Communication Studies
Graduate Program
Handbook

Effective Fall 2015

Department of Communication Studies
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Indianapolis, IN 46202
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www.liberalarts.iupui.edu/comm/

Note: Students are responsible for reading the departmental handbook as well as consulting the University Graduate School Bulletin.

Revision Date October 2016
**Revisions may occur as deemed necessary by the graduate faculty**
Welcome to the Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis (IUPUI) Department of Communication Studies Graduate Program. We believe you will find this program to be academically challenging, intellectually stimulating, and extremely pertinent to you and your career goals. This program is designed to prepare you for stellar professional performance and/or the rigors of further advanced level study.

We welcome you to the Community, the University, and the Department!

Program Description

M.A. in Applied Communication Studies

The Department of Communication Studies at IUPUI offers a M.A. in Applied Communication with optional concentrations in Corporate Communication, Health Communication, Media Criticism, or Public Communication. Classes are generally small and interactive with emphasis on application of theory. Opportunities for multidisciplinary and independent study are available. The graduate faculty brings a range of academic expertise and applied experiences from regional and national institutions and organizations.

The overarching goal of this unique applied program is to provide students with the competencies and skills necessary to address specific communication issues and problems that are socially relevant and to suggest or implement change. The primary intellectual goal of this program is to increase our students’ understanding of the theoretical implications of discipline-specific knowledge, and to enhance their ability to understand and predict human interaction relative to realistic, applied outcomes associated with contemporary social problems. A practical goal of the program is to educate professionals who grasp the complexities of communication problems and who are able to develop and execute strategies and create programs to address such issues.

In accomplishing these goals, the program will provide advanced study of communication principles applicable to various personal and organizational settings. The program will offer residents of Indiana, surrounding states, and national and international students the opportunity to do graduate work in applied communication. The program provides an excellent foundation for doctoral studies. It is also well suited for students wishing to pursue combined advanced degree programs in such areas as medicine, medical humanities, business, and philanthropy.

Program Information

NOTE: All students should consult the Master’s Degree Progression Checklist \(\text{http://graduate.iupui.edu/doc/forms/progression-checklist-master.pdf}\) to ensure progression toward degree completion.

The Applied Communication Master’s Program centers on the application of communication theories in various organizational settings. The program readies the advanced student for professional career paths and future academic pursuits. The program’s flexibility allows each student to meet individual and career goals. The student must complete a total of thirty-six (36) graduate credit hours.

Academic Advising

Upon entry, or when the student completes 12 credits in the program, each student should select an academic advisor. The Director of Graduate Studies can assist you in selecting and securing an academic advisor. The academic advisor will guide you in planning your M.A. program, maintain contact with you throughout your
program, assist and guide you in selection of courses, internship opportunities, and independent study work. The advisor will also assist in developing a committee for the student’s final comprehensive examination and thesis or ALP.

**Course Loads (also see the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)**

Students holding appointments as associate instructors, graduate assistants, or research assistants must ordinarily be registered for 6 credit hours during each full semester. See the Indiana University Graduate School Bulletin for potential exceptions to these policies. Students may take no more than 16 hours of credit in any semester or more than a total of 16 credit hours in all the summer sessions in any one year without permission of their graduate advisor. Students who are employed are advised to take into account the demands that such activities make on their time and to reduce their course loads accordingly.

**Course Work**

All course work must be completed with a grade of “C” (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher to count toward the degree. The student must successfully complete the Applied Learning Project (ALP) or thesis, which will be evaluated by the student’s committee. Note: **As of Fall 2015, comprehensive exams are no longer required to earn the M.A. in Applied Communication.** If a formal accusation of plagiarism is substantiated officially as Academic Misconduct, the student will be removed from the program and may not petition to reenter at a future date.

**Grade Requirements**

Students must earn a “C” (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better for any course to count toward the M.A. degree. The student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.3 (B+) or better in order to graduate. If a student drops below a cumulative GPA of 3.3 in a given semester, the student may be placed on probation. If the student drops below a 3.3 for two consecutive semesters or if the cumulative GPA is below 3.3, the student may be dismissed from the program.

**Transfer Credits (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)**

Transfer of Credit Upon recommendation of the department and with the approval of the dean, work taken for graduate credit at other institutions may be transferred in partial fulfillment of degree requirements. No course may be transferred from another institution unless the grade is B or higher and unless the course was completed within the time limit prescribed (see “Graduate Credit—General” section above). The following restrictions apply: 1. Candidates for the M.A., M.S., LL.M., or M.A.T. degree may offer up to 8 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. 2. Candidates for the M.A.T. degree who are graduates of Indiana University may offer up to 12 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. 3. Candidates for the M.F.A. degree may offer up to 20 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. 4. Candidates for the Ph.D. degree may offer up to 30 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. It must be emphasized that the transfer of credit is not an automatic occurrence. Students must obtain the written consent of both their departmental advisor and the dean before credit earned at other institutions will be added to their records.

**Time Limits and Revalidation of Courses (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)**

Normally, a course may not be counted toward degree requirements if it has been completed more than (a) five years prior to the awarding of the degree for master’s students or, (b) seven years prior to the passing of the qualifying examination for Ph.D. students. The graduate advisor, after consultation with the advisory committee, may, recommend to the dean that course work taken prior to the above deadlines be revalidated if it can be demonstrated that the knowledge contained in the course(s) remains current. Currency of knowledge may be demonstrated by such things as: (a) passing an examination specifically on the material
covered by the course; (b) passing a more advanced course in the same subject area; (c) passing a comprehensive examination in which the student demonstrates substantial knowledge of the content of the course; (d) teaching a comparable course; or (e) publishing scholarly research demonstrating substantial knowledge of the content and fundamental principles of the course. Each course for which consideration for revalidation is being requested should be justified separately. If the qualifying examination is used for the purpose of revalidation, the number of courses to be revalidated by this method should be limited to two in order to avoid compromising the integrity of the qualifying examination process.

