

COMMUNICATION (COMM)

COMM 1100 Human Communication Theories 3 Credits

This course introduces major theoretical perspectives that inform communication scholarship. This foundational course for the major emphasizes understanding human communication as a symbolic process that creates, maintains, and alters personal, social, and cultural identities. Students critique research literature in the communication field. This course counts in the social and behavioral sciences core curriculum for non-majors.

COMM 1101 Argument and Advocacy 3 Credits

This introduction to public speaking and the advocacy process includes topic identification; methods of organization, research, selection, and arrangement of support materials; audience analysis and adaptation; patterns and fallacies of reasoning; uses of evidence; logical proof; and refutation. Students practice and critique informative and persuasive presentations in this course, which is a skill required in all upper-level communication courses.

COMM 1102 Introduction to Public Relations 3 Credits

Attributes: SPEL Sports Media Elective

This course introduces public relations as a field of study and as a practice. Through building critical thinking and considering ethical behaviors, this course will not only introduce you to the various types of public relations but will also help you to become a critical consumer of the public relations efforts taking place in the world around you while developing your own public relations tools and strategies.

COMM 1108 Introduction to Sports Broadcasting 3 Credits

Attributes: ENPC Digital Journalism Production Component

This course introduces students to the principles and practice of the world of sports broadcasting. Topics include the history of the industry, its developing techniques, the aesthetic and narrative structure of television sportscasting, its economic impact on the industry, media law and ethics applied to the sports world, and its significant place within the general broadcast world.

COMM 1130 Mass Media and Society 3 Credits

This media literacy course offers theoretical and practical tools to critically analyze media texts, as well as understand different ways in which audiences interact with them. Students will inquire into how the pervasive mediation of human experience through mass communication channels affects almost every aspect of socialization processes and people's symbolic environment. The interplay between structural constraints conveyed in media's messages and humans' capacity to exercise interpretive agency is addressed through lectures, audiovisual examples, hands-on activities, and a variety of assignments aimed at discerning the elements that intervene in the construction and reception of media texts, beyond their apparent components. This course counts in the social and behavioral sciences core curriculum for non-majors.

COMM 1232 Television Studio Production 3 Credits

Attributes: ENPC Digital Journalism Production Component, SPEL Sports Media Elective

This course offers a theoretical and hands-on introduction to the art and technology of television production within both a studio and field-based context. Students receive instruction on the creative and aesthetic use of the elements and technology of television production; cameras, audio, lighting, editing, set design, and program development; and participate in a series of projects completed individually and as part of a team.

Previously FTMA 2232, FTMA 1232.

COMM 2200 Interpersonal Communication Theories 3 Credits

Prerequisite: COMM 1100.

An examination of one-to-one relationships from a variety of theoretical perspectives, this course focuses on the centrality of communication in building familial bonds, friendships, and work teams. Students examine factors influencing interpersonal communication such as language, perception, nonverbal behavior, power, status, and gender roles.

COMM 2201 Persuasion 3 Credits

Prerequisite: COMM 1100 or COMM 1102.

This course develops students' understanding of the major theoretical approaches to the study of persuasion as a particular type of social influence, giving specific attention to the processes of interpersonal influence and the media's role in changing social attitudes. Students construct communication campaigns to apply persuasion concepts and skills.

COMM 2202 Small Group Communication 3 Credits

Prerequisite: COMM 1100 or COMM 1102.

This course examines the basic characteristics and consequences of small-group communication processes in various contexts including family, education, and work groups. The course stresses interaction analysis and team-building. Because the course involves examining small groups in process, students do a substantial amount of group work.

COMM 2205 Nonverbal Communication: Emojis, Emotions, and Employment 3 Credits

Prerequisite: COMM 1100.

This course explores a wide variety of nonverbal behaviors including: proxemics, haptics, chronemics, kinesics, artifacts, paralinguistic cues, and written communication. The course uses an applied approach to enhance understanding of the impact of nonverbal behaviors on interpersonal, intercultural, and organizational communication contexts and interactions. The role of nonverbal cues in complementing, accenting, substituting, repeating, or contradicting verbal messages will also be examined. The importance of effectively using and interpreting nonverbal behaviors in both personal (platonic and romantic) and professional relationships will be explored using textual analyses and participant-observation exercises.

COMM 2220 Introduction to Organizational Communication 3 Credits

Attributes: BUEL Business Elective, SPEL Sports Media Elective

Prerequisite: COMM 1100 or COMM 1102.

Taking a historical and communication-centered approach to understanding how business and professional organizations function, this course addresses the analysis of upward, downward, and lateral communication; communication channels and networks; power and critical theory; organizations as cultures; internal and external public communication; and leadership. The course uses a case study approach.

COMM 2231 Media Institutions 3 Credits

Attributes: ENDE Digital Journalism Elective, SPEL Sports Media Elective

Prerequisite: COMM 1130.

The course concentrates on the economic, political, and legal environment of U.S. mass media. Issues include examination of individual media industries, the economic structure of U.S. media markets, media law and regulation, media watchdogs, advocacy organizations, and media users' forms of collective action. The course's content is approached through an institutional analysis perspective, intended to facilitate students' understanding of institutions as dynamic points of confluence for organizations, norms, and individual agents. As part of the course's requirements, students conduct a research project exploring recent developments and/or decision-making processes within one of the major media institutions covered during the semester.

COMM 2236 Gender, Sexuality, and Media**3 Credits****Attributes:** SPEL Sports Media Elective, WSGF Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Focused**Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

This course enables students to examine the relationship between the representation of women and the development of personal and social identity. Students explore issues of gender and reception, cultivating consumerism, body image, and developing relevant new images through theoretical readings as well as the analysis of various media, including television, film, magazines, and advertisements. The course also covers the experiences of women in a variety of media professions.

COMM 2237 Sports, Media, and Culture**3 Credits**

Sports have long played a vital yet complex role in culture and this course examines the intersection of sports, the mass media, and society. Drawing upon Durkheimian theory, we will appraise and debate the ways in which sports are functional or problematic in their impact on and relationship to players, fans, journalists, co-cultural groups, and nations. Students will read both scholarly and journalistic reflections, view popular and documentary films, and analyze fan experiences, mediated presentations, and critical social issues. In short, we will go beyond the box score to understand the importance and deconstruct the hype that accompanies modern sports.

