Introduction

The Department of Strategic Communication offers majors and minors in Advertising and Public Relations.

Students majoring in Advertising learn the art, craft and business of promoting brands from an integrated marketing perspective. The program gives students a well-rounded education in advertising that emphasizes strategy building, data gathering and analysis, creative development and media planning skills. The program includes practical and theoretical approaches to the world of professional advertising, both domestically and internationally. The curriculum is hands-on and students learn how to create an advertising campaign that meets their client's goals. Qualified students may elect to participate in the internship program, which provides an opportunity to work in the professional community of the Greater Miami area or other regions. The School's Advertising Program also has an active alliance with the American Advertising Federation.

Students majoring in Public Relations learn how to promote a client's business, image, product or service. Public relations is a strategic communication process that builds mutually beneficial relationships between organizations (business, government, nonprofit, individual) and their public's. PR practitioners develop and deliver key messages through traditional and social media channels. The program provides a well-rounded education in public relations that emphasizes research and analysis, creative development and the relationship of all media to PR in both public and private sectors.

The hands-on curriculum reflects the importance of strategic critical thinking, research for understanding target audiences, writing, design expertise and creativity. Students create and execute a PR campaign in a senior-level capstone course that serves a client organization in the community. Demand for PR interns is high, and qualified students may elect to participate in the internship program to acquire professional experience in South Florida and other regions. The program has ties to the Public Relations Society of America and maintains a Public Relations Student Society of America chapter.

Major Cognate Area

- Advertising General Track:
  - People and Society
- Advertising Management Track:
  - People and Society
- Advertising Creative Track:
  - People and Society
  - Arts and Humanities
- Public Relations:
  - People and Society

Minor Cognate Area

- Advertising Minor:
  - People and Society
- Public Relations Minor:
  - People and Society

Please note, students completing majors and minors within the same department may only satisfy one required cognate area of study.

Degree Programs

The Bachelor of Science in Communication is offered in Advertising and Public Relations.

Majors are offered in:

- Advertising General Track
- Advertising Creative Track
- Advertising Management Track
- Public Relations General Track
- Public Relations Practice Track

Each candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Communication will complete School of Communication requirements including courses in the School’s General Education Required Areas of Study. Advertising majors must also complete a separate minor or a second major in either a second Program of Study within the School or in an academic program outside the School.

Admission to the Advertising and Public Relations Majors

Before admission as an Advertising or Public Relations major, a student must:

- Complete the five Core courses listed below, in residence at the University, all with grades of C or higher (C- is not acceptable).
- Students who have obtained the written approval of the Chair of Strategic Communication to use transfer credit hours to satisfy one or more requirements of that major may be required to complete additional courses in residence at the University before being admitted to that major.
- Upon completion of a student’s first 45 University credit hours while enrolled in the School of Communication, all University credit hours earned toward the major will be used in computing a student’s major cumulative grade point average; only those students with a cumulative average of 2.5 or higher will be admitted to a major.
- A student who has completed 45 credit hours while enrolled in the School of Communication, but who has not been admitted to one of the Communication majors, may be dismissed from the School.
- A student who has completed 60 University credit hours while enrolled in the School of Communication, but who has not been admitted to one of the Communication majors, will be dismissed from the School.

Major in Advertising

Students majoring in advertising will choose one of the following three tracks:

- Advertising General Track
- Advertising Management Track
- Advertising Creative Track
Major in Public Relations
Students majoring in public relations will choose one of the following two tracks:

• Public Relations General Track
• Public Relations Practice Track

Each candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Communication will complete School of Communication requirements including courses in the School’s General Education Required Areas of Study. Public Relations majors must also complete a separate minor or a second major in either a second Program of Study within the School or in an academic program outside the School.

Minors in Strategic Communication Department
The Department of Strategic Communication offers minors in:

• Advertising
• Public Relations
• Strategic Communication

The minors in Advertising, Public Relations and Strategic Communication require a grade of C or higher in all courses (a C- is not acceptable).