Course work on other IU Campuses (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)

Graduate courses that are taken at Indiana University campuses other than the IU-Indianapolis may count toward the M.A. in Applied Communication. Any course taken at other IU campuses must be approved in writing by the Director of Graduate Studies prior to registration for the course.

Commencement
A student will not participate in graduation ceremonies unless he/she has scheduled a defense or already passed the requirements for the ALP or thesis, except under extraordinary circumstances as approved by his/her advisor.

Thesis and Applied Learning Project
All candidates for the M.A. in Applied Communication must complete either the Thesis or the Applied Learning Project (ALP) as partial fulfillment of the degree. A student may not take credits toward an ALP or thesis (C503 or 597) unless she/he has completed at least 27 credit hours (unless otherwise approved by the student’s advisor) with a cumulative 3.3 GPA or above.

Descriptions
Thesis: A master’s thesis is an original contribution of research to the study of communication.

The thesis is a major project that will usually entail a minimum of one semester of research and another semester of writing. Typically, a thesis will include the following:

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Literature review
- Explanation of methodology
- Results/application
- Conclusion and implications for further research

Applied Learning Project (ALP): The ALP is a theoretically-driven project that identifies, analyzes, and/or seeks to redress a “real-world” communication problem “emanating from the personal, social, cultural, global, and professional areas of society” (JACR website).

The ALP is a major project that will usually entail a minimum of one semester of research and another semester of writing. Typically, an ALP will include the following:

- Abstract
- Background information on the organization/problem
- Description of the activities undertaken and/or methods used to address the problem
- Theoretically-driven assessment of the problem
- Recommendations
- Conclusion

Procedures

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• After completion of 12 credit hours, the student should select an advisor to guide her/his degree program and, in consultation with the advisor, a committee of two additional faculty members to help oversee the thesis or ALP project.
• The advisor should be a member of the graduate faculty in the Department of Communication Studies who is best qualified to direct a project on the proposed topic.
• The advisor and the student will ask two other graduate faculty members to serve as members of the project committee.
• One member may be from outside of the Department of Communication Studies in an area that is relevant to the student’s topic.
• The student will work under the supervision of the committee consisting of the thesis/ALP advisor and the two faculty members.
• Signatures of the thesis/ALP advisor and committee members must be obtained by the student and approved by the Graduate Advisor on the Committee Appointment Form prior to the start of/collection of data for the project.
  o If, after choosing the program committee, the student changes the focus of her/his project/thesis, she/he may change the composition of her/his committee by consulting with the Advisor of Graduate Studies.
  o Copies of the Committee Appointment Form can be found online or obtained from the Graduate Administrative Assistant in the Department of Communication Studies.
• The committee will approve the topic and proposal and review progress toward the completion of the thesis or ALP.
• The role of graduate faculty on committees will include: approving the topic, reading and commenting on the proposal, giving feedback if requested by the advisor or student on areas in which the faculty member has expertise, reading the final draft of the thesis or ALP and providing feedback, and asking appropriate questions at the scheduled defense of the project.
  o Each member makes a recommendation to the advisor regarding whether the student has passed both the thesis or ALP and the defense of the thesis or ALP.
  o Both the advisor and at least one member of the committee must vote to pass the student before the student is eligible for the M.A. degree from the Department of Communication Studies.
  o Each member of the committee will sign the thesis, and the Advisor of Graduate Studies in Communication Studies will be notified when this requirement has been completed.
• A final, oral examination on the thesis or ALP is required and will be conducted by the thesis or ALP advisor. Thesis defense meetings are open to other members of the Department of Communication Studies. The ALP advisor can determine, in conjunction with the student, whether to open the defense of the ALP to the department.
• The student’s advisor will assign the grade for the credits in C503 or C597.
• Final points for the Thesis: Students must follow the instructions in A Guide to the Preparation of Theses and Dissertations available from the Graduate Office and submit an electronic version of the final approved thesis to the Graduate Office.
General Applied Communication Degree

- Graduate degree requires a minimum of 36 credit hours
- Each student must take 12 credit hours of core requirements (including the ALP or thesis)
- Each student must take 18 credit hours of applied communication in addition to the core requirements. No more than 6 hours of C599 can count toward the M.A. No more than 6 hours of C598 can count toward the M.A. No more than 9 combined hours of C599 and C598 can count toward the M.A.
- Each student may but is not required to take 6 credit hours of interdisciplinary electives from outside of the Department of Communication Studies as approved by the student’s advisor
- Each student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale.
- Internships and Independent Studies are optional
- Up to 8 credit hours of transfer credit from another university with at least a “B” (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) will count toward the degree
- Up to 12 credit hours of Graduate Non-Degree (GND) courses from IUPUI with a grade of at least a “B” (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) may be counted toward the degree. The combination of credits transferred may equal no more than a total of 12. GND credits are considered by the Graduate School to be transfer credits and may count toward the 30 credit maximum for transfer credits.
- A student may elect, but is not required, to complete a concentration in Corporate Communication, Health Communication, Media Criticism/Management, and/or Public Communication