COMM 2238 Communication and Popular Culture**3 Credits****Attributes:** ASCO American Studies: Communication**Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

This course takes the cultural artifacts that engulf us, from fashion to television and from music to comic books, and removes these practices and texts from simply being "entertainment" or "diversion" and asks what these things mean, how they constitute power, and how they shape and reflect the lived experiences of consumers. This course takes very seriously those things that are typically discarded as lacking substance and instead suggests that the meanings and impact of popular culture have dramatic consequences for political, social, and cultural life in the United States.

COMM 2239 Consumer Culture**3 Credits****Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

This course explores how social meanings are constructed through commodities and material society, how consumer goods and practices create categories of social difference. In particular, the course focuses on the intersections of consumer practices and gender/sexuality, race and class, articulating the relationship between communication and consumption practices and social/cultural identities. Theoretical approaches include Marxism, Postmodernism, and other economic and social critiques, and explore research methods to empirically investigate questions of culture. Students reflect on questions of social justice in relation to an increasingly materialistic society as they seek to become citizens prepared to "consume with a conscience."

COMM 2240 Intercultural Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** INEL International Studies Elective**Prerequisite:** COMM 1100 or COMM 1102 or INST 1050.

This course deals with challenges to communication between people of different cultural backgrounds, emphasizing the ways communication practices reveal cultural values and the role of communication in creating and sustaining cultural identities. Students discuss how differences in value orientation, perception, thought patterns, and nonverbal behavior cause misunderstanding, tension, and conflict in business, education, and healthcare settings.

COMM 2241 Communication and Culture: East and West**3 Credits****Attributes:** ANMC Asian Studies Elective, INEL International Studies Elective**Prerequisite:** COMM 1100 or COMM 1102 or INST 1050.

This course examines the dynamics of culture and communication focusing on the East-West dyad. It helps students gain a better understanding of why and how cultural issues influence our communication. The course explores the East-West cultural similarities and differences in values, communication processes, cognition, and relationships. It will enhance students' intercultural awareness and sensitivity in our increasingly globalized society.

COMM 2242 Alcohol, Addiction, and Culture**3 Credits****Attributes:** HSSS Health Studies: Social Science**Prerequisite:** COMM 1100 or COMM 1102.

From the time we are young children through our adult lives we are exposed to countless alcohol advertisements and engage in myriad alcohol-focused conversations with family, friends and coworkers. This course draws on perspectives from the personal to the institutional to critically examine the conversations on alcohol consumption, promotion, education and recovery from a health communication perspective. Through service learning opportunities with local high school seniors, students in the course reflects on the ways in which we talk about alcohol use, abuse, and alcoholism, and how that "talk" cultivates harmful and helpful perceptions and behaviors.

COMM 2246 Family Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** WSGF Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Focused
Prerequisite: COMM 1100 or COMM 1102 or COMM 1130.

In this course students come to understand how families are constituted through symbolic processes and interaction; explore the verbal and non-verbal communication behaviors that are developed and preferred in different kinds of families; learn various theories for understanding family interactions at the individual, dyadic, group, and systems levels; analyze family communication patterns using established theories and methods; connect family dynamics to social trends and processes including the roles of the mass media and popular culture; and explore ways culture, class, gender, and sexuality affect and are affected by family structures, roles, and communication patterns.

COMM 2250 Sports Media Industry**3 Credits****Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

This course critically examines the assemblage of corporations, institutions, and actors that make up the sports media industry, with a focus on the practices, policies, and relationships within and between them. The course will combine academic readings from media studies, media industries studies, and sports studies with readings from popular press and trade publications to examine the sports media industry from differing angles: historical, technological, cultural, economic, and institutional. Further, students will critically engage with pressing issues in the industry including conglomeration, industry changes from technological shifts, discrimination and inequality, and the tensions between entertainment, journalism, and politics.

COMM 2252 Broadcast Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** ENPC Digital Journalism Production Component, SPEL Sports Media Elective**Prerequisite:** COMM 1100 or COMM 1101.

This course offers an overview of the field of and skills associated with broadcasting on television. The goal is to make you a more effective communicator in a fast paced industry by learning how to think, report, and write like a broadcaster. Students will also learn the importance of powerful storytelling through writing and the use of video and sound.

COMM 2299 Communication Research Methods**3 Credits**

The primary purpose of this course is to investigate the communication discipline as a social science. We begin by examining the scientific method and how it is used to produce empirical research that either tests communication theories or generates communication theory. We will examine the foundations of quantitative and qualitative research and will review various methodologies including survey, experiment, content analysis, ethnography, field interviews, and focus group. We will also review different areas of research and theory within the communication discipline (i.e., persuasive, interpersonal, organizational, public relations, nonverbal, instructional, mediated, etc.). Rather than focusing exclusively on how communication research is conducted, you will learn how to read, interpret, and use research findings to address communication-related problems in your personal and professional lives. Additionally, it is my hope that you will gain an appreciation for communication research and theory and for how communication knowledge is generated through the scientific method.

COMM 2333 Public Relations Strategy Development**3 Credits****Attributes:** MWID Magis Core: Writing in the Discipline**Prerequisite:** COMM 1102.

This course provides an overview of the concepts and the strategic process of public relations (research, planning, program, and evaluation) by analyzing the public relations cases. This course introduces primary functions of public relations (e.g., media relations, employee relations, consumer relations, community relations, crisis communication, and social media engagement) in different sectors including corporate, non-profit, and government. Upon the course completion, students will understand the purpose of public relations programs and research and be able to develop an appropriate public relations strategy to solve problems.

COMM 3233 Information Technologies: Economics, Law, and Policy**3 Credits****Attributes:** ENDE Digital Journalism Elective**Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

An in-depth exploration of current issues and trends that shape the institutional environment of information industries and new media, both domestically and globally. By digesting and analyzing a diversity of scholarly sources, news reports, and materials generated by multiple stakeholders, students will gain a critical perspective on major economic, legal, and policy questions that affect the production, access to, circulation, and processing of digital content, such as broadband penetration, regulation of intellectual property, crowdsourcing, privacy, surveillance, net neutrality, emerging revenue models for information goods, and regulation and governance of the Internet.

