S. presidents) contributes to ideas about American identity, history, diversity, and equity.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Define and describe the key issues and debates shaping the U.S. presidential election, including party platforms, policy proposals, and other related issues.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Articulate a clear, compelling rationale for how and why rhetoric is valuable and necessary for civic participation and democratic life.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 370 – GREAT SPEAKERS AND SPEECHES

3 credits.

Significant speeches from throughout history, generally from the United States. Speakers studied include Pericles, Abraham Lincoln, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frederick Douglass, Emma Watson, John F. Kennedy, Barbara Jordan, Nelson Mandela.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or COM ARTS 260

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Read and discuss a wide variety of speeches

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Listen to, comprehend, and assess oral discourse

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Understand and utilize methods of rhetorical criticism when approaching texts

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Engage rhetorical theory in your comprehension and assessment of discourse

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 371 – COMMUNICATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

3 credits.

Examines intra- and interpersonal theories of the causes and functions of conflict. Focuses on message strategies for conflict resolution and/or management. Both theoretical and applied issues.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain a variety of ways to think about conflict and conflict management

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify the basic components of conflict escalation in interpersonal, organizational and intercultural conflicts

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Interrogate your own conflict behavior and how it facilitates/inhibits conflict management

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Expand your response repertoire for conflict-management situations

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 372 – RHETORIC OF CAMPAIGNS AND REVOLUTIONS

3 credits.

Public discourse as it affects and reflects the process of dynamic social change. Historical and contemporary instances of rhetorical processes.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the abolition movement, the US women's suffrage movement, the twentieth century movement for reproductive justice, and contemporary activism

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Utilize rhetorical methodologies to approach movement texts

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Read across primary texts, scholarly texts that provide contextualized analysis of primary sources, and book-length texts detailing movement history and actor biography

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Recognize and question cultural assumptions, rules, biases, and knowledge claims as they relate to race and ethnicity

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Examine questions and make decisions with consideration for the cultural perspectives and worldviews of others

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Apply concepts from the course to contemporary examples of social movement rhetoric at the graduate level

Audience: Graduate

7. Communicate about the rhetoric of campaigns and revolutions in graduate level communication genres

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 373 – INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION & RHETORIC

3 credits.

The transnational movement of people, goods, and discourses blurs the boundaries between the local and global, making intercultural communication and rhetoric essential to our personal and public lives. We explore how rhetoric and communication function between and across cultures and examine how culture, history, and power constitute our cultural identities, our modes of communication, and how we engage with others.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain how culture and communication are mutually influential factors in human behavior

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Apply key theories about culture, communication and power to understand and explain the world around them

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Articulate how their identities, values, and ways of communication are steeped in culture, history and socio-political, economic dynamics

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Practice their intercultural competency and fluency

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Articulate some of the effects the past has had on present day circumstances, perceptions of, and disparities in, race in the U.S.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Examine questions and make decisions with consideration for the cultural perspectives and worldviews of others

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS/RELIG ST 374 – THE RHETORIC OF RELIGION

3 credits.

Rhetorical character of religious controversy and sectarian persuasion in Western religion.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2022

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify and describe key theories, concepts, and methods used to analyze religious communication within their historical, technical, cultural, social or political contexts

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify and describe key theories, concepts, and methods used to analyze how media shape the flow of information, policy law, culture, and power in relation to religious communication

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply key theories, concepts, and methods in the analysis of religious communication

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 375 – ETHICS OF ENTERTAINMENT MEDIA

3 credits.

Develop skills for viewing and interrogating entertainment media through the lens of ethical theory and to articulate their own ethical stance on a diverse range of media, including documentary film, sports entertainment, reality television, and digital media. By approaching ethics from a media studies perspective, ask questions about how media are produced, how audiences are created and engaged, how communities and cultures are represented, and how we should respond to these different forms of media and the ethical questions that they raise.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain core ethical theories

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Build arguments for moral positions and think about them critically

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Use ethical theories to analyze moral issues within contemporary entertainment media

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Distinguish between different moral dilemmas as they relate to the production, consumption, and analysis of media texts

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 377 – TOPICS IN DIGITAL STUDIES (COMMUNICATION SCIENCE & RHETORIC)

3 credits.

Explore topics in communication science and rhetoric, with a digital focus.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify and describe key theories, concepts, and methods used to analyze digital media within their historical, technical, cultural, social or political contexts.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify and describe key theories, concepts, and methods used to analyze how digital information structures shape the flow of information, policy law, culture, or power.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply key theories, concepts, and methods in the analysis of digital media and digital information structures.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 379 – GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL CULTURE

3 credits.

Digital media, devices, and networks are deeply embedded in our cultural fabric and are reshaping cultures worldwide. While networks enable instant communication and sharing, they aren't neutral, and their benefits aren't evenly distributed. Examine how digital environments affect global cultures differently, and how local differences shape the use of technology. Explore what being 'global' means in the context of rapid, technologically facilitated changes and analyze how these technologies impact offline experiences within communities based on nationality, region, race, gender, and class.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze global technologies, industries, and infrastructures from a historical and cultural standpoint.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Describe concepts related to cultural globalization and transnational flows, and explain how digital technology impacts them.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain how the design of specific digital technologies and access to them can lead to imbalances in social power.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Evaluate how global adoption of technologies leads to changes in local cultural practices.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Analyze concepts such as participatory culture and consumption and apply them to social and cultural contexts across the globe.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Analyze how existing relationships of social power (for example race, gender, and class) can be exacerbated or resisted through digital technologies.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 402 – THE PSYCHOLOGY OF COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

The role and function of information processing in human communication behavior.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Employ a range of theoretical ideas of social cognition

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain how these ideas may be (or have been) applied to studying human communication process

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Develop analytical skills to analyze human communication issues critically

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze a communication phenomenon based on critically evaluation and integration of research literature

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS/GEN&WS 418 – GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND THE MEDIA

3 credits.

Examines images of gender and sexuality in the media, with a focus on contemporary media in the U.S. Using theories from cultural studies, film and media studies, gender studies, and communication explore different processes and practices of gender and sexuality. Look at the way that gender and sexuality are constructed through social, cultural, and economic forces, and the way that these identities intersect with other social identities such as race, ethnicity, and class. Consider the way that media impact our understanding of feminism and post-feminism, violence, celebrity, consumer culture, subcultures and activism.

