

# M.A. IN COMMUNICATION FOR GLOBAL SOCIAL CHANGE

## Overview

This 30-credit program focuses on the theory and research of critical communication and social change within global contexts. Students are provided a foundation in communication for social change, global communication, and research methods. Students go further in depth through a wide range of elective courses in categories that include communication for social change, global and intercultural contexts, contemporary social issues, and research skills.

Students complete a thesis, which enables them to apply their knowledge, understanding, critical analysis and research skills to a specific research project.

This program prepares students for leadership positions in agencies and organizations working in social change, globally and in the United States and for graduate education toward a Ph.D. in global communication and social change.

## Admission Requirements

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
- The School's official application
- An \$85.00 non-refundable application fee
- Three letters of recommendation
- 500-work typed statement of academic and professional goals
- Official transcripts of all college work, both undergraduate and graduate.
  - Note: In addition, international applicants must send a copy of their diploma for all degrees earned, and all documentation that confers their degree, with English translation.
  - Note: All transcripts must be the original document, forwarded directly from the University. Xerox copies, true copies, notarized copies and other types of copies are not acceptable.
- Official TOEFL or IELTS scores
  - Note: Only for international applicants
- Copy of current passport.
  - Note: Only for international applicants. The name entered on the graduate application must exactly match your name as it appears on your passport.
- CV / resume

## Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>REQUIRED COURSES</b>		
COM 621	Research Design and Proposal Writing	3
COM 622	Communication and Social Change	3
COM 623	Global Communication	3
COS 645	Intercultural Communication: International Perspectives	3
<b>Elective in Contemporary Social Issues</b>		<b>3</b>
Students will take a total of three credits from the list of courses below.		
APY 612	Advanced Medical Anthropology	
SOC 635	Medical Sociology: Issues in Research and Theory.	
GHS 601	Sociocultural Foundations of Global Health	
GHS 610	Hospital Ethnography	
GHS 612	People, Plagues, and Pandemics	
GEG 648	Climate Change and Public Health	
ATM 614	Introduction to Weather and Climate	
ATM 653	Climate Change	
RSM 672	Special Topics	
EVR 602	Economics of Natural Resources	
EVR 604	Fieldwork in Coastal Management: Tourism, Conservation, and Development	
EVR 611	The Science of Actionable Knowledge	

EVR 621	Water Resources in China and Vietnam: Science and Policy
EVR 664	Citizen and Participatory Science
EVR 673	Marine Conservation Outreach
EVR 674	Theoretical Practical Issues in Exploration Science
GEG 612	Health Applications of Geographic Information Systems
GEG 620	Sustainable Cities
GEG 636	Sustainable Food Systems
GEG 643	Population, Sustainability and the Media
POL 631	Global Environment Politics
POL 653	The Environmental Movement: Groups, Beliefs and Values
ECS 609	Contemporary Representations of the Environment
ECS 611	Nature, the Anthropocene, and Visual Culture
ECS 612	Environmental Justice Storytelling
APY 696	Advanced Graduate Colloquy in Black Feminist Theory and Praxis: Major of 7 Black Feminist Thinkers
GEG 646	Immigrant Refugee Health
MLL 702	Bilingualism
MLL 711	Introduction to Critical Theory
MLL 714	Readings in Critical Theory
POL 669	LGBTI Politics
SOC 651	Race Relations: Social Psychological Perspectives
SOC 652	Theories of Race and Ethnic Relations
SOC 693	Special Topics and Current Issues in Race/Ethnic Relations
Other courses by approval	
<b>Elective in Communication and Social Change Scholarship</b>	
<b>3</b>	
Students will take a total of three credits from the list of courses below.	
STC 634	Social Media Strategies
STC 650	Strategic Communication in Health Care
CCA 655	Science Documentary: Autism
JMM 656	Podcast Storytelling
CIM 618	Internet and Media Activism
CIM 644	Designing Games for Impact
COM 608	Designing and Producing Messages
COM 606	Visual and Narrative Theories
COM 609	Special Topics in Communication (Special Topics relevant to Communication and Social Change)
COM 624	Global Health Communication (Global Health COmmunication)
Other courses by approval	
<b>Elective in Research Methods</b>	
<b>3</b>	
Students will take a total of three credits from the list of courses below.	
COM 602	Foundations of Quantitative Communication Research Methods
COM 603	Qualitative Research Methodologies
COM 604	Advanced Quantitative Communication Research Methods
COM 605	Theories and Methods for Mass Communication Research
COM 620	Structured Research and Practice in SoC Consultancy
COM 695	Directed Readings
COS 690	Communication Studies Practicum
EPS 624	Essentials of Research in Social and Behavioral Sciences
EPS 625	Program Evaluation
GHS 670	Community-Based Participatory Action Research
SOC 613	Qualitative Research Methods
SOC 614	Evaluation Research