COMM 3245 Identities, Discourse, and Social Change**3 Credits**

Attributes: BSFC Black Studies Focus Course, BSSS Black Studies: Social and Behavioral Sciences, PJST Peace and Justice Studies, WSGC Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Component
Prerequisite: COMM 1100.

Grounded in the premise that identities are inseparable from communication, this course focuses on the negotiation of, and the discursive practices pertaining to, social identities by exploring the intersections of ethnicity-race, gender, sexuality, social class, ability, and age. Given that individual-group differences matter, this course addresses social issues and concerns by concentrating on how structures of power and privilege shape understandings of salient social identities within the United States. Additionally, this course will raise questions about the role of communication research in fostering social change.

COMM 3248 Health Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** HSSS Health Studies: Social Science, PAPH Public Administration Public Health**Prerequisite:** Sophomore standing.

This course surveys the multidimensional processes used to create, maintain, and transform complex scientific information into everyday healthcare practices. A major emphasis is on the processes and complexities of communicating health information in a variety of settings (in hospitals, families, insurance companies, policy organizations, etc.) and through different channels (face-to-face, in medical records, through the mass media, etc.). We will study the verbal and non-verbal communication behaviors of providers, patients, families, insurers, and others in healthcare contexts, as well as health-related messages in the mass media, in order to understand effective and problematic communication about illness and health.

COMM 3249 Communicating Inequality in American Healthcare**3 Credits**

This course applies a bifocal social justice-communication lens to the evolution of access and delivery of U.S. health care. The course will examine the communication inequities in American health care co-cultures, including: providers, patients, and insurers, as well as the impact of politics, economics, technology, etc. In addition, the dialectical tensions created by acute care/disease-focused vs. prevention/wellness-centric health care delivery models will be highlighted and examined. The evolving economic burdens of an aging population, uninsured Americans, immigration, expanding technology, provider specialization, and fewer health care gatekeepers on the health care system will also be evaluated.

COMM 3322 Leadership Communication**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 2220, junior standing.

This course examines the processes and complexities of being a leader in today's dynamic organizational environment. The course explores the leadership styles, traits, and communication skills required of effective leaders. In addition, theories of leadership and the impact of culture and ethics, both historically and currently, will be studied. This course uses a combination of lecture, discussion, individual and group learning opportunities, including interviews of professional and community leaders, as well as a written and oral research projects to aid in students' assimilation of the material.

COMM 3323 Gender and Organizing**3 Credits****Attributes:** WSGF Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Focused**Prerequisites:** COMM 2220, junior standing.

Gender is central to how we organize our lives. The way we communicate about gender can enhance or undermine all of our relationships. The purpose of this seminar is to augment, or even change, our understanding of the relationship between gender, communication, and organizations. Specifically, the goal for this course is to use a combination of scholarly essays and journal articles as well as popular news media to examine critically topics such as femininity, masculinity, and sexuality within the following contexts: education, sports, politics/government, leadership, the military, and other professions and organizations.

COMM 3324 Crisis Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** HASM Humanitarian Action Minor Skills/Method Course, SPEL Sports Media Elective**Prerequisites:** COMM 1102, sophomore standing.

This course discusses key concepts, principles, and best practices of crisis communication. Intersections with other areas of the communication field will also be addressed, including public relations and organizational and risk communication. Students will understand the role strategic communication, power, stakeholders, and organizational culture play during a crisis. This course analyzes case studies of previous crises and will ask students to provide their own plans and critical assessments of recent crises.

COMM 3325 Organizational Communication and Advertising**3 Credits****Attributes:** SPEL Sports Media Elective**Prerequisites:** COMM 2220, junior standing.

This course will highlight how organizations market, promote, and advertise their brands. The importance of advertising for organizations, consumers, and the U.S. economy will also be a central focus of this class. Furthermore, the critical roles of research, audience analysis, persuasion, and effective communication in altering consumers' perceptions will be explored from both theoretical and applied perspectives. The value of deconstructing ads from a consumer, brand manager, and advertiser's viewpoint will be stressed and explored. In addition, the historical and contemporary ethical implications of advertising, especially in health care and for children, will be closely examined.

COMM 3326 Free Speech: Philosophical Origins to Digital Debates**3 Credits****Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

This course examines the origins of free speech starting with the Greeks and ending in recent debates about digital speech. It focuses on differing conceptions of free speech, from individual expression to collective amplification and technology. From the perspective of critical theory we take up issues of power such as who gets to speak and be heard with particular attention to media industries. The course critically examines moments in which speech rights have been debated on campuses, such as the Berkeley Free Speech Movement and Black Lives Matter. Contemporary issues such as trolling, hacking, and mob censorship are discussed.

COMM 3331 American Media / American History**3 Credits****Attributes:** ENDE Digital Journalism Elective**Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

This course examines the role of communication media in history, as well as the history of the media industries. From the earliest media of symbolic interaction to the newest technologies, the course examines why different media come into being, how they function in various societies, and their impact. Students come to understand how media have been influential in maintaining social order and as agents of change. The course pays attention to a variety of national media and international perspectives, with special emphasis on the evolution of American broadcasting.

COMM 3333 Public Relations Management and Campaigns**3 Credits****Prerequisite:** COMM 1102.

This course is designed to introduce students to the process of campaign development, management, and evaluation, and marks the transition from student to professional. This course builds on the public relations courses you have taken previously, and by the end of this course, you should have synthesized your PR knowledge from various texts and courses. The primary goal of this course is to help you master the elements of a strategic communication campaign through direct experience as a practitioner.

COMM 3335 Globalization, Media, and Culture**3 Credits****Attributes:** INEL International Studies Elective, IWSS Islamic World Studies: Social Sciences**Prerequisites:** COMM 1130 or INST 1050; junior standing.

Globalization, a complex and transformative process that influences our lives at every level, has produced the increased flow of goods, capital, people, knowledge, images, crime, pollutants, drugs, fashion, viruses, and beliefs across territorial and ideological boundaries of all kinds. This course focuses on the role of communication media (radio, television, film, computers) in the processes of globalization and examines the impact of globalization on cultural representations, cultural identity, and international relations.