Requisites: GEN&WS 101, 102, 103, SOC/GEN&WS 200, COM ARTS 250 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the way that systems of oppression such as patriarchy and heteronormativity are manifested in today's society and media cultures

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze and interrogate the meaning of contemporary representations of sexuality and gender in the media

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Conduct intersectional analyses of the way that different categories of identity such as gender, sexuality, race, class, and ability come together in the media

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Articulate their own perspective on how empowerment and liberation are connected to media practices and cultures of production and consumption

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Create and participate in creating a respectful environment for having informed discussions about power, identity, representation, and difference with peers

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Demonstrate advanced analysis of gender and sexuality in media based on rigorous engagement with media studies scholarship

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS/CHICLA 419 – LATINO/AS AND MEDIA

3 credits.

Critical and historical survey of the participation and representation of Latino/as in U.S. film, television, and popular culture, with a primary focus on Hispanic representation in Hollywood-produced imagery. The counter-images of Latino and Latina media producers also will be explored.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Connect the way that Latinx people have historically been represented in mainstream media to the way that they are represented in contemporary media and to their treatment in contemporary society more

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Define anti-Latinx racism and its connections to other forms of oppression, including sexism, heteronormativity, classism, colonization, and ableism

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze the different constraints and possibilities for how Latinx people produce and consume media texts

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Respectfully engage in nuanced discussions about race and reflect on the cultural perspectives and worldviews of others

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Demonstrate advanced analysis of Latinx media texts that rigorously engages with scholarship in Latinx media studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS/ASIAN AM 420 – ASIAN AMERICANS AND MEDIA

3 credits.

Examines representations of Asian American in American media using historical, analytical, and critical approaches. Issues of cultural production, identity, race, politics, and gender are linked to examinations of specific media forms.

Requisites: CHICLA/COM ARTS 347, ASIAN AM 101, or sophomore standing

Course Designation: Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Connect the way that Asian Americans have historically been represented in mainstream media to the way that they are represented in contemporary media and to their treatment in contemporary society more broadly

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Define anti-Asian racism and its connections to other forms of oppression, including sexism, heteronormativity, classism, colonization, and ableism

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze the different constraints and possibilities for how Asian Americans produce and consume media texts

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Respectfully engage in nuanced discussions about race and reflect on the cultural perspectives and worldviews of others

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Demonstrate advanced analysis of Asian American media texts that rigorously engages with scholarship in Asian American media studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS/ASIAN 443 – INDIAN CINEMA IN THE U.S. AND BEYOND

3 credits.

India is home to one of the largest film industries in the world, Bollywood. Beyond Bollywood, India has a thriving film culture that caters to its many regional languages. Explore India's diverse, yet interconnected film and media cultures as well as the global resonances of Indian- and South-Asian-inflected media elsewhere. Examine questions of diasporic identity through media produced by the South Asian American community. Consider questions of genre, style and auteurship, ethnicity, decolonization, gender non-conformity, caste, settler colonialism, censorship and linguistic nationalism that shape cinematic discourses in the country and its intersection with South Asian diaspora in the United States.

Requisites: Sophomore standing**Course Designation:** Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2023**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Critically examine the representational nuances, ideological underpinnings and political rhetoric underlying South Asian Diaspora media texts.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Examine the aesthetic, contextual and historical framings of media artifacts to understand how it shapes conversations on ethnicity, race and diversity.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze the varying patterns of desire, labor and agential assertions that mark film and media forms and practices to understand how it hinders production and positionality.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Demonstrate how film and media can provide us with conceptual grounds to understand the larger social realities that govern representational politics and media production practices.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Critically examine how postcoloniality has been used as a frame of reference in film and media studies.

Audience: Graduate

6. Examine how power, identity and representations shape diasporic media and its pursuit of an audience.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Encourage participation in the multi-cultural context by offering ways to engage with media material to understand how past the has shaped present day circumstances, perceptions of, and disparities in race in the U.S.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

8. Recognize and question cultural assumptions, rules, biases, and knowledge claims as they relate to race and ethnicity.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

9. Apply course concepts to their lives outside classroom by demonstrating self-awareness and empathy towards the cultural perspectives and worldviews of others.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

COM ARTS/AFRICAN/L I S 444 – TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA AND BEYOND

3 credits.

Surveys the past 20 years of digital technology and communications culture on the African continent, cross-referenced with discourse on technology experiences in other parts of the developing world, through the framework of development studies. Readings include case studies of micro-tech practices as well as political and social use of new media, and government and NGO-led tech interventions. Information Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D) is a key area of focus. Cross-discipline areas include communications and media studies, African, Latin American and International area studies, as well as the social anthropology of technology and science, and design. Think critically about technology use in the context of different tech cultures from around the world. Apply this perspective towards new media solutions to social problems.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2023**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Identify canonical authors and texts, historical forms, genres, and structures in African culture studies and information and communication studies. Students will demonstrate their understanding of major theories, approaches, concepts and current and classical research findings.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Understand their own learning processes and possess the capacity to intentionally seek, evaluate and learn from information, and recognize and reduce bias in their thinking.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Communicate effectively through essays, oral presentations and discussion and project based work, so they may share their knowledge, wisdom and values with others across social and professional settings.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Write and speak across disciplinary boundaries with regard to existing research about Africa, the African diaspora and international development.

Audience: Graduate

5. Explain the social, economic, and/or environmental dimensions of the sustainability challenge(s) of the historic and contemporary challenges of development-oriented tech projects, and identify areas within ICT which could assist in their sustainability. [Sustainability]

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Analyze sustainability issues and/or practices using a systems-based approach of information access and media communications within the sustainability framework with regards to environmental change, public infrastructure for clean water and sanitation, urban growth, education, governance and democracy, and public health. [Sustainability]

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

COM ARTS 448 – MEDIA AND NATIONAL IDENTITY

3 credits.

Examination of the various roles that film, television, and other media play in creating, challenging, and negotiating national and global identities.

Requisites: COM ARTS 250 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze the nation as a unit that is in large part constituted by media, and be able to explain how this act of constitution occurs

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Critically examine how lines of belonging and exclusion are drawn by the media

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Critically reflect upon ways in which media become a primary battleground for competing notions of national identity

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Assess multiple ways in which access to various identities is in some cases restricted by media to certain consumers or citizens

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Identify and pursue opportunities to contribute to the scholarly analysis of national identity

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 449 – SOUND CULTURES: PODCASTING AND MUSIC

3 credits.