Core Courses (12 credit hours)
C500 Advanced Communication Theory
C501 Applied Quantitative Research
Choose at least one of the following four:
(If you take more than one, you may count one or both of the other courses under your additional 18 credit hours. Courses do not double-count)
C502 Applied Quantitative Research
C530 Communication Criticism
C531 Media Theory
C680 Qualitative Methods
Choose one of the following two:
C503 Applied Learning Project
C597 Thesis

Courses (18 credit hours)
C510 Health Provider-Consumer
C520 Advanced Public Communication
C526 Effective Media Strategies
C528 Group Communication and Organizations
C530 Communication Criticism
C531 Media Theory and Criticism
C544 Advance Relational Communication
C580 Advanced Organizational Communication
C582 Advanced Intercultural Communication
C591 Topics/Seminar in Applied Communication
C592 Advanced Health Communication
C593 Advanced Family Communication
C594 Communication and Conflict Management in Organizations
C598 Internship (1-3 credits)
C599 Independent Study (1-6 credits)
C620 Computer Mediated Communication

Concentrations
A student may elect to concentrate in any one of the following areas of applied communication. A concentration is an option and is not required to complete the degree program. All concentrations are 12 credits, included in the 36 credits overall.

Corporate Communication
C528 Group Communication and Organizations
C580 Advanced Organizational Communication
Graduate work outside of Communication studies with approval of advisor (6 cr)

Health Communication
C510 Health Provider-Consumer Communication
C592 Advanced Health Communication
OR
C593 Advanced Family Communication
Graduate work in the Medical Humanities Group in SLA (3 cr)
Graduate work outside of Communication Studies with approval of advisor (3 cr)

Media Criticism
C526 Effective Media Strategies
C531 Media Theory and Criticism
Graduate work outside of Communication Studies with approval of advisor (6 cr)

Public Communication
C520 Advanced Public Communication (3 cr)
C530 Communication Criticism (3 cr) [This course will be in addition to C501 and either C502 or C531]
C591 Seminar in Communication Studies as approved by the student’s advisor
OR
C599 Independent Study in Communication Studies as approved by the student’s advisor (3-6 cr)
OR
Graduate work outside of Communication Studies as approved by the student’s advisor (3 cr)
**Ph.D. in Health Communication**

**Health Communication Ph. D Program Overview**

According to health communication scholar Gary Kreps (2003) and as written in the Healthy People 2020 project commissioned by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "health communication is the study and use of communication strategies to inform and influence individual and community decisions that affect health. It links the fields of communication and health and is increasingly recognized as a necessary element of efforts to improve personal and public health." Communication is at the core of a variety of health issues such as an individual’s access to and use of health information, the dissemination of public health messages, attitudes toward risk, consumer education on health issues, patient-health professional relationships, and minimizing health disparities domestically and globally, just to name a few. The opportunities for health communication education and employment are exciting.

The field of health communication is itself a relatively young area when compared with the history of scholarship in communication studies. The journal Health Communication began publishing in 1989 and since then has witnessed a three-fold increase in size while still maintaining a competitive 15% acceptance rate. More recently the Journal of Health Communication began publishing to speak to the increased need to disseminate the quality work in this growing field. The Ph.D. program in health communication in the Department of Communication Studies at IUPUI has the potential to make an impact on and further define this still emerging field.

The Ph.D. program in health communication includes the following main program objectives. Students will: (1) obtain competency for teaching and research in areas that include: health interpersonal relationships, intercultural health, and mediated communication in healthcare including health campaign development. Ethical questions regarding each of these health communication contexts will be explored as well. (2) initiate, participate, and develop competency in research on health and medical communication issues; (3) gain skills in understanding clinical problems affected by communication; (4) develop the capabilities necessary to translate research on clinical problems impacted by communication into practice; (5) receive training for academic jobs and healthcare professional positions.

Significantly, interpersonal, intercultural, and mediated communication in healthcare contexts are experiencing growth in demand for academic positions according to the National Communication Association analysis of positions advertised 2005-10. Additionally, these areas are among those identified by Kreps (2001) in Communication Yearbook as future directions in health communication work outside academia. Work in health interpersonal relationships includes: patient-provider communication, the impact of interpersonal relationships on health and wellness, the role of family systems on health care delivery, and the like. Study in intercultural health, for example, includes not only work in health disparities in different communities in the United States, but the ways that cultural assumptions influence disease and recovery and strategies for addressing health concerns worldwide such as malaria or HIV/AIDS. Mediated communication in healthcare may include study of how media channels and messages affect access to, understanding and reception of healthcare messages. These are only a few examples of the opportunities for study in health communication in each of the primary areas to which this program contributes.
Program Information

NOTE: All students should consult the Ph.D. Degree Progression Checklist http://graduate.iupui.edu/doc/forms/progression-checklist-phd.pdf to ensure progression toward degree completion.

General Guidelines for Advisor and Advisory committee (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)

The advisor is an important component of a student’s graduate education. The advisor not only counsels the student on the selection of courses and guides the writing of the dissertation, but also directs the student in outside reading and serves as the student’s major contact with the Department and the field of health communication.

The Director of the Graduate Program in Communication Studies will assign temporary advisors to all new Ph.D. students to assist the student in the selection of courses for the first semester. By the end of the first year, the student should identify a principal advisor (i.e., the chair of the Advisory Committee) and an Advisory Committee for their Ph.D. program. Since students will not have classes with all potential advisors early in their coursework, they should make an effort to meet the entire faculty with health communication interest during their first semester in residence. The "ideal" advisor is a faculty member who actively conducts research in the student’s area of emphasis, is competent in the method to be used in the dissertation, and with whom the student feels comfortable working. Advisors must be selected from those approved to direct dissertations by the Graduate School.