COMM 3336 Media Infrastructures**3 Credits****Attributes:** INEL International Studies Elective**Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

This course brings together theoretical frameworks from media studies, urban studies, and science and technology studies to consider how, often invisible, infrastructures enable or preclude the mobility of texts, people, and ideas across the globe. Foregrounding critical infrastructure studies, which focuses on the relationship of infrastructures with power, it will take up questions of access, exclusion, breakdown, and agency in relation to urban environments, digital cultures, and global politics.

COMM 3337 Visual Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** GDCO Graphic Design: Communication**Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

This course provides a broad introduction to the structure, conventions, and effects of visual communication with a theoretical emphasis on media ecology. The first half is devoted to understanding formal properties including examining the basics of vision, techniques for visual persuasion, and the language of cinematography and editing. The second half surveys more controversial issues like digital manipulation and violence and sex in media. Course material and assignments will be drawn from media domains including advertising, photo/video journalism, and video games. Students will read both theoretical contributions to and empirical investigations of the field.

COMM 3340 Conflict Communication**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 2200 or COMM 2220; junior standing.

Conflict is a natural part of human life that has a variety of potential consequences. Although conflict can be disruptive and destructive, it can also be constructive and lead to improved adjustment and better decisions. The course is designed to offer you opportunities to enhance and improve your techniques and skills in managing conflict and moving them in a productive direction. The course examines the dynamics of human conflict across a variety of settings from personal relationships to the workplace, with special attention to the communication processes that escalate, manage, and mediate conflict.

COMM 3342 Technoculture and Information Society 3 Credits**Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

This course explores phenomena, trends, and theories related to emerging information and communication technologies (ICTs), as well as relationships among those technologies, socio-economic structures, "old" media institutions, media users, and culture. Through a combination of theoretical and practical explorations that emphasize historical, ethical, and critical thinking, the course introduces students to academic and non-academic perspectives on new media.

COMM 3344 Interracial Communication 3 Credits**Attributes:** BSFC Black Studies Focus Course**Prerequisites:** COMM 2200, junior standing.

This course focuses on the ways in which communication theories and research can improve the existing state of race relations in the United States. Throughout the course, up-to-date issues that surface locally and nationally in the media that illustrate the relevance of improved interracial communication will be addressed through class discussion and linked to course assignments. Using case studies to explore interracial exchanges in close relationships, at the workplace, and reflected in social media, students will link theory with practical applications in an effort to better understand interracial communication.

COMM 3345 Relational Communication 3 Credits**Prerequisites:** COMM 2200 or COMM 2220; junior standing.

Close relationships can bring us a great deal of joy, happiness, and love, but unfortunately they can also be sources of frustration, pain, and conflict. This course is designed to help us understand the critical role of communication in developing, maintaining, and terminating close relationships with romantic partners, friends, and family members. The course examines the most current research and theory on a variety of topics that are central to understanding and maintaining close relationships, with a focus on attraction, attachment, conflict, power, emotion, transgression, reconciliation, and termination.

COMM 3347 Communication in Healthcare Organizations 3 Credits**Attributes:** HSSS Health Studies: Social Science**Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

This course explores the organizational communication of modern U.S. healthcare organizations, including: managed care, insurers, healthcare systems, and Medicare/Medicaid. The primary purposes of this course are to provide an understanding of how communication within, and from healthcare corporations impacts the organization, its employees, the health of its customers and U.S. healthcare delivery. This course will evaluate and explore the multidimensional processes involved in healthcare organizations and how communication is critical to their success or failure and to the health and well-being of their customers.

COMM 3348 Health Risk Communication 3 Credits**Attributes:** EVAP Environmental Studies: Applied Professional Skills, HSSS Health Studies: Social Science, PAPH Public Administration Public Health**Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

This course examines the communication theories and research that underlie the study of risky behaviors and the development of effective responses to perceived risks. This course provides an understanding of how communication impacts our assessment of risk, critical thinking and policy making about risk prevention and response, and the creation of preventive programs and campaigns. Students will evaluate and explore the multidimensional processes involved in researching and responding to sustained risks or emergency situations, utilize communication theory to develop appropriate campaigns, and assess their success or failure. Topics may focus on health and environmental risks, security, or disaster response.

COMM 3351 Dark Side of Communication 3 Credits**Prerequisite:** COMM 1100.

This course will examine aversive and problematic interactions in the interpersonal, organizational, and instructional settings. Sample topics include hurtful messages, stalking, aggression, jealousy, fatal attraction, and conflict. Students will take a research-based approach to understanding these undesirable, yet very common, communicative messages.

COMM 4318 Lying and Deception 3 Credits**Prerequisite:** COMM 2200.

Deception, defined as "a message knowingly transmitted by a sender to foster a false belief or conclusion by the receiver" (Buller & Burgoon, 1998, p. 381), is relatively common. Despite this, we often assume that others are honest and have negative views of deception. At its core, deception represents a discrepancy between thoughts/feelings and the message withheld/expressed. Therefore, this advanced level Communication course will examine various research approaches to understanding deception, motives for deception, and the implications of communicating deception.

COMM 4321 Communication Processes in Organizations:**Negotiation 3 Credits****Attributes:** EVAP Environmental Studies: Applied Professional Skills**Prerequisites:** COMM 2220, junior standing.

This course reviews and explores, through simulation and experiential learning, negotiation as a communication process in and among organizations. It focuses on core concepts and approaches to negotiation, and exercises the negotiative process in a contemporary context. In this course, which is open to majors and minors in communication and other disciplines related to the study of humans and their organizations in the work world, participants carry out individual and team work, and contribute on time and proportionately to team preparations and class simulations.

COMM 4328 Palliative Care Communication: USA & Italy 3 Credits**Attributes:** HSSS Health Studies: Social Science, MSID Magis Core:

Interdisciplinary

Fee: \$-855**Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

This is an interdisciplinary, intercultural course that applies a bifocal (communication and healthcare) lens to the study of palliative care. The course is intended to explore this relatively new area of health care delivery (quality of life vs. cure) and the critical role communication plays in accomplishing the interdependent goals of providers, patients, and families in the United States and Italy. Since palliative care should be for all chronically and/or terminally ill patients across the life cycle, students will critically examine, from both health care and communication perspectives, the differences in palliative care delivery in the United States and Italy. Open to students with majors or minors in communication, health studies, nursing, public health, or public relations, as well as health professions students. Previously COMM 4326.