POL 634	Applied Policy Analysis	
POL 660	Public Program Evaluation	
POL 695	Special Topics in Political Theory and Methods	
Other courses by approval		
<b>Elective in Global and Intercultural Communication Contexts</b>		<b>3</b>
Students will take a total of three credits from the list of courses below.		
CCA 602	Global Issues and Filmmaking	
CCA 608	National Cinemas	
COS 647	Organizational Culture	
JMM 610	Latin American Journalism and Media Systems	
JMM 692	Special Topics in Journalism and Media Management (Latinx and the Media)	
STC 682	International Public Relations	
COM 609	Special Topics in Communication	
APY 628	Advanced Graduate Seminar	
EPS 622	Community Well-being and Change: Theory and Practice	
EPS 626	Multicultural Communities in a Globalized Society	
INS 613	Transnational Social Movemen	
MLL 702	Bilingualism	
LAS 601	Politics, Societies, and Cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean	
IGS 613	Global Cultures: Religion, Communication, and Security	
Other courses by approval		
<b>ETD THESIS</b>		
COM 810	Master's Thesis	6
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

<sup>1</sup> All elective courses must be approved by your faculty advisor.

<sup>2</sup> Only three credits of special topics, independent study, directed reading, practicum, or the like, are permitted.

<sup>3</sup> Students are required to take a total of 12 elective credits.

## Sample Plan of Study

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Fall</b>		
COM 622	Communication and Social Change	3
COM 623	Global Communication	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
<b>Spring</b>		
COM 621	Research Design and Proposal Writing	3
COS 645	Intercultural Communication: International Perspectives	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
<b>Summer</b>		
COM 810	Master's Thesis	6
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

## Program Mission Statement

Our MA in Communication for Global Social Change will educate students to understand how to critique and to construct communication interventions designed for the benefit of people and communities, local and global. Through grounded scholarship, students will learn to listen and combine learning from academic research and lived experiences in order to engage in intentional communication practices for social change.

Evaluation builds from critical analyses situating problems and solutions within social, cultural, political, economic and technological contexts, as well as from methodological expertise guiding assessment and planning. Critical analyses build from foundations in interdisciplinary approaches to studies of power and marginalization, given inequities across race, gender, orientation, and other key dimensions of identity including and importantly their communication contexts. Social concerns, considered within their global contexts, include those relevant to public health, climate change, migration, social justice, sustainability, and other emerging issues.

## Program Goals

To promote:

- Knowledge and understanding of communication and social change
- Application of research skills
- Consideration of global and intercultural communication contexts
- Knowledge and understanding of a contemporary social issue

Graduates will be prepared for professional work as well as for doctoral studies. Specifically, graduates will be able to contribute to:

- Agencies and organizations working in social change, globally and in the United States
- Positions relevant to the design and assessment of communication interventions
- Graduate education toward a PhD, to lead advances in global social change

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate foundational expertise in critical communication theory and research, particularly as it relates to global communication and social change.
- Students will signal understanding of communication and social change within a global communication context, recognizing social, cultural, political, economic, and technological domains.
- Students will demonstrate research skills including the ability to diagnose social problems across multiple levels (systemic, community, etc.), in order to critique and to assess communication interventions as well as to design and to implement them based on these diagnoses.
- Students will display an understanding of a designated contemporary social issue, such as health, climate change, migration, or social justice.
- Students will be able to apply their knowledge, understanding, critical analysis and research skills to specific research through completion of a written master's thesis.