

Bryant University

M.A. in Communication

CREATE YOUR PATH
EXPAND YOUR WORLD
ACHIEVE YOUR SUCCESS



www.bryant.edu/MACom

THE MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

Skilled communicators are essential for any organization which expects to operate successfully in our complex, global world.

Now, for the first time at Bryant, you can gain that level of mastery in Health Communication, Organizational Communication, or in a communication discipline that you choose.

Students in the Master of Arts program in Communication learn:

- the science and art of persuasion,
- essential interpersonal and intercultural communication skills,
- the workings of the most important modes of communication and media,
- how to critically interpret and assess information relevant to their fields,
- to be effective, confident writers and speakers in a wide variety of settings.

"In all three programs, the coursework is designed specifically for people who wish to pursue advanced degrees, but is also highly appropriate for people who are interested in advancing their professional capabilities without necessarily earning a master's degree. Among the key features of the program, irrespective of concentration, are emphases on persuasive communication and intercultural communication."

Wendy Samter, Ph.D.
Chair and Professor
Department of Communication

To learn more, please contact:

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ENGAGED LEARNING + APPLIED SCHOLARSHIP

The Department of Communication at Bryant offers a Master of Arts degree in Communication consisting of 30 credit hours (9 courses, plus a culminating experience or 10 courses, plus comprehensive exams).

The master's degree is offered with three concentrations: Health Communication, Organizational Communication, or a student-chosen and student-designed concentration, which is developed under the guidance of highly qualified faculty.

Courses are offered year-round, and graduate students can enroll on a full- or part-time basis. Current undergraduates majoring in Communication can complete the Master of Arts in Communication degree

as a fifth-year master's within one calendar year of receiving their Bachelor of Arts degree.

The program is also designed to be relevant to both recent graduates in other disciplines as well as early- to-mid-career professionals in various disciplines who want to earn the Master of Arts in Communication or take individual coursework to enhance their skills in the workplace.

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY

Communication faculty includes prominent scholars, teachers, and media industry professionals. They enhance their expertise through research, publishing, consulting, and community service, and share this knowledge with their graduate students.

They also provide personal guidance for students pursuing positions in the many industries that rely on communication skills and competencies.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

Bryant emphasizes real-world application of theory. All of our graduate students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their newly-acquired knowledge while gaining invaluable experience via the guided practicum – a placement in some of the area's most prestigious health, business, social services, education, political and governmental organizations. Alternatively, you may pursue a track in which you will conceive of and conduct research relevant to our field. Either way, we aim to teach you the communication skills required of 21st century careers.



M.A. in Communication

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Bryant M.A. program in Communication encourages applicants who hold a bachelor's degree in any discipline.*

Applications are accepted and considered at any time. There is no application deadline.

To be admitted to the M.A. Communication program, you must:

- Have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. An official transcript is required.
- Have earned a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) as an undergraduate in the Communication major or the major of some related field. Non-communication undergraduate majors* with an overall grade point average of 3.0 may be admitted to the program, but must achieve a 3.0 GPA by the end of six graduate course hours. Depending on their degree and/or professional experience, non-Communication degree holders may be asked to take foundational coursework.
- Submit three references, at least two of which should be academic references from individuals who can comment on your ability to be successful as a graduate student.
- Submit GRE or Miller Analogies Test scores, OR, submit a brief essay (approximately 1,000 words) to serve as a sample of your writing. See the application form for details of the writing sample.
- If English is not your native language, you MUST submit the writing sample. You may also be required, at the discretion of the Admission Committee, to submit TOEFL scores and/or to meet with the member of the Committee for a personal interview.

*Foundational coursework in Communication Theory and/or Research Methods may be required of non-Communication degree holders admitted to the program.

CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE

If your grade point average does not meet the minimum required, you may be accepted on a conditional basis at the sole discretion of the Admission Committee. Conditionally accepted students who earn a GPA of 3.0 or better in the first three courses in the program may continue as an M.A. Communication student.

SPECIAL STUDENT STATUS

You may take up to two M.A. courses as a Special Student – provided you meet course prerequisites – before completing the application process. In order to become a Special Student, complete the Special Student request form and submit an official transcript of your undergraduate degree.

COMMUNICATION COURSEWORK

Required Courses*

All students must take the following:

Communication Theory (COM601)

Communication Research Methods and Statistics (COM602)

Culminating Experience (COM698)

or
Thesis (COM699)

or
Comprehensive Exams

Students concentrating in Health Communication must take:

Health Communication (COM603)

Students concentrating in Organizational Communication must take:

Organizational Communication (COM604)

ELECTIVES – 6 OR 7

Depending upon course of study

Conflict Management and Negotiation in Organizations (COM610)

Communication in Small Groups: Applied Theory (COM611)

Media Effects Theory and Research (COM612)

Communication, Persuasion, and Social Influence (COM613)

Ethical Public Communication (COM614)

Culture, Diversity, and Communication (COM615)

Lifespan/Intergenerational Communication (COM630)

Community-Based Campaigns and Public Health (COM631)

Graduate Practicum in Communication (COM690)

Directed Study in Communication (COM697)