COMM 4330 Misinformation in Digital Media**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

This course critically examines the causes for, and the consequences of, the proliferation of false and misleading information in online spaces. While the ubiquity of false information online is often talked about as if it is random or inevitable, this class will detail the specific mechanisms by which false information is produced, spread, and consumed. More importantly, it will contextualize the practice within larger social, culture, and geopolitical environments and connect it to the larger history of misinformation and media technologies. Finally, the course will prepare students to combat false and misleading information encountered in their own media diets.

COMM 4332 Children as Media Consumers**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

This course aims to provide a forum for advanced Communication students to explore the patterns of children's media consumption, focusing primarily on children's use of the so-called "screen media" (television, video games, and the internet), and to investigate the multi-faceted consequences (both positive and negative, social and individual) of children's media consumption. Students will draw upon contemporary theories of communication to assess the content of children's media and its effects on children as a particular segment of the audience. Students will develop an informed understanding of children as media consumers, advocating for the production of "quality" content in children's media.

COMM 4333 News Media and Democracy**3 Credits****Attributes:** ENDE Digital Journalism Elective**Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

The news media play an essential role in changing America and the world. By bridging theory with practice, this course aims to equip students to become critical news consumers with a skilled understanding of how that works and politically literate about the big issues of our time. Through classic scholarly reflections as well as contemporary punditry, we will tackle the news media "critically" across three dimensions: learning about its indispensable function in mediating politics and democracy throughout history and today; studying and practicing the craft of opining writing and social advocacy; and evaluating and critiquing the performance of the press in these matters.

COMM 4336 Social Media**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

At the turn of the millennium, social media was still an unknown term; today, it is inescapably altering the landscape of our world and our lives in complex ways. This course examines social media by historicizing what is timeless about it and charting its new frontiers for humankind. Through a mix of scholarly, journalistic, and professional industry readings on social media, we will explore how culture, community, and identity are being reshaped alongside politics, business, and (what was once called) the mass communication industry.

COMM 4339 Topics in Media Theory and Criticism**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 1130, junior standing.

This course provides an opportunity to examine in depth particular media theories or to conduct careful media analysis and criticism. The course emphasizes contemporary theoretical and/or methodological approaches to the close analysis of television, radio, newspaper, the Internet, and/or magazine texts so as to understand the ways meaning is constructed and situated within the larger social context. Topics may include mass media and the public sphere; television criticism; sex, lies, and videos; and children and the media. Students may take this course up to two times with different topics.

COMM 4341 End of Life Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** HSSS Health Studies: Social Science**Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

This course focuses on the only reality for every human being: death. However, in spite of its certainty, American culture tends to minimize or ignore discussions of death and provides little insight into effective communication strategies for healthcare providers, family members, friends, and lovers. The complexities of this unique communication will be assessed vis-à-vis an applied approach that includes a service-learning opportunity at a 51-bed hospice. In addition, the course will include self-reflection, autoethnography, an exploration of scholarly research in palliative communication, and scholarly interaction between undergraduate students in the classroom and the hospice setting.

COMM 4343 Ethics and Medical Marketing Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics**Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

This course will explore the dialectical tensions between the need for safe and effective products/services and the expectations for corporations to generate profits and dividends for their stakeholders. This course will use an applied ethics lens to examine the organizational, marketing, advertising, and corporate communication to clients, consumers, vendors, and investors. The content and ethical implications of marketing communication (from a variety of organizational perspectives: healthcare, economics, cultural, etc.) on expected and unintended outcomes will also be discussed and analyzed.

COMM 4346 Communication and Spirituality**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 2200, junior standing.

This course engages a critical understanding of the way in which spirituality is constructed through communication. Using the unique perspectives and empirical tools of the communication discipline, the course seeks to familiarize students with the variety of ways in which spirituality has been studied both within and outside of religion. Examining various contexts that engage spiritual discourses, from interpersonal communication settings to organizational, health and mass mediated settings, students reflect on the potential for spiritual discourses to transform individuals and society, and consider their own participation in such discourses.

COMM 4350 Family Crisis Communication**3 Credits****Attributes:** HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics**Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

From health to economic and relational crises, this course addresses the complexities of family communication in the context of our increasingly diverse family constructions. The course asks: What is the role of communication in helping families navigate challenging moments? We ask this question while developing our understanding of family as a social construction, exploring the ways in which crisis communication in the family is historically and culturally situated. Through readings and reflections on family life, the course recognizes multiple perspectives on "normal" family interaction in stressful circumstances, with a critical understanding of our own assumptions about the family construct.

COMM 4352 Global Mediated Activism**3 Credits****Attributes:** INEL International Studies Elective**Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

This class critically examines processes by which publics use and are used by media in the quest for social change around the globe. Social movements have frequently objected to their representation by mainstream media industries and sought to either affect coverage or produce their own media platforms and narratives. The possibilities for mediated activism have increased in an era of user-generated content, while also introducing increasing competition for the time, attention and enthusiasm of publics. Through theories of social movements, communication technologies and publics this course will address processes of assembling publics in an increasingly mediated society.

COMM 4353 Latin American Media and the United States**3 Credits****Attributes:** LCEL LACS Minor: Elective**Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

Since the early twentieth century, Latin American countries have produced media forms and texts that, from a US perspective, we view as "distinct" to the region. This course examines these forms and texts in historical, political, social-cultural, and industrial contexts to ask: what is distinct about Latin American media, how have Latin American media shaped life, what has been the US's role in influencing Latin American cultural production, and how has this informed Latin America's mediated terrain? Students will examine this media and their relationship with the US through discussions, portfolios, and debates to demonstrate expertise in this complex area.

COMM 4360 Reality, Media, and Society**3 Credits****Prerequisite:** COMM 1130.

"Reality" informs the frameworks and content of our highly-mediated world in immense ways. Upon completion, students will be able to assess the various ways in which reality is constructed and framed in current media industries and contexts, and to witness and challenge the ways reality is changing in modes of presentation in emerging media contexts. The course will equip students with the ability to interrogate and question reality in its various industries, landscapes, and disciplines, including those of philosophy, sociology, politics, and media/cultural studies.