Sound plays a crucial but understudied role in experiences of media and cultural life. From the mundane sounds of our daily routines to the irresistible refrains of our favorite songs, sound (in its various guises as noise, music, echo, vibration, etc.) is fundamental to communications media and, more broadly, to our perceptions of the world around us. An introduction to the emerging field of sound studies and an investigation into the role sound and music (or lack thereof) play in various communications media. Through audio assignments such as the creation of podcasts, learn the basics of digital audio recording and editing software and how to present and distribute audio content via the Internet, specifically as podcasts. Gain practical skills for creating digital audio projects and a deeper appreciation for how paying attention to sound leads to unique understandings of history, culture, and media technologies.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Apply theories from the field of sound studies to discussions of the everyday sounds that structure our experiences.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Use digital audio recording/editing technologies and techniques to build a portfolio of soundwork for future projects

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Critically analyze how sounds and sound media shape our identities and are shaped by factors such as race, gender, class and other markers of identity

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Demonstrate facility with theory and methodologies from the field of sound studies

Audience: Graduate

5. Apply concepts, ideas and arguments from research in sound studies in the production of a scholarly podcast or soundwork

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 450 – CULTURAL HISTORY OF BROADCASTING

3 credits.

Traces the development of broadcasting as a cultural institution, examining the emergence of radio and television within the context of national identity and globalization.

Requisites: COM ARTS 250 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify major events, ideas, and institutions from the history of American broadcasting

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze a range of television and radio programs and evaluate such programs as historical documents with relevance to American cultural, technological, and industrial histories

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Describe the ways television and radio programs engage issues of class, race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, religion, region, and nationhood

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Evaluate primary and secondary sources as historical evidence and determine the range of historical claims such evidence supports

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Practice the skills needed to conduct historical research and writing

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Identify and pursue opportunities to contribute to the field of broadcasting history

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 451 – TELEVISION CRITICISM

3 credits.

Analysis of selected television programming, interpretation of contemporary television programs, and survey of existing critical approaches.

Requisites: COM ARTS 351 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Develop a wide variety of tools for the close, incisive analysis of television programs

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Critically evaluate contemporary television programs for their messages and modes of delivering said messages

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explain in nuanced, sophisticated ways how television form and content are interrelated

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Explain how a range of cultural, contextual factors impact textual meanings

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Identify and pursue opportunities to contribute to the field of television studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 454 – CRITICAL FILM ANALYSIS

3 credits.

Intensive analysis of selected films, using contemporary critical theories and methods.

Requisites: (Junior standing and COM ARTS 350) or declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the formal patterning of mise-en-scene, cinematography, and editing that produces various forms of meaning in a film text

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Summarize different approaches to film analysis derived from semiotics, feminism, queer theory, critical race theory, Marxism, and neoformalism

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Apply an array of principles and perspectives in close description and analysis of film scenes and sequences

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Assess and utilize critical concepts pertinent to methodologies and practices of film analysis

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 455 – FRENCH FILM

3 credits.

Survey of French cinema from 1895 to the present. Emphasis on aesthetic trends, film movements, film industry, and cultural context.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the major directors, movements and cycles that have shaped the history of French cinema

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Explain the variety of modes of production in use, including large-scale industrial, independent, and artisanal models

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Write persuasively, elegantly, and with precision about the narrative structure, style, and cultural context of the films covered in the course

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Identify and pursue opportunities to contribute to the field of French film studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 458 – GLOBAL MEDIA CULTURES

3 credits.

Analysis of media systems, practices and uses from a global perspective.

Requisites: COM ARTS 351 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2020

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze mechanisms and processes by which media move globally

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Critically evaluate what cultural ripple effects often accompany global media movement, and how power, identity, and representation are intricately involved in media movement

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Describe how specific media move across the globe

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Explain how media interact with nation and national identity in diverse ways

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Critically evaluate modern media developments within a history of how media have moved globally

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Contextualize the United States' and US media's specific roles in both the global media economy and culture

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Identify and pursue opportunities to contribute to the field of global media studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 459 – NEW MEDIA AND SOCIETY

3 credits.

Explores political, economic and cultural relationships between new media of communication and society, including issues of history, race, gender, class, globalization, national identity and everyday life.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Link key terms and course concepts to contemporary debates on technology and new media

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Use a "new" media technology, while reflecting on the adoption process

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Document the history and adoption of a new media technology, paying attention to its cultural implications

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Demonstrate facility with theory and methodologies from the field of new media studies

Audience: Graduate

5. Apply concepts, ideas and arguments from research in new media studies toward an original analysis of a new media object/technology

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS/ITALIAN 460 – ITALIAN FILM

3 credits.

General survey of Italian cinema and of the relationship between film and the other arts. Consideration of the Italian and European socio-political context and developments in film theory.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the major directors, genres, movements and technological developments that have shaped the history of Italian cinema

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Contextualize Italian film within cultural, socio-political and industrial developments at the national, European and global levels

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Identify major theories of film aesthetics impacting the development of Italian cinema

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Develop research skills and write persuasively, elegantly, and with precision about the narrative structure, style, and cultural context of Italian films

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Conduct research and engage critically with the historiographical, theoretical, and methodological practices of scholarship in Italian film studies.

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 461 – GLOBAL ART CINEMA

3 credits.

In the wake of World War Two, European directors began making films that employed location shooting, ambiguity, psychological realism, and unfamiliar stylistic flourishes. Such films drew on literary modernism, experimenting with time shifting, extreme duration, subjectivity, and reflexivity. "Art cinema," as it came to be called, is now the dominant storytelling mode of the contemporary film festival circuit and constitutes a robust alternative to mainstream genre cinema. Explores art cinema from a variety of national and transnational contexts, analyzing its narratives, styles, and cultural contexts. Investigates the work of directors from the first generation of art cinema, including Michelangelo Antonioni, Robert Bresson, Ingmar Bergman, and Agnès Varda, and more recent work by Aki Kaurismäki, Abbas Kiarostami, Wong Kar-wai, and Claire Denis.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the major directors, films, and cultural contexts that have shaped the history of art cinema

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze distinctive approaches to narrative and style in art Cinema

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Demonstrate understanding of the funding, exhibition, and reception of art cinema

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Evaluate the scholarly literature and assess opportunities to contribute to the field of art-cinema studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 462 – AMERICAN INDEPENDENT CINEMA

3 credits.