The Advisory Committee consists of a chair and at least two other members. The chair of the Advisory Committee, who serves as the student’s principal advisor, must be knowledgeable in the student’s area of concentration, must have an active and visible (i.e., publications) research agenda, showing evidence of data-based research or exceptional creativity in the field, and have systematic experience in providing graduate training as demonstrated by service on master’s thesis committees and/or doctoral dissertation committees. At least two members of the advisory committee must be members of the graduate faculty. The names of faculty members nominated to serve on the advisory committee shall be forwarded to the student’s school or college for approval no later than one year after the student has been admitted to the Ph.D. program. The advisory committee shall approve the student’s program of study and counsel the student until the passing of the qualifying examination.

The student will meet with his/her Advisory Committee at least once each year to ensure adequate progress toward the degree. The Advisory Committee assists the student with developing a plan of study, including the choice of minor which meets his/her needs. The Advisory Committee, under the leadership of the student’s advisor, aids the student when preparing for comprehensive examinations. The Advisory Committee is a vital resource for developing research connections, finding research sites, developing and refining research protocols, and collecting and analyzing research data/texts effectively and ethically. The Advisory Committee will meet once each spring to evaluate the progress of students and make recommendations on the continued progress of each student.

Changing the membership of the advisory committee (including the advisor) is permitted for good and sufficient reasons (e.g., changing the topic of the dissertation). Requests for change are processed on an individual basis by the Director (following the procedures for original appointment) and the Graduate School.

Course Loads (also see the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)
Students holding appointments as associate instructors, graduate assistants, or research assistants must ordinarily be registered for 6 credit hours during each full semester. See the Indiana University Graduate School Bulletin for potential exceptions to these policies. Students may take no more than 16 hours of credit in any semester or more than a total of 16 credit hours in all the summer sessions in any one year without permission of their graduate advisor. Students who are employed are advised to take into account the demands that such activities make on their time and to reduce their course loads accordingly.

**Grade Requirements**

Students must earn a “C” (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or better for any course to count toward the degree. The student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.3 (B+) or better in order to graduate. If a student drops below a cumulative GPA of 3.3 in a given semester, the student may be placed on probation. If the student drops below a 3.3 for two consecutive semesters or if the cumulative GPA is below a 3.3, the student may be dismissed from the program.

**Transfer Credits (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)**

Transfer of Credit Upon recommendation of the department and with the approval of the dean, work taken for graduate credit at other institutions may be transferred in partial fulfillment of degree requirements. No course may be transferred from another institution unless the grade is B or higher and unless the course was completed within the time limit prescribed (see “Graduate Credit—General” section above). The following restrictions apply: 1. Candidates for the M.A., M.S., LL.M., or M.A.T. degree may offer up to 8 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. 2. Candidates for the M.A.T. degree who are graduates of Indiana University may offer up to 12 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. 3. Candidates for the M.F.A. degree may offer up to 20 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. 4. Candidates for the Ph.D. degree may offer up to 30 hours of graduate credit from other institutions. It must be emphasized that the transfer of credit is not an automatic occurrence. Students must obtain the written consent of both their departmental advisor and the dean before credit earned at other institutions will be added to their records.

**Graduate Non-Degree (GND) Credits**

Students may take no more than 12 hours of credits as a non-degree seeking student. Students accepted to the program must go through the credit transfer process for these credits to count toward the degree. Please note that all GND credits are considered by the Graduate School to be transfer credits; therefore GND credits count toward the maximum of 30 allowable transfer credits.

**Time Limits and Revalidation of Courses (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)**

Normally, a course may not be counted toward degree requirements if it has been completed more than (a) five years prior to the awarding of the degree for master’s students or, (b) seven years prior to the passing of the qualifying examination for Ph.D. students. The graduate advisor, after consultation with the advisory committee, may, however, recommend to the dean that course work taken prior to the above deadlines be revalidated if it can be demonstrated that the knowledge contained in the course(s) remains current. Currency of knowledge may be demonstrated by such things as: (a) passing an examination specifically on the material covered by the course; (b) passing a more advanced course in the same subject area; (c) passing a comprehensive examination in which the student demonstrates substantial knowledge of the content of the course; (d) teaching a comparable course; or (e) publishing scholarly research demonstrating substantial knowledge of the content and fundamental principles of the course. Each course for which consideration for
revalidation is being requested should be justified separately. If the qualifying examination is used for the purpose of revalidation, the number of courses to be revalidated by this method should be limited to two in order to avoid compromising the integrity of the qualifying examination process.

**Course work on other IU Campuses (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)**

Graduate courses that are taken at Indiana University campuses other than the IU-Indianapolis may count toward the Ph.D. in Health Communication. Any course taken at other IU campuses must be approved in writing by the Director of Graduate Studies prior to registration for the course.

**Comprehensive Exam Procedures for Ph.D. Students**

The Ph.D. comprehensive examination is designed to allow students to demonstrate their abilities to function successfully as independent scholars of health communication.

Comprehensive exams are taken after the student has completed a minimum of 39 credit hours (beyond the Master’s) including the required core, seminars, and minor coursework. With approval from their advisor, **students must submit a Plan of Study form to the Graduate Office prior to taking exams** (http://graduate.iupui.edu/forms/index.shtml). The qualifying examination must be passed at least eight months before the date the degree is awarded.