COMM 4900 Special Topics (Shell)**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 2200, COMM 2220, COMM 2240, junior standing.

This course focuses on a specific context where social identities are negotiated through particular discursive practices, emphasizing the verbal and nonverbal communication behaviors that are appropriate in this context and through which people constitute and perform their identities. The course examines symbolic practices and communication norms in families, self-help groups, television talk shows, cyber communities, social movements, and genders/sexualities, using approaches such as symbolic convergence theory, social constructivism, ethnography of communication, and conversational analysis. Students may take this course up to two times with different topics.

COMM 4980 Internship**1-3 Credits****Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

Communication internships provide students with first-hand knowledge about the field of work, allow them to experience new professional activities and relationships, help them apply conceptual knowledge and skills in communication in the work environment, and allow them to experience the problems and successes of efficiently and effectively communicating within a complex organization. One three-credit internship course can be used toward the major. Students may take an internship twice for credit. Students must have a GPA of 2.8 or higher. Enrollment by permission only.

COMM 4990 Independent Study**1-3 Credits****Prerequisite:** Junior standing.

This course allows students to thoroughly investigate communication concepts, theories, or issues presented in a previously completed communication course. Independent study does not substitute for any other required course(s) in the communication program and students' investigations must be scholarly in intent. An independent study may be taken no more than twice. Enrollment by permission only.

COMM 4999 Capstone: Research Projects in Communication**3 Credits****Prerequisites:** COMM 1101, COMM 1130; COMM 2200 or COMM 2220; senior standing.

This course allows students to demonstrate their expertise as communication scholars through discussion and evaluation of contemporary research in communication. The course examines qualitative and quantitative methodologies in understanding the research design process. As members of research teams, students design and conduct research projects related to their areas of concentrated study. This is the required major capstone course.

COMM 5321 Communication Processes in Organizations:**Negotiation****3 Credits**

This course reviews and explores, through simulation and experiential learning, negotiation as a communication process in and among organizations. It focuses on core concepts and approaches to negotiation, and exercises the negotiative process in a contemporary context. In this course, which is open to majors and minors in communication and other disciplines related to the study of humans and their organizations in the work world, participants carry out individual and team work, and contribute on time and proportionately to team preparations and class simulations. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 4321.

COMM 5322 Leadership Communication**3 Credits**

This course examines the processes and complexities of being a leader in today's dynamic organizational environment. The course explores the leadership styles, traits, and communication skills required of effective leaders. In addition, theories of leadership and the impact of culture and ethics, both historically and currently, will be studied. This course uses a combination of lecture, discussion, individual and group learning opportunities, including interviews of professional and community leaders, as well as a written and oral research projects to aid in students' assimilation of the material. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3322.

COMM 5323 Gender and Organizing**3 Credits**

Gender is central to how we organize our lives. The way we communicate about gender can enhance or undermine all of our relationships. The purpose of this seminar is to augment, or even change, our understanding of the relationship between gender, communication, and organizations. Specifically, the goal for this course is to use a combination of scholarly essays and journal articles as well as popular news media to examine critically topics such as femininity, masculinity, and sexuality within the following contexts: education, sports, politics/government, leadership, the military, and other professions and organizations. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3323.

COMM 5324 Crisis Communication**3 Credits**

This course discusses key concepts, principles, and best practices of crisis communication. Intersections with other areas of the communication field will also be addressed, including public relations and organizational and risk communication. Students will understand the role strategic communication, power, stakeholders, and organizational culture play during a crisis. This course analyzes case studies of previous crises and will ask students to provide their own plans and critical assessments of recent crises. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3324.

COMM 5325 Organizational Communication and Advertising 3 Credits

This course will highlight how organizations market, promote, and advertise their brands. The importance of advertising for organizations, consumers, and the U.S. economy will also be a central focus of this class. Furthermore, the critical roles of research, audience analysis, persuasion, and effective communication in altering consumers' perceptions will be explored from both theoretical and applied perspectives. The value of deconstructing ads from a consumer, brand manager, and advertiser's viewpoint will be stressed and explored. In addition, the historical and contemporary ethical implications of advertising, especially in health care and for children, will be closely examined. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3325.

COMM 5328 Palliative Care Communication in the United States and Italy 3 Credits

This is an interdisciplinary, intercultural course that applies a bifocal (communication and healthcare) lens to the study of palliative care. The course is intended to explore this relatively new area of health care delivery (quality of life vs. cure) and the critical role communication plays in accomplishing the interdependent goals of providers, patients, and families in the United States and Italy. Since palliative care should be for all chronically- and/or terminally-ill patients across the life cycle, students will critically examine, from both health care and communication perspectives, the differences in palliative care delivery in the United States and Italy. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 4328. Previously COMM 5326.

COMM 5330 Misinformation in Digital Media 3 Credits

This course critically examines the causes for, and the consequences of, the proliferation of false and misleading information in online spaces. While the ubiquity of false information online is often talked about as if it is random or inevitable, this class will detail the specific mechanisms by which false information is produced, spread, and consumed. More importantly, it will contextualize the practice within larger social, culture, and geopolitical environments and connect it to the larger history of misinformation and media technologies. Finally, the course will prepare students to combat false and misleading information encountered in their own media diets. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 4330.

COMM 5334 Comparative Media Systems 3 Credits

This course provides a comparative overview of the economic and regulatory structure of media industries worldwide. By exploring the ways in which different institutional frameworks, structural factors, and audiences' agency affect mass communication within and across regional borders, this course offers a comprehensive picture of common and interdependent processes underlying the individual development of media industries in each region. Students learn about emerging market and research trends concerning international media. Issues related to free flow of messages, social responsibility, universal access, intellectual commons, participatory communication, developmental communication, and cultural diversity in the global exchange of media messages through discussion of current, real-life cases, as well as through design and execution of an original research project. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3334.

COMM 5335 Globalization, Media, and Culture 3 Credits

Globalization, a complex and transformative process that influences our lives at every level, has produced the increased flow of goods, capital, people, knowledge, images, crime, pollutants, drugs, fashion, viruses, and beliefs across territorial and ideological boundaries of all kinds. This course focuses on the role of communication media (radio, television, film, computers) in the processes of globalization and examines the impact of globalization on cultural representations, cultural identity, and international relations. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3335.