History of American independent narrative cinema with particular attention to the impact various art movements and subcultures have had on its development over the past 60 years.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2018

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify major directors and films highlighting the history of American Independent cinema

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain cultural, artistic, and commercial contexts shaping this cinematic movement

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Delineate key difference between indie and mainstream film-making by analyzing distinctive narrative structures, styles, and modes of production

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 463 – AVANT-GARDE FILM

3 credits.

Examines the history and aesthetics of avant-garde/experimental film from its beginnings in the late 1910s to the present. Studies key aesthetic programs and their relations to adjacent movements in art and critical theory.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350 or declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain general ideas and definitions of "avant-garde"

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Distinguish aesthetic features associated with avant-garde film

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Delineate a body of critically acclaimed and emblematic works in this mode

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Contextualize avant-garde films in relation to broader artistic movements and tendencies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Think about the nature and possibilities of the cinematic medium in new ways

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Communicate the nature and value of creative originality, perceptual expansion, and aesthetic pleasure

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Evaluate methodologies and trends in the academic literature on avant-garde cinema and assess areas of inquiry inviting further conceptual engagement, research, and scholarly publication

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 465 – EDITING AND POST-PRODUCTION FOR VIDEO AND FILM

4 credits.

Focus on the theory and practice of video editing and post-production. Gain a thorough understanding of narrative editing techniques, color correction, audio post-production and the requisite software. Discusses the art of post-production and how post-production affects narrative function in moving picture media (including films, music videos, and television).

Requisites: COM ARTS 355**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Create effective dramatic scenes from raw footage

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Implement the principles and approaches underlying editing, both in terms of cutting mechanics and in terms of narrative construction

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain how editing fits within the larger post-production workflow

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Practice the basic elements of color correction and post-production sound

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Import and synchronize footage and prepare it for editing.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Recognize how the tools of post-production have changed over time, and will continue to develop

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 466 – WRITING FOR TELEVISION AND FILM

3 credits.

Basic introduction to the elements of a successful dramatic screenplay. Particular emphasis placed on story concept, dramatic structure, character development, dialogue, and visual storytelling.

Requisites: COM ARTS 355**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Analyze, critically evaluate, and critique narrative screenplays and screenwriting

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Compose original, short, narrative screenplays, treatments and spec scripts

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Employ industry standards for screenplay formatting, pitch decks, and treatments

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Create narrative (fictional) characters, scenes, and story ideas

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 467 – CINEMATOGRAPHY AND SOUND RECORDING

4 credits.

Learn the fundamentals of short-film production, including cinematography, lighting, and sound recording. With an emphasis on dramatic storytelling, produce scenes from existing scripts, rotating through crew positions. Directing, editing, and color grading will be covered, with casting, location scouting, and production design incorporated to successfully produce each scene. Gain an understanding of the inner-workings of a film crew, the operation of digital cinema technologies, and visual and aural storytelling aesthetics and techniques.

Requisites: COM ARTS 355

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify and practice storytelling techniques in dramatic films and television.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Produce a scene from a screenplay, from pre-production to post-production.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Develop the fundamental production skills for each crew position on the shoots.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Combine aesthetic options and technical limitations to make creative decisions in each crew position

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Follow industry standards and deploy them throughout the production process

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 468 – PRODUCING FOR INTERNET TV AND VIDEO

3 credits.

Producing Internet television and video (which encompasses a wide range of media content, from expensive Netflix and Amazon shows to low-budget YouTube channels). With its focus on "producing" and the role of the producer, combines the hands-on production work of writing, shooting, and editing videos with an emphasis on entrepreneurship and the innovation of sustainable business models.

Requisites: COM ARTS 155 or 355

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Lead video projects in the role of the producer, the position in which art and commerce necessarily intersect

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Develop skills in cinematography and editing

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze the Internet as a platform for distribution, advertising, and audience engagement, along with Internet aesthetics, economics, and policies

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Analyze a complex industry environment

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Prepare strategies to address the creative and economic imperatives of Internet video

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 470 – CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL DISCOURSE

3 credits.

Examines themes, genres, and significant instances of contemporary political discourse, as well as issues and concerns that arise in public discussions of political discourse. Case studies and theoretical analyses are considered.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Critically examine the speech, writings, imagery, and symbolic actions that have influenced the origins and outcomes of democratic revolutions across the globe

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify both recurring and distinctive elements of the speech of leaders and groups studied (including types of argument, rhetorical devices, branding, imagery, and other figurative speech)

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Develop and demonstrate a critical, comparative perspective that will enable students to step back from, and make sense of, the different leaders, groups and forms of speech studied

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explain how styles and elements of speech used by leaders and groups operate differently depending on historical and political context and on their specific configurations with other elements

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 474 – RHETORIC OF THE COLD WAR

3 credits.

Examine the Cold War from a rhetorical perspective. Consider key texts, orators, movements, and foreign policy themes that have come to define the Cold War (1945-1991). Trace how these rhetorical strategies laid the groundwork for the contemporary moment, the "New Cold War."

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify key rhetorical moments in Cold War discourse.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Assess and analyze key terms, concepts, theories, and themes rhetoricians and historians use to examine the Cold War.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Apply these critical and theoretical lenses to historical and contemporary discourse and public culture

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Articulate the relationship between rhetoric and history.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Research and write a rhetorical analysis of text/object related to the themes of the course.

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 476 – NATURE OF CRITICISM-THE PUBLIC ARTS OF COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

A survey of rhetorical criticism methods. Apply methods to landmark historical and contemporary texts - from presidential war discourse to women's suffrage rhetoric to timely political debates.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Communicate appreciation of significant rhetorical texts

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify, evaluate, and apply significant methods of rhetorical criticism to rhetorical artifacts

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Identify rhetorical critics who have made significant contributions to the field of rhetorical criticism

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Articulate the relationship between critic, method, and text

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Define and explain the importance of audience, argument, and intent when performing rhetorical criticism

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Read, understand, and analyze peer-reviewed scholarly essays in the field of rhetorical criticism

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Deliver a cogent and concise research presentation

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 478 – RHETORIC AND POWER ON THE INTERNET

3 credits.