STC 102. Graphic Design for Strategic Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
An introduction to the art of visual communication as it relates to advertising design. Students will learn how to use Adobe Photoshop and InDesign as tools for applying basic graphic design techniques used in print and outdoor media. Topics include typography, design principles, art & image manipulation, conceptualization and layout stages, color theory and color reproduction, printing processes, and production
Components: LAB.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 103. Statistical Reasoning for Strategic Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
An introduction to statistical reasoning for advertising and public relations.
Prerequisite: MTH 101. Or ALEKS Score 60+ or 630 Math SAT + or 28 Math ACT+.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 114. Principles of Advertising. 3 Credit Hours.
An introduction to the principles and practice of advertising in a free-market economy. Students will be introduced to several areas of advertising including account planning, creative strategy, media planning, research methods, consumer behavior, and integrated marketing. Emphasis on cultural, social, ethical, and regulatory aspects of advertising.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 116. Principles of Public Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
History, organization, ethics, law, and practice of public relations.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 200. Advertising Strategy Development. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduction to the development of effective advertising strategies. Topics include consumer behavior, attitude development, persuasion tactics, targeting, market segmentation, market analysis, and brand management.
Prerequisite: STC 114.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 201. Public Relations Strategy Development. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces students to research-based strategy development and planning at the core of public relations practice.
Prerequisite: STC 116.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 202. Advanced Graphic Design for Advertising. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will delve more deeply into the concepts of graphic design as they relate to the field of advertising. More specifically, this course will touch upon the use of art, illustration, and photography in advertising design. Topics also will include digital imaging, production, and web publishing. Students will learn to use Adobe Illustrator as a tool for designing in both traditional and non-traditional media. This course serves as a foundation for advertising portfolio development.
Prerequisite: STC 102.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 203. Advanced Graphic Design for Public Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduction to graphic design for communication media and use of computer software as layout and design tools. Selection, preparation, and study of design principles and production processes for typography, photography, art work, and white space.
Prerequisites: STC 102.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 231. Advertising Copywriting and Concept. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduction to writing advertising copy across multiple media platforms, including print, outdoor, television, interactive, specialty, and social media.
Prerequisite: STC 114. And JMM 108.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 232. Writing for Public Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
Principles and techniques for the development of creative strategies, concepts, and writing of effective public relations messages for all types of media.
Prerequisites: JMM 108, STC 116 or STC 114 or JMM 102.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.
STC 233. Writing for Advertising Account Management. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduction to writing for the business side of advertising. This course will prepare students to write and create comprehensive reports and prepare presentations related to the business of account planning including research, creative strategies, and media planning. Prerequisite: STC 114. And JMM 108.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 290. Special Topics in Strategic Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
This course subject matter varies according to announced special topic. See class schedule for details.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 302. Advanced Graphic Design and Photography. 3 Credit Hours.
This course builds upon photography and image manipulation techniques for varied formats in graphic design, including print, outdoor and non-traditional media. Students will create visual messages and focused visual statements, as well as gain an understanding of how to produce complex conceptual images for advertising using Adobe Creative Suite software. Topics will include conceptual thinking, photography, image manipulation, and creative strategy development and execution. Prerequisites: STC 102 and STC 202 or STC 203.
Components: STU.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 303. Typography and Brand Design. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will provide an advanced experience in the development and understanding of brand design and will demonstrate how typography can be used effectively to create or enhance a brand’s value and niche in the marketplace. Prerequisite: STC 102, and STC 202 or STC 203.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 311. Public Relations Research. 3 Credit Hours.
Public relations research techniques focusing on applications of strategic planning, message evaluation, opinion research, and theory testing of public relations programs. Emphasis on qualitative and quantitative methods and data analysis. Prerequisite: STC 103 OR JMM 285 OR PSY 291 OR PSY 292 OR MAS 201.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 312. Research Methods for Advertising. 3 Credit Hours.
Application of research techniques used in the field of advertising. Students will learn to collect, analyze, and report secondary and primary research findings as they apply to advertising decision-making. Prerequisite: STC 103 or Requisite: Other Approved Statistics.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 330. Travel and Tourism. 3 Credit Hours.
Development of tourism and destination promotion strategies and initiatives. Overview of public relations account structures within the tourism industries of airlines, travel destinations, hotels, and others. Prerequisite: STC 114 Or STC 116 And Junior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 331. Advanced Copywriting. 3 Credit Hours.
Advanced course in conceptualizing and copywriting advertising campaigns for all media forms, including traditional, digital, social, web, and mobile. Prerequisite: STC 231.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 334. Social Media Messaging and Strategies. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will examine the utility of major social media platforms as they relate to strategic communication. Topics will include message and campaign development, targeting, engagement, writing across social media platforms, social media management, and analytics.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Spring.