COMM 5336 Social Media 3 Credits

At the turn of the millennium, social media was still an unknown term; today, it is inescapably altering the landscape of our world and our lives in complex ways. This course examines social media by historicizing what is timeless about it and charting its new frontiers for humankind. Through a mix of scholarly, journalistic, and professional industry readings on social media, we will explore how culture, community, and identity are being reshaped alongside politics, business, and (what was once called) the mass communication industry. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 4336.

COMM 5337 Visual Communication 3 Credits

This course provides a broad introduction to the structure, conventions, and effects of visual communication with a theoretical emphasis on media ecology. The first half is devoted to understanding formal properties including examining the basics of vision, techniques for visual persuasion, and the language of cinematography and editing. The second half surveys more controversial issues like digital manipulation and violence and sex in media. Course material and assignments will be drawn from media domains including advertising, photo/video journalism, and video games. Students will read both theoretical contributions to and empirical investigations of the field. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3337.

COMM 5340 Conflict Communication 3 Credits

Conflict is a natural part of human life that has a variety of potential consequences. Although conflict can be disruptive and destructive, it can also be constructive and lead to improved adjustment and better decisions. The course is designed to offer you opportunities to enhance and improve your techniques and skills in managing conflict and moving them in a productive direction. The course examines the dynamics of human conflict across a variety of settings from personal relationships to the workplace, with special attention to the communication processes that escalate, manage, and mediate conflict. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3340.

COMM 5341 End of Life Communication 3 Credits

This course focuses on the only reality for every human being: death. However, in spite of its certainty, American culture tends to minimize or ignore discussions of death and provides little insight into effective communication strategies for healthcare providers, family members, friends, and lovers. The complexities of this unique communication will be assessed vis-à-vis an applied approach that includes a service-learning opportunity at a 51-bed hospice. In addition, the course will include self-reflection, autoethnography, an exploration of scholarly research in palliative communication, and scholarly interaction between students in the classroom and the hospice setting. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 4341.

COMM 5342 Technoculture and Information Society 3 Credits

This course explores phenomena, trends, and theories related to emerging information and communication technologies (ICTs), as well as relationships among those technologies, socioeconomic structures, "old" media institutions, media users, and culture. Through a combination of theoretical and practical explorations that emphasize historical, ethical, and critical thinking, the course introduces students to academic and non-academic perspectives on new media. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3342.

COMM 5343 Ethics and Medical Marketing Communication 3 Credits

This course will explore the dialectical tensions between the need for safe and effective products/services and the expectations for corporations to generate profits and dividends for their stakeholders. This course will use an applied ethics lens to examine the organizational, marketing, advertising, and corporate communication to clients, consumers, vendors, and investors. The content and ethical implications of marketing communication (from a variety of organizational perspectives: healthcare, economics, cultural, etc.) on expected and unintended outcomes will also be discussed and analyzed. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 4343.

COMM 5344 Interracial Communication 3 Credits

This course explores current trends in literature on the topics of race relations, communication styles and patterns, communication theory, and the social construction of race along with its influence on how individuals from different races communicate. Throughout the course, up-to-date issues that surface locally and nationally in the media that illustrate the relevance of improved interracial communication will be addressed through class discussion and linked to course assignments. Using case studies to explore interracial exchanges in close relationships, at the workplace, and reflected in social media, students will link theory with practical applications in an effort to better understand interracial communication. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3344.

COMM 5345 Relational Communication 3 Credits

Close relationships can bring us a great deal of joy, happiness, and love, but unfortunately they can also be sources of frustration, pain, and conflict. This course is designed to help us understand the critical role of communication in developing, maintaining, and terminating close relationships with romantic partners, friends, and family members. The course examines the most current research and theory on a variety of topics that are central to understanding and maintaining close relationships, with a focus on attraction, attachment, conflict, power, emotion, transgression, reconciliation, and termination. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3345.

COMM 5347 Communication in Healthcare Organizations 3 Credits

This course explores the organizational communication of modern U.S. healthcare organizations, including: managed care, insurers, healthcare systems, and Medicare/Medicaid. The primary purposes of this course are to provide an understanding of how communication within, and from healthcare corporations impacts the organization, its employees, the health of its customers and U.S. healthcare delivery. This course will evaluate and explore the multidimensional processes involved in healthcare organizations and how communication is critical to their success or failure and to the health and well-being of their customers. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3347.

COMM 5348 Health Risk Communication 3 Credits

This course examines the communication theories and research that underlie the study of risky behaviors and the development of effective responses to perceived risks. This course provides an understanding of how communication impacts our assessment of risk, critical thinking and policy making about risk prevention and response, and the creation of preventive programs and campaigns. Students will evaluate and explore the multidimensional processes involved in researching and responding to sustained risks or emergency situations, utilize communication theory to develop appropriate campaigns, and assess their success or failure. Topics may focus on health and environmental risks, security, or disaster response. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3348.

COMM 5351 Dark Side of Communication 3 Credits

This course will examine aversive and problematic interactions in the interpersonal, organizational, and instructional settings. Sample topics include hurtful messages, stalking, aggression, jealousy, fatal attraction, and conflict. Students will take a research-based approach to understanding these undesirable, yet very common, communicative messages. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 3351.

COMM 5352 Global Mediated Activism 3 Credits

This class critically examines processes by which publics use and are used by media in the quest for social change around the globe. Social movements have frequently objected to their representation by mainstream media industries and sought to either affect coverage or produce their own media platforms and narratives. The possibilities for mediated activism have increased in an era of user-generated content, while also introducing increasing competition for the time, attention and enthusiasm of publics. Through theories of social movements, communication technologies and publics this course will address processes of assembling publics in an increasingly mediated society. Undergraduate equivalent: COMM 4352.

COMM 5400 Communication Philosophies, Theories, and Research Traditions 3 Credits

This class is designed to provide an introduction for the graduate student to the diverse and voluminous research in the area of human communication. As such, it covers an extremely wide range of intellectual, scientific, and historical material. It is a survey course, but we will deal with selected areas in depth. This course will not only introduce the areas of human communication theory and research, but it will also introduce the process of theorizing and thinking about communication. Therefore, the nature of theory, research, and intellectual inquiry is an important part of this course.