Explores and analyzes Internet communication as a magnifier, transmitter, and limiter of power for both individual people and institutions with special attention to the roles of politics, social issues, and justice. Use rhetorical analysis to engage in the critical assessment of Internet media content that exerts power in their lives.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2019

Learning Outcomes: 1. Use rhetorical and cultural theory to discuss examples of online expression in a group

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Locate and document in a digital form online expressive materials operating in your own experience

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Use rhetorical and cultural theory to evaluate online expressions orally

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Use rhetorical and cultural theory to evaluate online expressions in formal writing

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 509 – DIGITAL MEDIA AND POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

3 credits.

Examines core questions related to the impacts of digital media (including but not limited to the Internet) on processes of political communication and the health of democratic governance in advanced industrialized democracies.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2019

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate understanding of the most influential theories and perspectives regarding the role of communication and information technologies in political communication processes

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Evaluate contemporary claims about digital media and politics based on the extent to which they are supported by sound social scientific research

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Demonstrate effective communication skills through the articulation of critical thinking about digital media and political communication through writing and informal oral presentation

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Develop a proposal for, or improve upon an already in-progress, original research paper that makes a substantive contribution to the scholarly literature on digital media use in political communication

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 513 – TOPICS IN COMMUNICATION ARTS: STUDY ABROAD

1-6 credits.

A course carried with a UW-Madison study abroad program which has no equivalent on this campus. Enrollment in a UW-Madison resident study abroad program

Requisites: None**Course Designation:** Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Fall 2001**COM ARTS 518 – COMMUNICATION AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES**

3 credits.

Explore the role of communication as a contributor to existing health inequalities and a means of helping to reduce them. Consider social scientific theories and research on a wide array of topics including communication inequalities and public discourse around social determinants of health.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the ways in which communication contributes to and can ameliorate health inequalities

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Describe communication and social science theories and research methods that are commonly employed to study communication and health inequalities

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Critique methodology and samples designed to examine the relationships between communication and health inequalities

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Use communication theories and concepts to evaluate current communication about health inequalities

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Write cogent analyses of journal articles, policy documents, and media

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Develop a project that relates to communication and health inequalities and that utilizes appropriate, relevant theory and concepts from the literature

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Synthesize, apply, and/or extend communication theories and research methods to investigate issues around communication and health inequalities

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS/FOLKLORE 522 – DIGITAL STORYTELLING FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

3 credits.

Explore everyday communication in social media. Learn digital recording technologies for documenting everyday communication and the use of digital content in social media.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Evaluate the reasons we value everyday artistic and expressive communication

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze the affordances of different social media platforms

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Evaluate the formal elements best suited to the affordances of different media platforms

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Apply that understanding in the design and production of digital text, photo, sound, and video communications that document everyday artistic and expressive communication

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Analyze ethical implications of documenting human behavior

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Apply scholarly theories on digital media to digital platforms and digital platform content

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 540 – TELEVISION GENRES

3 credits.

An examination of a specific television genre, analyzing it as a narrative, economic, cultural, and political entity and exploring its role in perpetuating and/or challenging ideas of what society is or could be.

Requisites: (COM ARTS 250 and 351) or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Assess how the topic genre works as a unique mode of communication

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Discuss thoughtfully the cultural work being done by current examples of the topic genre

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explain the roles that older examples of the topic genre played in cultural history

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Analyze how the topic genre works as a business and/or industry

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Critically examine various modes, styles, theories, and uses of the topic genre

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Analyze various ways in which the topic genre both explicitly and implicitly engages important cultural issues, debates, and topics of concern to a society

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Identify and pursue opportunities to contribute to the scholarly analysis of the topic genre

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 545 – MEDIA AUDIENCE CULTURES

3 credits.

Explore the complexities of what it means to be a media audience. Consider how audiences engage media thoughtfully and actively. Approach audiences both qualitatively and theoretically, focusing on how audiencehood becomes more than just a position of watching, listening, and downloading the intended message. Study audiencehood as a site of voice, agency, identity construction, play, activism, and meaning-making across various media audience types – fans, haters, casual viewers; television, film, social media, games, and other media consumers; watchers, listeners, readers, gamers, and users; networked communities and isolated individuals. Analyze the different worlds, affective positions, practices, and socialities that make up "the audience."

Requisites: COM ARTS 250 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth – Humanities

Level – Intermediate

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze the cultures that surround media consumption

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze and interpret a wide variety of modes and styles of media reception

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Critically examine methods and strategies for, and the ethics of, studying audiences

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Conduct qualitative research into media audiences

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Develop an awareness of the rich history of the cultural studies tradition of audience and reception research

Audience: Graduate

6. Write critically about audiences, balancing theory and empirical research

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 547 – DIGITAL GAME CULTURES

3 credits.

An examination of the forms, practices, economies, institutions, politics, and modes of engagement that make digital games an important site of culture and power.

Requisites: COM ARTS 250, (COM ARTS 351 or 346), and junior standing, or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the complex cultural forms that constitute digital games

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Critique the powerful structures and institutions that drive the cultural economies of gaming

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze the diverse practices and ways of life in which game players and communities engage

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Evaluate the contradictory politics of digital games in terms of their complicity with cultural hierarchies and their potential for radical cultural critique

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Share the experience of play to build a productive and inclusive community

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Make choices to develop individualized pathways through course material and meaningful ways of engaging it

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Embrace the challenges of play to take satisfaction and pride in accomplishments, regardless of failures along the way

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

8. Develop a vision for digital games as a part of research and/or teaching practice

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 552 – CONTEMPORARY HOLLYWOOD CINEMA

3 credits.

An examination of contemporary Hollywood films focusing on the interrelations of cinematic narrative, style, technology, and institutions. Survey the work of major directors and consider the box office impact of key genres and film cycles.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350 or concurrent enrollment

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe the major directors, genres, and cycles that have shaped the contemporary landscape of Hollywood film production

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain the overall market structure of the contemporary film industry and the studios' main strategies for generating profits and managing financial risks

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze the narrative patterns of a contemporary Hollywood film, including its large-scale sections, its turning points, its motifs, and its use of deadlines, dangling causes, and dialogue hook

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Produce a close textual analysis of the stylistic elements found in a scene or sequence from a contemporary Hollywood film

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 556 – THE AMERICAN FILM INDUSTRY IN THE ERA OF THE STUDIO SYSTEM

3 credits.