**Description of Exam**

**Part One: General Knowledge Examination:**

The purpose of the **general examination** is to assess the student's engagement of broader theories in a sub-discipline of communication (e.g., mass communication, rhetorical studies, interpersonal communication) that transcend the student's particular specialization in health communication. This knowledge serves students by:

1. Enabling them to draw on scholarship outside their own area of specialization in health communication, which capitalizes on the eclecticism of the field and facilitates integration of diverse perspectives on communication,
2. Enhancing their chances for success on the job market, and
3. Making students more effective at representing the field to non-members.

The student will respond to one general examination question.

**Part Two: Specialty in Health Communication:**

The purpose of the specialty examination is to evaluate the student’s knowledge of a chosen area of specialization in health communication. This includes in-depth understanding of significant theories and an understanding of the history, current trends, and future directions in the health communication specialty. This knowledge serves students by:

1. Validating their claims to be specialists in a particular area,
2. Insuring that they have a sufficient command of subject matter in their areas to frame their dissertations as original contributions to scholarship, and
3. Facilitating interaction with other specialists.

The student will respond to two specialty questions. Typically, one question will focus on demonstrating the student’s theoretical knowledge relevant to the area of specialization, and the other will focus on the student’s
context of interest.

**Part Three: Competence in Research Methods:**

The purpose of the methods examination is to evaluate the student's grasp of relevant research methods and practices in communication research, especially the student's mastery of the methods relevant to the student's dissertation.

*The student will respond to one research methods question.*

**Part Four: Oral Defense:**

When the written portion of the exam has been evaluated, the student will commence the oral exam phase of the process.

**Examination Procedures**

Exams will be administered two times a year: once in early August and once in early January. With the advisor’s approval, a student may petition the Director of Graduate Studies to take the exam at another time.

As the student approaches the completion of 39 hours of coursework, the student’s advisor should arrange a meeting with the student and the advisory committee to discuss the student’s goals and anticipated dissertation project. After this meeting, the advisor should coordinate the crafting of the student’s exam questions in conjunction with the committee. Advisory committee meetings should be held near the end of the spring semester for students planning to take August exams or near the beginning of the fall semester for students taking exams in January.

The student and advisor will agree on a date (either early in August or early in January) to distribute the questions to the student. The advisor will email the questions to the student on the selected date. The student will then have **three weeks from the receipt of the questions to email responses to the advisor**. The student will turn in one section of questions per week. The advisor will then distribute the responses to the committee. The committee will review the responses in preparation for the oral defense.

**All work on the comprehensive exams must be the student’s own work.** Students are not permitted to consult with faculty, students, or others concerning the exam questions and the student’s responses. No peer review or editing is permitted.

**Oral Defense Procedures**

The advisor will schedule the oral defense before the full committee no later than one month after the student completes the exam. The student’s advisor must be physically present for the oral defense. In the unlikely event that a committee member cannot physically attend the defense, s/he may attend by teleconference at the advisor’s and student’s discretion. The defense must take place during the academic year.

Conferences or meetings with committee members and the student concerning the content of the comprehensive exams shall not take place before the scheduled defense. All questions, issues, and points of clarification should be discussed during the defense.

It is expected that the student’s academic advisor lead the oral defense, with other committee members asking
questions as appropriate. Students should bring a copy of their exam responses to the defense, but are not permitted to bring additional notes or other resources.

Upon completion of the oral defense, the student’s committee determines whether the student has satisfactorily passed the comprehensive examination. Once the student has successfully completed the oral defense and all coursework, the student should submit the Nomination to Candidacy of the Ph.D. Degree form found at (http://graduate.iupui.edu/forms/index.shtml).

If the student does not demonstrate satisfactory depth and breadth of knowledge in one of the three areas, the student will be permitted to retake this portion of the comprehensive exam. The retake exam period should begin no later than two weeks from the date of the original oral defense. The oral defense of the one area retake may be waived by the student’s committee.

If the student does not demonstrate satisfactory depth and breadth of knowledge in two of the three areas, the student will be permitted to retake these areas. The retake exam period should begin no later than two weeks from the date of the original oral defense. The student must have an oral defense of the two areas retake.

If the student does not demonstrate satisfactory depth and breadth of knowledge in all three areas, the student will be permitted to retake these areas at a date determined by the student and the advisor. The student must have an oral defense of the three areas retake.

If the student does not demonstrate satisfactory depth and breadth of knowledge in the retake, the student will not be permitted to complete the Ph.D. program.

Admission to Candidacy (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)

After the student has passed both the written and oral portions of the Comprehensive Examinations, then s/he will write and defend a dissertation prospectus in an area of health communication in which the student demonstrates expertise. The defense will take place with the student’s Advisory Committee and will be oral in nature. Once the student successfully completes the oral defense, s/he will be admitted to candidacy.

Prior to admission to candidacy, it is expected that the student will have completed a mixture of academic experiences, including formal coursework, participation in doctoral seminars, research with faculty, and independent research, that are related to the topic of the dissertation and lead up to the dissertation. It also is expected that students will have been exposed to both quantitative and qualitative methods of research prior to admission to candidacy.

No dissertation hours may be taken prior to admission to candidacy; however, students may take as many of their research hours prior to candidacy as they wish. Following the semester in which students are admitted to candidacy, they must enroll in dissertation credit hours.

