

MEDC - Media Communications | Grad

MEDC 5000 Media Communications (3)

Students examine communications theory and its application to mass media. The course introduces students to the graduate program and describes program expectations as well as introduces research methodologies used throughout the program and discusses academic preparation for MEDC 6000 Seminar in Media Communications. Therefore, students must take this course even if they have academic and/or professional experience in media communications. **Prerequisite:** Students should have an educational background or professional experience in media communications, or they must enroll in 6 credit hours of additional preparatory undergraduate course work, as determined by an academic advisor.

MEDC 5010 Introduction to Graduate Studies: Advanced Thinking and Writing (3)

This course is an introduction to graduate studies that provides students with knowledge and skills in three important ways to maximize academic success as a graduate student. The course will focus on critical thinking and advanced analysis skills, basic information on academic research and library searches, and advanced writing. The course will also offer a brief introduction to effective online learning.

MEDC 5200 Directed Studies in Media Communications (3-6)

Under faculty supervision, students examine an area of specialty not currently offered in the media communications curriculum. The student and instructor develop a written course proposal. Requires approval of the chair of the Communications and Journalism Department. Course may be repeated for credit if content differs, not to exceed 6 credit hours. **Prerequisite:** MEDC 5000.

MEDC 5290 Issues in Media Communications (3-6)

Current and significant issues in media communications are examined. The course focuses on existing theories and practices,

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MEDC 5550 Topics in Media Communications (3-6)

This course offers a variety of topics to address emerging theories, practices, and applications in the field of communications. Topics are timely and of interest to professionals currently working in or pursuing media-related careers. Classes may focus on such topics as campaign strategy and political power; video and media literacy; ethical issues in the media; applications for podcasting and blogs; creating cultural change through organizational communications; etc. May be repeated once for credit if content differs and is appropriate for student's course of study, not to exceed 6 credits. **Prerequisites:** May vary by topic.

MEDC 5600 Introduction to Interactive Communications (3)

A practical, up-to-date introduction to the documentation process required to plan and initiate interactive multimedia projects. This course offers a comprehensive approach to planning interactive media projects within an ever-changing multi-device environment. Through hands-on exercises, students will become familiar with the key processes and decision points required to fully document aspects of strategy, research, planning and implementation for digital projects.

MEDC 6000 Seminar in Media Communications (3)

In this course, students create a capstone research project. Students are expected to synthesize and integrate the learning experiences acquired in the curriculum and to evaluate current media communications research topics relative to a particular area of interest. Students should seek to add to the body of media communications knowledge with all capstone research projects. Papers used in previous courses cannot be resubmitted or repackaged in order to meet the requirements of this course. However, it is acceptable to continue researching ideas which students may have pursued during their degree program, building on them to complete the large, comprehensive paper required in this capstone course. Students are encouraged to have their capstone research project topics approved prior to the start of class. **Prerequisite:** Completion of all other graduate courses in program. This should be the last course taken before graduation. Any exceptions must be approved prior to registration by submitting a program option request to be signed by the department chair.

MEDC 6250 Thesis Project in Media Communications (3-6)

The student synthesizes and integrates the learning experiences from all previous media communications courses and researches a specific topic to complete a thesis project relevant to the student's media communications major. The student must submit a written project proposal. **Prerequisites:** Completion of all other graduate courses and approval of written project proposal by the chair of the Communications and Journalism Department. The written project proposal must follow current thesis guidelines and include appropriate graduate thesis forms.