Influences of industrial structure, trade policies, foreign markets and censorship on Hollywood's production practices up to 1948.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350, 351, or declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify major events, ideas, and institutions from the history of American film

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Evaluate a range of films as historical works with relevance to American cultural, aesthetic, technological, and industrial histories

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze systems of power and unequal access to filmmaking resources in American film history, especially in regards to race and gender

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Evaluate primary and secondary sources as historical evidence and determine the range of historical claims such evidence supports

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Practice the skills needed to conduct historical research and writing

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Identify and pursue opportunities to contribute to the field of American film history

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 565 – COMMUNICATION AND INTERETHNIC BEHAVIOR

3 credits.

The relation of communication processes to interethnic and interracial attitudes and behavior. Social and psychological foundations of interethnic communication and conflict, group identification and communication processes, interpersonal communication and culture, communication about race and ethnicity, mass media content and effects.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Summarize different historical and current beliefs about race

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Interpret and critique social science research on the impact of race/ethnicity on communication in a variety of contexts including family life, school, college, work, and healthcare

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Develop a research question related to race/ethnicity and communication in the U.S.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Find and synthesize five social scientific studies that address the research question

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Examine questions and make decisions with consideration for the cultural perspectives and worldviews of others

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Recognize and question cultural assumptions, rules, biases, and knowledge claims as they relate to race and ethnicity

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Articulate some of the effects the past has had on present day circumstances, perceptions of, and disparities in, race in the U.S.

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 570 – CLASSICAL RHETORICAL THEORY

3 credits.

Study of major theories of rhetoric from their origins in ancient Greece to Bacon, including theories of Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Quintilian, Longinus, St. Augustine, and others.

Requisites: (Two from: COM ARTS 262, 360, 370, 372, 470, 472, 562, or RELIG ST/COM ARTS 374) or graduate/professional standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Read major texts of ancient rhetoric and explain their historical contexts

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Explain fundamental concepts from ancient rhetorical theory

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explain the history & development of rhetorical practice and education

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Explain the connection between historical rhetorical texts to contemporary rhetorical theory

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Practice critical reading, writing, research, and presentation skills

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. To interrogate the emphasis on these ancient traditions in the 21st century at the graduate level

Audience: Graduate

7. Communicate about classical rhetorical theory in graduate level communication genres

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 573 – RHETORIC OF GLOBALIZATION AND TRANSNATIONALISM

3 credits.

Introduction to basic concepts in global and transnational rhetorical studies and provided with the analytic tools to examine discourses about globalization and transnationalism produced by key global actors including transnational corporations, states, global institutions such as the World Bank, media producers, human rights advocates, and activists.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify and describe key rhetorical theories, concepts, and methods that have a bearing on issues of globalization and transnationalism

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Use key theories, concepts, and methods from rhetorical studies to analyze how communication structures have a bearing on issues of globalization and transnationalism

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Communicate findings about globalization and transnationalism gained in the application of key theories, concepts, and methods from rhetorical studies

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 575 – COMMUNICATION IN COMPLEX ORGANIZATIONS

3 credits.

Examine problem solving within complex organizations. Study communication pitfalls, decision-making biases, and problem-solving blind spots that negatively affect one's ability to communicate. Learn to innovate in teams and make high-quality decisions.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the different theories of decision-making and what type of decision-making process is more appropriate depending on the situation

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Nudge others and self to make better decisions

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Design your decisions and solve your problems using a better process based on empirical social science

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Design your teams and groups to maximize performance based on principles from social science

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Apply strategies to increase open communication and strategically use conflict in organizations to increase productivity and decision quality

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Create environments that nudge ethical decisions in organizations and create a healthy, ethical organizational culture

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 577 – DYNAMICS OF ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS

3 credits.

Examines how people form their identities and manage their personal relationships using new communication technologies (social network sites, online dating, video games). Emphasis will be placed on how humans adapt to technology and use it for social purposes.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2024**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Discuss state-of-the-art research in the area of online relationship

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Explain how humans adapt to technology and use it for social purposes

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Identify features of technology that affect people's ability to express themselves and manage relationships online

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Describe the scientific method and of theory-building in the social sciences

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Evaluate theories critically and identify worthwhile avenues for future research

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Develop research proposals for the social sciences

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Contribute to the research in online relationships

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 605 – DIGITAL STUDIES CAPSTONE

1 credit.

Create an online portfolio integrating material learned throughout the certificate program. Explore opportunities for professional and personal growth. Must be declared in Digital Studies Certificate with senior standing.

Requisites: Consent of instructor**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Share your ideas, stories, and projects on your own personal website

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Articulate your personal brand and how this brand aligns with your career path and goals

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Use digital tools to network with alumni and others in your field(s) of interest and to research professional opportunities

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 608 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN MEDIA AND CULTURAL STUDIES

3 credits.

Specialized topics and issues in media and cultural studies.

Requisites: COM ARTS 250, 346, 351, CHICLA/COM ARTS 347 or graduate/professional standing**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions**Last Taught:** Fall 2023**Learning Outcomes:** 1. Explain core concepts within the topic area of Media and Cultural Studies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze media and culture from theoretical, historical, and critical perspectives appropriate to the topic under examination

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Communicate effectively about the Media and Cultural Studies topic area

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Participate in discussions about diversity, equity, and inclusion for the historically marginalized within the topic area of media and cultural studies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Use your investigation of the topic area to make a scholarly contribution to Media and Cultural Studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 609 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN PRODUCTION

3 credits.

Specialized advanced subject matter in film, video or digital media production.

Requisites: COM ARTS 355 or declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate mastery of the aesthetic and technical tools image and/or audio storytelling

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze story structure and illustrate how creative decisions support story interpretation

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Analyze the meaning, form, and process of cinematic work with the goal of providing honest, critical, and instructive feedback

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Reproduce and apply industry standards

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Articulate the relationship between the field of media production and the field of media studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 610 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN RHETORIC AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

3 credits.

Specialized subject matter of current interest in rhetoric and public address.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze communication rhetorically within its historical, technical, cultural, social or political contexts

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze how communication structures shape the flow of information, policy law, culture, or power

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply key theories, concepts, and methods in the rhetorical analysis of communication

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Use key theories, concepts, and methods from rhetorical studies to analyze communication at a graduate level

Audience: Graduate

5. Communicate findings about communication gained in the application of key theories, concepts, and methods from rhetorical studies in graduate level communication genres

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 612 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCE

3 credits.