Dissertation Guidelines (note: you should verify this information with the most current version of the University Graduate School Bulletin)

Procedure for Dissertations
The dissertation will consist of a fully documented written analysis of a problem which extends the knowledge and/or theoretical framework of the field, and reflects the student’s creativity and competence in independent, interdisciplinary research using an appropriate research methodology. Prior to conducting the research for the
dissertation, each student must submit a dissertation proposal that is defended orally and approved by the student’s Dissertation Research Committee.

The writing of the dissertation must conform to standards established by the Graduate School. When the dissertation is completed to the satisfaction of the Dissertation Research Committee, an oral examination in defense of the dissertation is scheduled by the student’s advisor at least 30 days prior to the defense date, in accordance with Graduate School procedures. The oral examination is public and conducted by the Dissertation Research Committee; a majority of the votes cast by the members of the Dissertation Research Committee is necessary to "Pass." The student is required to make any corrections or alterations in the final product which are recommended by the Committee, and it is the responsibility of the student’s advisor to ensure that all changes are completed.

A student taking the final oral examination in defense of the dissertation must be registered for a minimum of one hour of dissertation credit during the semester or summer session in which the examination is administered.

A student taking an examination when the Campus is not in session must be registered for the semester or summer session immediately preceding the examination.

Finally, if a student’s dissertation is to be submitted for publication, the guidelines developed by the Ethics Committee of the American Psychological Association provide the suggestions that can be followed in deciding on the appropriate credit to give the advisor or other members of the committee with respect to authorship.
Department of Communication Studies
Ph.D. in Health Communication Degree Requirements
Effective August 2014

Core Courses (15 credit hours) required of all students
-C500 Advanced Communication Theory
-C592 Advanced Health Communication
-C680 Doctoral Qualitative Methods
-C690 Doctoral Quantitative Methods
-C695 Seminar in Communication and Healthcare

Note: A student entering the PhD program who has completed COMM-C500 and/or COMM-C592 at IUPUI with a grade of B or better cannot retake those courses for the PhD. Since these classes are required for the PhD Core, these students, in consultation with their advisor, will select replacement courses to include in the core.”

Seminars in Content Areas (at least 15 credit hours).
Options include:
-C510 Health Provider-Consumer Communication
-C521 Family Communication in Health Contexts
-C526 Effective Media Strategies
-C528 Group Communication and Organizations
-C544 Relational Communication
-C650 Health Communication through Mediated Channels
-C582 Intercultural Communication
-C593 Advanced Family Communication

Other cross-listed seminars from affiliated faculty in departments or programs such as the Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication (ICIC), Medical Humanities, Medical Sociology, and other health-related areas may count toward the student’s degree progress with approval from the student’s advisor.

Minor Area of Emphasis (9-12 credit hours)
All students must complete a minor in an area related to their primary health communication focus. For example, a student hoping to work in a non-profit health organization might pursue a minor area of emphasis in public health, health informatics, or philanthropic studies. Students hoping to work in the government sector might pursue law and health, industrial organizational psychology, or public health. Minor areas of Ph.D. study might also include bioethics, nursing, bioinformatics, clinical psychology, medical sociology, marketing, social work, health economics, science, or any area in the health and life sciences disciplines or the Liberal Arts disciplines connected to the student’s area of primary focus. An interdisciplinary minor can be developed in consultation with the student’s advisor and advisory committee as well as a minor in research methods/tools. The minor area of emphasis must be approved by the student’s advisor and advisory committee and contain a minimum of three graduate level courses (9 credit hours) in accordance with the department or unit in which the minor is housed. Some departments require a 12 credit hour minor. Also see the Graduate Bulletin for a description of minor requirements: http://bulletins.iu.edu/iu/gradschool/2015-2016/gradschool-pdf.pdf

Comprehensive Examinations
All students must take written examinations that cover both broad knowledge of the health communication field as well as specialized knowledge of a chosen area of health communication. Comprehensive exams are taken after the student has completed a minimum of 39 credit hours (beyond the Master’s) including the required core, seminars, and minor coursework.

C700 Fieldwork/Research (6-9 credit hours)
All students are required to initiate or participate in original research with the approval of their advisor. This field/research work is geared to focus the student’s research interest to serve as a spring-board for the dissertation work. Students will register for C700 Fieldwork / Research and/or another research methods or appropriate course as approved by the student’s advisor. C700 work should be commensurate with the number of hours enrolled for, and the faculty and student should agree in writing to the content of field/research work prior to the beginning of the semester in which the course is taken.

C810 Dissertation (12 credit hours)
Dissertation credits are structured so that the student is unencumbered with completing coursework and can focus completely on conducting research and writing the dissertation for completion of the degree. Students will register for C810.
Communication
Graduate Course Descriptions

C500  Advanced Communication Theory
Students explore how scholars from various traditions have described and explained the universal human experience of communication. Students develop an understanding of a variety of communication theories to more completely interpret events in more flexible, useful and discriminating ways.

C501  Applied Quantitative Research
This course is designed to offer an opportunity to examine, assess, and conduct quantitative research that employs communication theory and quantitative research methods as a means to test theory and quantitative research methods as a means to test theory in applied settings and/or as a means to applied ends.

C502  Applied Qualitative Research
Inductive (data-to-theory) approach to knowledge, and associated sequential and non-sequential methods for studying communication in applied everyday situations.

C503  Applied Learning Project
An applied learning project that provides students with a culminating education experience which gives them the opportunity to apply their knowledge of communicative processes to real life organizational problems, and provides the opportunity to produce a body of work reflexive of their abilities that they can use in seeking employment.