STC 340. Interactive, Digital, and Social Media in Advertising. 3 Credit Hours.
The course will explore the use of new and evolving media in the development of effective advertising campaigns, as well as the impact of these media on the advertising industry. Prerequisite: STC 114.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 346. Public Relations Message Development and Execution. 3 Credit Hours.
Preparation, execution, and production of visual messages for public relations media. Prerequisites: STC 203 and STC 232.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 350. International and Cross-cultural Advertising. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will explore advertising in a global marketplace. Emphasis will be placed on understanding cultural differences as they relate to international advertising planning, as well as techniques for gathering secondary and primary data on international markets and consumers. Prerequisite: STC 114.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.
STC 380. Advertising Internship. 1-3 Credit Hours.
Students select an internship in the field of advertising for on-the-job training. The student will work a minimum of 45 hours per credit. No more than three (3) credits of internship may be completed in any given semester.
Requisite: Sophomore Status, minimum GPA 2.5 and Permission of Instructor.
Components: THI.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 381. Public Relations Internship. 1-3 Credit Hours.
Students select an internship in the field of public relations for on-the-job training. The student will work a minimum of 45 hours per credit. No more than three (3) credits of internship may be completed in any given semester.
Requisite: Sophomore Status, minimum GPA 2.5 and Permission of Instructor.
Components: THI.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 384. Advertising Creative Strategy and Execution. 3 Credit Hours.
Development of effective creative campaigns. Students will design advertisements for print, broadcast, interactive, and specialty media that meet specific campaign objectives.
Prerequisite: STC 201. And STC 202. And STC 231.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 388. Media Planning. 3 Credit Hours.
An introduction to the principles and concepts of advertising media planning including media selection, media plan development, forecasting, and budgeting.
Prerequisite: STC 201. STC 233. or JMM 102, JMM 108.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 389. Media Buying and Advertising Sales. 3 Credit Hours.
Students will learn the art of buying media in all categories, as well as how to sell advertising space in these media.
Prerequisite: STC 201. STC 233. or JMM 102, JMM 108.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 390. Art Direction. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will teach students art direction skills across multiple media platforms, including print, outdoor, television, interactive and social media.
Prerequisites: STC 202 or STC 203 and STC 231 or STC 232.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 401. Seminar in Advertising and Society. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will examine the ethical, persuasive, cultural, societal, and economic effects of advertising, focusing on the theoretical frameworks that explain how advertising works in these arenas.
Requisite: Junior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 412. Public Opinion and Mass Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
An exploration of the formation and role of public opinion in mass communication. Emphasis is placed on its role in advertising and promotion. Topics include the evolution and history of public opinion in American culture, the application of public opinion on attitude formation and persuasion, measurement of public opinion, and propaganda.
Requisite: Junior Status or Permission of Instructor.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 416. Public Relations Ethics. 3 Credit Hours.
Ethical concepts and issues pertaining to individuals and society with application to advertising and public relations. Case studies focus on professional and personal ethics based on traditional teaching, modern codes, and other guidelines.
Prerequisite: STC 116.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 423. Crisis Communication and Management. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces the student to crisis communication and management from a strategies, theory-based approach steeped in case research from historical cases and business case studies.
Pre-requisites: STC 116. And Requisite: Junior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 424. Media Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
The practice of media relations within the public relations milieu.
Requisite: Junior Status.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 425. Cases in Public Relations Administration. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will examine the management and administrative functions of public relations using a case-study approach.
Pre-requisites: STC 116. And Requisite: Junior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall.

STC 426. Sports, Publicity, and Promotions. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will provide a review, examination and practical application of sports communications, publicity and promotions in strategic communications.
Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 428. Public Relations Management. 3 Credit Hours.
Principles and practice of public relations management in a variety of contexts including agency, consultancy, corporate, and nonprofit.
Pre-requisites: STC 116. And Requisite: Junior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.
STC 434. Advertising Campaigns. 3 Credit Hours.
Capstone course in which students develop a full-scale advertising campaign. Students are responsible for conducting secondary and primary research, strategic planning, development of creative executions, planning and executing media selections, and campaign evaluation. Prerequisites: Senior Standing and STC 114 and 200. General Track: STC 231 or STC 233, STC 312, STC 388. Management Track: STC 233, STC 312 and STC 388. Creative Track: STC 202, STC 231 and STC 384.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 435. Seminar in PR Measurement. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines the measures, mechanisms, and necessary considerations for measuring public relations outcomes and communication effectiveness, as well as evaluating the impact of public relations efforts. Requisite: STC 311 & Junior.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 436. Public Relations Campaigns. 3 Credit Hours.
The capstone course for seniors in their last year of study. Theory and principles, audience research, strategic planning, and targeted communication are applied in developing a campaign to influence attitudes and behavior on behalf of a real client. A written plan, professional presentation, and teamwork are emphasized. Prerequisites: Public Relations Requisites by Track.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 437. Politics: Persuasion and Perception. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will examine the candidates in current political elections, their likability factors, truthfulness, strengths and weaknesses, and how they get their messages out to the world. Requisite: Junior Status.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 438. Practicum in Advertising. 1-3 Credit Hours.
Students will work in the advertising field for advanced on-the-job training in their specific area of advertising specialization. Prerequisite: STC 380. Requisite: Senior Standing.
Components: PRA.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 439. Public Relations Practicum. 1-3 Credit Hours.
Students will work in the public relations field for on-the-job training. Students must work a minimum of 45 hours per credit earned. Prerequisite: STC 381. Requisite: Senior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.