Specialized subject matter of current interest in communication theory and research.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2022

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the ways in which communication contributes to and can ameliorate various deficient societal and individual conditions

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Identify and analyze communication and social science theories and methods commonly employed to examine communication and wellbeings

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Critique methodology and samples designed to investigate the relationships between communication and wellbeings

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Utilize communication theories and concepts to evaluate current communication about wellbeings

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Write cogent analyses of journal articles, policy documents, and media

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Communicate research findings of empirical research on communication and wellbeings to fellow researchers and/or general public

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 613 – SPECIAL TOPICS IN FILM

3 credits.

Specialized topics and issues in film history, theory, and criticism.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain core concepts within the topic area of film studies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze film texts, institutions, and relevant social and expressive contexts from theoretical, historical, and critical perspectives illuminating the topic under examination

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Communicate effectively about the topic area in film studies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Participate in discussions about diversity, equity, and inclusion for the historically marginalized within the topic area of film studies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Explain critical and analytic methodologies pertinent to the specific topic

Audience: Graduate

6. Evaluate the relevant academic literature and identify areas affording opportunities to contribute in the field of film studies

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 614 – FIELD EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNICATION

1 credit.

Application of communication concepts to problems in such professional field settings as business organizations, media firms, political offices and organizations, and governmental agencies. Must be declared in Communication Arts.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Workplace - Workplace Experience Course

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Build strong working relationships

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Relate your employers' needs and strategies to your own career objective

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Confront responsibility, value, and inequality in the labor market

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Apply your previous Communication Arts coursework to your internship experiences

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Describe your internship experiences in ways that emphasize your accomplishments, qualifications gained, and potential for future employment

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Evaluate your work successes and failures with an eye toward pursuing future goals

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 615 – SECOND FIELD EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNICATION

1 credit.

Application of communication concepts to problems in such professional field settings as business organizations, media firms, political offices and organizations, and governmental agencies. Must be declared in Communication Arts.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Workplace - Workplace Experience Course

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Reflect on your previous experience and use it to maximize the value of your current internship

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Expand both the knowledge and skillsets that you bring into your work experiences

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Identify and take advantage of opportunities for mentorship

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Strengthen your network and participation in professional communities

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Develop positive working relationships and sustain them over time

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Create a strategy for the next stage in your career based on the experience you gain

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS/HDFS/JOURN 616 – MASS MEDIA AND YOUTH

3 credits.

Children's and adolescents' use of mass media and mass media effects on them. Particular attention is given to changes in comprehension and other cognitive activities that give insights into media use and effects.

Requisites: JOURN 202, COM ARTS 325, HDFS 262 (or HDFS 362 prior to Fall 2023), ED PSYCH 320, PSYCH 460, LSC 251, or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain how children and youth process media

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Compare/contrast the impact of different types of media content on development

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain how individual differences moderate the impact of media on development

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Describe moderating effects of the context in which media use occurs

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Read, interpret, evaluate, and discuss social scientific reports of findings in this area

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Synthesize and interpret research in this area for a lay audience

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Explain with nuance how children and youth process media

Audience: Graduate

8. Compare/contrast the impact of different types and formats of media content on development, with reference to key developmental milestones

Audience: Graduate

9. Explain how individual differences and social contexts moderate the impact of media uses and interpretations on development

Audience: Graduate

10. Synthesize and interpret research in this area and identify a research gap for future work

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS/JOURN/LSC 617 – HEALTH COMMUNICATION IN THE INFORMATION AGE

3 credits.

Examines the role of communication in health, how the revolution in information technology has affected health communication, and the assumptions about health information and communication that drive current efforts to use technologies.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate their understanding of major theories, approaches, concepts, and current research findings in the area of health communication

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Gain a sense of the methodological issues involved in the construction and evaluation of health communication

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Demonstrate their understanding of the connections between the environment (e.g., physical, social, media), cognition, and behavior

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Communicate effectively through written reports, oral presentations and discussion

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Evaluate ideas from different sources critically

Audience: Graduate

6. Derive new testable hypotheses by integrating or contrasting different theories

Audience: Graduate

7. Develop variations on theoretical models or ideas such as contingent conditions or mediating factors

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS/ED PSYCH 626 – YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL MEDIA: INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING SEMINAR

1 credit.

Advanced level seminar that involves critical analysis of conceptual and methodological issues underlying empirical research on how social media affect and are affected by adolescent development, provides a venue for feedback on design of research studies involving youth and social media, and fosters interdisciplinary approaches to studying connections between youth development and social media use.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2021

Learning Outcomes: 1. Become familiar with conceptual and methodological approaches to studying youth development and social media use

Audience: Graduate

2. Sharpen the ability to read, understand, and critique research studies in the social sciences, through sustained readings and class discussion

Audience: Graduate

3. Learn how to formulate an original and theoretically meaningful research proposal in the area of social media, youth, and well-being

Audience: Graduate

4. Become clear and confident public speakers in an academic group setting

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 651 – ADVANCED VIDEO PRODUCTION AND DIRECTION

3 credits.

Remote video production in both documentary and narrative genres.

Requisites: COM ARTS 355

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Produce a short film from idea to fine cut
Audience: Undergraduate

2. Develop camera technique, sound recording, editing, writing, and directing skills

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Implement the storytelling strategy that best fits your short film's thesis

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Practice pre-production proposal writing

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Develop peer evaluation skills

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 659 – ADVANCED MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

4 credits.

Provides an immersive experience in the art of cinematic storytelling. This capstone workshop is structured around the creation of a half-hour finished film, planned and completed as a group, with roles matching those of a professional crew. Working with an existing script and using state-of-the-art digital tools, students gain knowledge in a wide variety of motion-picture production skills. Most importantly, explore the meanings and nuances of a script, making the artistic choices necessary to bring the story to the screen. Present a completed film in a public, campus screening.

Requisites: COM ARTS 467

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Produce a scene from a motion picture screenplay, from pre-production to post-production

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Develop the necessary production skills for serving on a crew

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Combine aesthetic options and technical limitations to make creative decisions in each crew position

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Follow industry standards throughout the production process

Audience: Undergraduate

COM ARTS 669 – FILM THEORY

3 credits.