C510  Health Provider-Consumer Communication
This course is designed to teach communication skills and practices related to health care talk by examining transactional communication within health care contexts. Topics covered in this course focus directly upon interpersonal dialogue between health care providers and patients.

C520  Advanced Public Communication
Critical analysis and employment of rhetorical strategies in forms and types of professional discourses, incorporating current technologies.

C526  Effective Media Strategies
Contemporary communicators in need of mediums of communication in addition to face-to-face interaction require an expanded knowledge of rhetorical strategies. This course will have a special focus on the effective use of media as a means of persuasion.

C528  Group Communication and Organizations
This seminar-format course examines the ways in which informal groups and communication networks facilitate a variety of organizational processes (i.e., socialization, diffusion of innovation). Emphasis is placed on developing theoretical understanding of informal groups in organizations as well as on methodological issues involved in studying communication networks in organizations.

C530  Communication Criticism
This course will introduce students to criticism as a method of studying, understanding and analyzing persuasive messages in speeches, fiction, mass media, musical lyrics, political campaign literature, art, and other modes of communication in contemporary culture.
C531  **Media Theory and Criticism**  
This course organized primarily around theories and critical strategies commonly considered within the broad category of Contemporary Criticism - it utilizes primary theoretical texts to introduce students to a variety of methodologies employed in analyzing media messages, and emphasizes the application of theoretical frameworks on the analysis of specific media texts.

C544  **Advanced Relational Communication**  
This course focuses on applications of communication theory/research in such areas as relational culture and relationship development. Coursework includes a scholarly project on a real relationship, and applications of research to areas such as pedagogy and couple/family therapy.

C580  **Advanced Organizational Communication**  
The course provides a solid foundation of concepts for understanding and discussing human organizations. Students will analyze, evaluate, and apply the theories and practices related to organizational issues. Through case studies, readings, and practical applications, this course combines a theory-based understanding of communication in organizations with real-world applications.

C582  **Advanced Intercultural Communication**  
An in-depth analysis of how variables such as values, beliefs, traditions, language, background and experiences are manifested in the verbal and nonverbal meaning of messages communicated by cultures and sub-cultures throughout our global society.

C591  **Topics/Seminar in Applied Communication**  
Applied Communication is a revolving topics course. The changing nature of the topic allows graduate students to explore, synthesize, and integrate knowledge of the field of communication and the particular discipline of applied communication while focusing on a single topic not otherwise addressed in the course of study.

C592  **Advanced Health Communication**  
A course designed to teach communication skills and practices related to health care, by examining health care communication theory. Topics covered range across communication levels (interpersonal, intrapersonal, group, organizational, mass media and mediated communication) within a variety of health care contexts.

C593  **Advanced Family Communication**  
This course covers applications of theory and research on the role of communication in creating and maintaining marriages/committed couples and families. Coursework includes a scholarly term paper on a real couple or family’s communication.

C594  **Communication and Conflict Management in Organizations**  
This seminar-format course examines the communication exchanges that facilitate conflict management within organizational contexts. Specific attention is focused on negotiation and mediation; however the communication of alternative means of conflict and dispute resolution is also discussed. In addition, students will be introduced to methods for assessing conflict interaction in organizations.

C597  **Thesis**  
Applied communication students who choose the thesis option will identify a research topic and develop it under the guidance of the student’s thesis director (IUPUI professor). The thesis topic will be related to the field of applied communication in its foci and method.
C598 **Internship**
This course integrates applied communication theory and practice in a practice setting. Students will apply theoretical concepts and research tools, conduct projects, and interact with communication professionals in the designated setting. In concert with the student’s chosen area of concentration, they will address issues of importance to that particular organization.

C599 **Independent Study**
This course provides students with the opportunity to synthesize and apply knowledge acquired through course work and professional experience into a completed research project in applied communication. Students will work independently on a topic/issue of choice under the guidance of graduate faculty.

C620 **Computer Mediated Communication**
An overview of practical and scholarly approaches to computer mediated communication. The readings address mass communication, discourse, community, gender, intercultural understanding, ethics, interpersonal relationships, identity, organizational communication and education.

C621 **Persuasion**
Takes a rhetorical/critical approach to persuasion in its broadest sense, how it affects our lives everyday and how we can find evidence of persuasive tactics in unexpected places. We will look broadly at theories of persuasion and their application across contexts and fields. In order to keep our attention to how these theoretical perspectives make their way into practice we will devote considerable attention to specific examples of persuasion and analysis of persuasive phenomena.

C644 **Political Communication**
Examines the public communication involved in various political contexts. We will consider the communication involved in political campaigns, advertising, and oratory; social media, technology, and popular culture; the news, framing, and political media; citizenship, public deliberation, and decision making in what some argue is a divided political culture. We will read and discuss state of the art research in political communication and meet individuals who are currently working in a communication capacity in public political campaigns.

C650 **Health Communication Media**
Focus on the effect of media on health behavior. Theories of health behavior change and media effects examined; applications of theory to health campaigns evaluated. Examples of mediated health campaigns and effectiveness discussed. Considerations include: interplay among theory, research, practice; how theory informs practice; how research aids in theory construction/refinement.

C680 **Qualitative Methods**
An introduction to qualitative research methods in communication studies, with an emphasis on health communication research. Provides an overview of several techniques for gathering and analyzing qualitative data.