STC 444. Social Media Analytics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will provide an overview and practical application of various public and commercial social media analytics and tools, and will cover sources of data, metrics, analyses, and tools used in the development of successful social media campaigns.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.

STC 450. Strategic Communication in Health Care. 3 Credit Hours.
An examination of health industry communication from business and promotional perspectives, including the special issues that have an impact on health communicators. Best practices and case studies from notable practitioners are used; strategic communication plan development, writing and presentation are emphasized. Prerequisite: STC 116 and STC 201.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.

STC 460. Corporate Communication and Public Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
This course monitors the sociopolitical environment of organizations, explores managing corporate crises and confrontations, analyzes issues, formulates organizational and political strategies, develops programs of advocacy communication and explores constituency communications and public involvement. Prerequisite: STC 116. And Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 481. Public Relations Experience Program (Prep). 1-3 Credit Hours.
Develop skills used by professionals in the public relations/media relations, communications, promotions/marketing and journalism professions through faculty-supervised hands-on experience in the "field" with real organizations.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 482. International Public Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
History, theory, and practice of public relations in a global, multi-cultural environment. Prerequisite: STC 116. And Requisite: Junior Standing or Higher.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall.

STC 483. Integrated Marketing Communication. 3 Credit Hours.
An exploration of how brands are built and promoted through the integration of advertising, public relations, sales promotion, personal selling, direct marketing, and e-commerce. Prerequisites: STC 114 or STC 116 or MKT 201.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 488. Digital, Mobile, and Web Media Evaluation. 3 Credit Hours.
Focus on the evaluation of digital, mobile, and web-based advertising as part of integrated advertising media plans. Topics include audience estimation, cost-gathering, and evaluation of potential effectiveness. Prerequisite: STC 388.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Spring.
STC 490. Special Topics in Advertising. 3 Credit Hours.
This course subject matter varies according to announced special topic. See class schedule for details.
Pre-requisite: STC 114 Or Permission of Instructor.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Offered by Announcement Only.

STC 491. The Business of Account Management. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will lead to a stronger understanding of the role of account management in marketing communication and advertising agencies.
Topics will include advertising agency management, client services, and financial planning within the agency.
Prerequisite: STC 200 or Requisite: Junior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Spring.

STC 492. Advanced Advertising Creative Development. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will provide an advanced experience in art direction.
Prerequisite: STC 202 and STC 231.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall.

STC 493. Special Topics in Public Relations. 3 Credit Hours.
This course subject matter varies according to announced special topic. See class schedule for details.
Requisite: Junior Status.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 495. Advertising Management. 3 Credit Hours.
Students will learn to approach advertising problems at both micro and macro levels from the perspective of a manager in charge of solving such problems. Emphasis will be on problem identification, development of alternative strategies to solve problems, tactics for executing strategies, and evaluation of proposed solutions.
Prerequisites: STC 200 and STC 233 and STC 312 and STC 388. Requisite: Senior Standing.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 496. Advertising Portfolio Development. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will assist students in putting together a professional-quality advertising portfolio of their work.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall & Spring.

STC 498. AAF National Student Advertising Campaign Competition. 3 Credit Hours.
Students compete in the American Advertising Federation's National Student Advertising Campaign Competition.
Components: LEC.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Spring.

STC 499. Projects and Directed Research in Strategic Communication. 1-3 Credit Hours.
Individual study. No more than three credits may be counted toward a Communication major or minor.
Components: THI.
Grading: GRD.
Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, & Summer.