Survey of significant trends within both classical and contemporary film theory. Designed for those interested in reading, analyzing, and evaluating the central concepts and intellectual history of writings about film, particularly with respect to film as a medium presenting an array of aesthetic, psychological, and social potentialities. Whereas classical film theory attempts to treat cinema as a unique art form, contemporary film theory addresses issues related to cinema as a mode of communication, a source of visual pleasure, and as an ideological tool. Much contemporary theory attempts to incorporate the insights of other critical and analytical paradigms, such as semiotics, psychoanalysis, feminism, queer theory, critical race theory, postmodernism, and cognitive science. Questions regarding the ontology of cinema, its relation to existing theories of art, its effects on spectators, and the various ways in which its formal properties create meaning are considered.

Requisites: COM ARTS 350 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Attain a deep and wide-reaching understanding of the ways in which cinema has been conceptualized by film theorists and practitioners globally, as a distinct aesthetic form with its own medium-specific characteristics

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Parse out the interconnections and influences between the work of film theorists and other disciplines and fields including but not limited to philosophy, psychology, semiotics, political theory, and cultural studies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Understand the ways in which ideology, power and hegemony are intertwined with the status of the film object, especially in relation to articulations of gender, race, class, ethnicity and sexuality

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Evaluate and analyze the ways in which film theory and praxis approaches aspects of spectatorship and craft

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Articulate individual approaches to film theory based on the material

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Map the development of the discipline of film studies through an historical understanding of ideas and concepts in the field of film theory

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 681 – SENIOR HONORS THESIS

3 credits.

Research and preparation for writing senior Honors in the Major thesis under the direction of a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 682 – SENIOR HONORS THESIS

3 credits.

Writing and completion of senior Honors in the Major thesis begun in COM ARTS 681 under the direction of a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

COM ARTS 691 – SENIOR THESIS

2-3 credits.

Research and preparation for the writing of the senior thesis under the direction of a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2021

COM ARTS 692 – SENIOR THESIS

2-3 credits.

Writing and completion of senior thesis begun in COM ARTS 691 under the direction of a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2021

COM ARTS 698 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Advanced level project under the direction of faculty member e.g., independent reading with research paper, production project, or member of research team. Graded on a credit/no credit basis.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2024

COM ARTS 699 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-3 credits.

Advanced level project under the direction of faculty member e.g., independent reading with research paper, production project, or member of research team. Graded on a letter basis.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS/L I S 705 – INTRODUCTORY ANALYTICS FOR DECISION MAKING

3 credits.

Introduces key stages in the processes of gathering and analyzing data for decision making, including tasks, methods, and tools used at each stage. Topics include developing the research question from organizational goals, choosing appropriate data collection methods, sampling, basics of measurement and question design, managing and visualizing data, descriptive statistics and basic inferential statistics such as correlations, regressions, and ANOVA.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing or Declared in Analytics for Decision Making capstone certificate

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

COM ARTS 760 – ADVANCES IN COMMUNICATION THEORIES

3 credits.

In-depth review and evaluation of behavioral and social scientific theories of human communication.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

COM ARTS 762 – COMMUNICATION RESEARCH METHODS

3 credits.

Epistemological and methodological principles of behavioral and social scientific research of particular relevance to communication research, including various research designs and modes of observation, casual inferences, and basic hands-on experiences in empirical research.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

COM ARTS 799 – INDEPENDENT STUDY

1-3 credits.

Independent research and writing under the supervision of an instructor.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 902 – FILM COLLOQUIUM

1 credit.

Studies in advanced research in film history, theory and criticism.

Requisites: Declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 903 – MEDIA AND CULTURAL STUDIES COLLOQUIUM

1 credit.

Current research in cultural studies, audience effects, broadcast regulation, history of broadcasting and comparative national systems.

Requisites: Declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 904 – COMMUNICATION SCIENCE COLLOQUIUM

1 credit.

Social scientific approaches to the study of interpersonal communication and media effects.

Requisites: Declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 905 – RHETORIC COLLOQUIUM

1-3 credits.

Advanced research in rhetorical theory and criticism, and in the history of public address.

Requisites: Declared in Communication Arts MA or PhD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS/CURRIC 914 – HOW GAMES CHANGE US

3 credits.

Video games can be powerful experiences that take us to new worlds, teach us about complex systems, and provoke a range of emotions. Games transform us while we play, and some of these changes can be hard to predict and understand. Games can disrupt our sense of self, reshape our pleasures and feelings, lead us to question deeply held values, and allow us to experience new forms of embodiment through an avatar. A growing body of research in game studies engages with this potential for expansive change by focusing on player experience from a variety of methodological perspectives, including phenomenological, feminist and queer theory, critical disability studies, learning sciences, ecocriticism, and media archeology.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Devise, plan, and begin a research project in game studies.

Audience: Graduate

2. Articulate the disciplinary tenets and controversies of game studies and position your work in relation to other game scholars.

Audience: Graduate

3. Use strategic and purposeful reading methods to approach dense theoretical texts.

Audience: Graduate

4. Make clear and theoretically informed arguments about how a player is changed in the process of playing a game.

Audience: Graduate

5. Describe some of the common ways game designers have used the transformative potential of games and other design choices that have not been explored.

Audience: Graduate

COM ARTS 950 – SEMINAR-RADIO TELEVISION FILM

2-3 credits.

An advanced review and exploration of theoretical and methodological developments in media studies.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 955 – MEDIA HISTORY AND HISTORIOGRAPHY

3 credits.

Post-structuralist historical theory, historiographical methods, and issues in historiography for students of media history. Introduction to archival research.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

COM ARTS 958 – SEMINAR IN FILM HISTORY

2-3 credits.

Seminar probes theoretical questions concerning nature of historical knowledge, examines scholarly models and introduces methodologies and resources for research on the history of cinema.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2023

COM ARTS 967 – SEMINAR-PROBLEMS IN COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

2-3 credits.

An examination of current theoretical and/or practical problems in communication and/or public address.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2021

COM ARTS 969 – SEMINAR: CONTEMPORARY RHETORICAL THEORY

2-3 credits.

A review of recent and ongoing theoretical developments in rhetorical theory.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 970 – SEMINAR IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCE

3 credits.

A critical review of theoretical developments in social scientific studies of communication and its psychological and/or social impact.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

COM ARTS 976 – SEMINAR IN RHETORICAL CRITICISM

2-3 credits.

An examination of historical and/or ongoing developments in methodological and analytic approaches to rhetorical studies.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2024

COM ARTS 990 – RESEARCH AND THESIS

1-9 credits.

Independent research and writing under the supervision of an instructor.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025