C690 **Quantitative Research in COMM**
Course focuses on the principles and theory of descriptive and inferential statistics within the context of health communication research. Topics include t-test, ANOVA, MANOVA, ANCOVA, correlation, multiple regression, and SEM. Students will gain proficiency using SPSS to analyze novel data sets, and will conduct their own health communication research projects and report the results.
C695  Communication and Healthcare
This seminar offers an interface between learning from practicing providers and experts in medical care specialties and becoming enmeshed in health communication research. The course is structured so that the student gains insights from experts in the medical field while also gaining an overview of research issues through reading and engaging in health communication research.

C700  Fieldwork/Research
This course is designed to allow PhD students to complete independent research projects prior to enrollment in the dissertation course. Students can enroll in 1-9 credit hours in any given semester, depending on the nature of the project. The fieldwork/research course is designed to focus the student’s research interests and to serve as a spring-board for dissertation work. Students must have ample preparation in some theoretical area and in one or more research methods prior to registration for the course. The course will allow students to initiate or conduct a research study, including the collection and examination of data (broadly defined), to answer a question or to test a hypothesis related to communication theory. May be repeated for credit.

C810  Dissertation
Partial List of Approved Courses

This is a sample of approved courses offered outside the Department of Communication Studies. All course selections must have the approval of the major advisor. **Although many graduate courses may be available as electives, prerequisites or instructor permission may be required. Please use the following as a guide only for choosing electives, since there is the possibility that some courses may no longer exist or may have changed since this list was developed initially. Please contact individual schools for further options that may be available and check with the specific department to ensure that the course is available for non-majors.**

**Journalism**
- J520 Seminar: Visual Communication
- J526 Public Relations Management
- J553 Education and Media
- J529 Public Relations Campaigns

**School of Business**
- A501 Financial Accounting and Reporting
- K501 Quantitative Tools for Business

**Informatics**
- I505 Project Management
- I590 Topics Courses

**School of Liberal Arts**

**Economics**
- E504 Mathematical Economics
  - *(Prereq: M163 and M164 Calculus) E570 Econometrics
  - *(Prereq: M163 and M164 Calculus) E514 Economics of Nonprofit Organizations
  - *(Prereq: E201 Introduction to Microeconomics)
- E514 Economics of Nonprofit Organizations

**Geography**
- G535 Remote Sensing and Air Photo Interpretation
- G537 Computer Cartography and Graphics
- G538 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
- G539 Advanced Geographic Information Systems
- G588 Applied Spatial Statistics
- G639 Seminar in Geographic Information Science

**History**
- H500 History of Historical Thought
- H509 Special Topics in European History
- H511 Special Topics in U.S. History
- H521 Special Topics in African, Asian, or Latin American History

**World Languages and Cultures**
(Classes are taught in Spanish)
- S513 Introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics
- S517 Methods of Teaching College Spanish
- S518 Studies in Latino and Spanish American Culture
- S519 Practicum in the Teaching of Spanish
- S680 Topics in Contemporary Spanish American Literature

**Sociology**
- S500 Pro-seminar in Sociology
- R515 Sociology of Health and Illness
- R525 Women and Work
- S526 The Sociology of Human Sexuality
- R530 Families and Social Policy
- S530 Introduction to Social Psychology
- R537 Gender and Society
- R551 Sociological Research Methods
- R556 Advanced Sociological Theory I: The Classical Tradition
- R557 Advanced Sociological Theory II: The Modern Tradition
- R559 Intermediate Sociological Statistics
  - *(Prereq: R359 Introduction to Sociological Statistics)
- S560 Graduate Topics
- R585 Social Aspects of Mental Health and Mental Illness
- R593 Applied Fieldwork for Sociologists
- R610 Sociology of Health and Illness Behavior
School of Library and Information Science
L524 Information Sources and Services
*(Prerequisite: L401 Waiver form) L570 Online Information Retrieval
*(Prerequisite: L401 Waiver form) L623 Information in the Humanities
*(Prerequisite: L524)

School of Music
E536 Graduate Urban Drum Experience
E536 Introduction to the Business of Music E536 Workshop: IUPUI Jazz Ensemble
N512 Foundations of Music Production
N519 Digital Sound Design for Multimedia I
N520 Digital Sound Design for Multimedia II
N522 Techniques for Music Performance, Teaching and Production at a Distance

School of Nursing
N530 Policy and Practice Perspectives in Advanced Nursing Practice
N532 Advanced Nursing Practice Roles

Psychology
I501 Multicultural Counseling
S40 History of Psychology
*(Prereq: 9 hours of Psychology courses)
I555 Medical and Psychosocial Aspects of Chronic Illness
*(Prereq: 9 hours of Psychology courses including I549)
570 Industrial Psychology
572 Organizational Psychology

School of Public and Environmental Affairs
J582 Criminal Justice Systems
J682 Criminal Justice Planning and Management
H501 U.S. Health Care: Systems, Policies, and Ethical Challenges
H502 Developing Strategic Capability
H503 Principles of Health Systems Management and Policy Development
H505 Health Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation
H507 Management of Individual and Group Behavior
H607 Public Health Organization and Management
H640 Topics in Health Services Administration
V503 Professional Development Practicum: Writing and Presentation
V516 Public Management Information Systems
V522 Human Resource Management in Nonprofit Organizations
V545 The U.S. Healthcare System
V554 Human Services Administration
V566 Executive Leadership
V569 Managing Interpersonal Relationships
V595 Managerial Decision Making
V631 Health Planning