COMM 5401 Communication Research Design and Methodologies 3 Credits

A detailed review of research methods and procedures relevant to measuring the phenomena and characteristics of human communication behavior in a variety of contexts and relationships. Quantitative, qualitative, and critical approaches are reviewed and practiced in course projects. Applications of research methods to describing and evaluating communication are studied.

COMM 5402 Ethics and Communication 3 Credits

Coursework includes a comprehensive overview of the development of ethics from ancient to contemporary thought and practices. Emphasis is placed on the ethical agenda, problems, and responsibilities of contemporary organizations in diverse cultures. Case studies and student research focus on contemporary issues in the ethical communicative performance. The relationship between Jesuit philosophy and applied communication work in organizations is also explored.

COMM 5410 Perspectives and Theories in Organizational Communication 3 Credits

This course is intended to highlight organizations and how they are created, maintained and changed through social interaction. Communicating by organizational members is essentially organizing. The course examines organizational communication from both functional and constructivist perspectives.

COMM 5430 Written Communication**3 Credits**

Explores how written communication by its very nature is drastically different from verbal and other nonverbal forms of communication. Considers the effect a printable form of communication has on the message, the sender and receiver, and the potential legal issues associated with written communication. This course focuses on the impact of written messages for intrapersonal, interpersonal, small group, organizational, intercultural, and mass media communication. Examines the historical transformation in content, style, and perception from letters, memos, and notes to the evolving electronic formats for written communication including: e-mails, blogs, chat rooms, e-networking/e-cultures, wikis, etc.

COMM 5431 Media Law and Institutions**3 Credits**

The course concentrates on the legal and economic environment of U.S. mass media. Topics include examination of major doctrines of media law, organization and operation of individual media industries, the economic structure of U.S. media markets, the role of media watchdogs and advocacy organizations, as well as media users' forms of collective action. The course's content is approached through an institutional analysis perspective, intended to facilitate students' understanding of institutions as dynamic points of confluence for organizations, norms, and individual agents. As part of the course's requirements, students conduct a research project exploring recent developments in media regulation and/or decision-making processes within one of the major media institutions covered during the semester.

COMM 5432 Communication Training and Development**3 Credits**

Communication training and development focuses on "the process of developing skills in order to perform a specific job or task more effectively. Stated simply, to train is to develop skills" (Beebe, Mottet, and Roach, 2013 p. 5). Therefore, this course adopts a research-based approach to understanding training and development, with the ultimate goal of equipping students with skills necessary to become successful corporate trainers. Some students might pursue careers in training, whereas others will not. Regardless of your career choice, though, there will be times in your professional lives where you work "to develop skills" in others.

COMM 5501 Interpersonal Communication**3 Credits**

This course is a critical examination of the major theories of interpersonal communication and an exploration of interpersonal communication research in relational and organizational contexts. Student projects will use social science research methods to examine factors influencing interpersonal communication such as language, perception, nonverbal behavior, power, status, and gender roles.

COMM 5502 Small Group and Team Communication**3 Credits**

This course is a study of the communication dimensions and dynamics of small groups, teams, and networks of organizational actors. Coursework and projects focus on interpersonal processes and structures for tasking and relating effectively in organizational settings. The special characteristics of virtual team and technology-enhanced decision-making work are investigated.

COMM 5522 Communication and Organizational Leadership**3 Credits**

This course focuses on the communication behaviors that constitute leadership. Models explore interpersonal influence, power in organizations, leading decision-making teams and task-oriented groups, and developing situational leadership skills. Early and contemporary research perspectives on leadership are reviewed and critically analyzed. Student projects include case studies and reviews of role-model leaders.

COMM 5524 Negotiation and Conflict Management: Communication Approaches**3 Credits**

This course explores a selection of conflict situations with particular emphasis on organizational and community settings. Theoretical exploration focuses on the nature of conflict, and negotiation and dialogue as communication processes. The course privileges win-win and dialogic approaches and provides experiential learning in simulations in which teams of students negotiate detailed and practicable outcomes for resolving contemporary organizational and societal problems.

COMM 5530 Media Theory and Criticism**3 Credits**

This course introduces students to the study of media in the United States. It focuses on the major theoretical trajectories that have shaped the field, empirical research that has emerged as canonical, and contemporary critical approaches that inform not just how we study media as scholars, but also how we understand media as consumers.

COMM 5531 Work/Life Intersections**3 Credits**

This course examines those situations where work and life intersect and how humans use communication to create, negotiate, and manage work/life intersections.

COMM 5532 Nonprofit Media**3 Credits**

This course focuses on public relations, advertising and marketing strategies for nonprofit and public service organizations. The course begins with a broad overview of media industries and the changing landscape of media technologies and then considers how nonprofit and other public service organizations can best leverage resources to effectively communicate with intended audiences. Both theoretical and practical, this course provides graduate students with historical understandings of how media industries are organized and how not for profit organizations interface with profit-driven media businesses. Special attention is paid to how social media platforms and other digital technologies impact communication strategies.

COMM 5537 New Media Studies**3 Credits**

The digital and social media that have emerged in the past decade are reshaping our world in profound ways - this course explores those developments in light of both extended history and the contemporary moment. Through a mix of scholarly and journalistic readings, we will inquire into the ways in which culture, community, and identity are undergoing change alongside marketing, politics, and the "mass" communication industries. Our focus will include a wide variety of new media platforms, practices, and issues drawn from social networking, mobile, and online content, as we cultivate a critical lens on society's increasing digitalization (and its discontents).

COMM 5539 Advertising and Consumer Communication**3 Credits**

This course takes a critical look at the intersection of consumer culture, advertising, marketing and communication. This course also considers the history of advertising, marketing and public relations in the United States as a starting point for better understanding of contemporary practices in these fields. Central in this examination is a consideration of how race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality often map (and are mapped onto) specific consumption patterns. Further, this course examines how advertising and related communication practices happen within a specific political-economic environment and how technology is quickly changing how theory translates into practice in these fields. While advertising, marketing and public relations are undoubtedly a part of our consumer culture, this course is not exclusively about how to "do" these activities, but rather how these communication practices impact our culture. Finally this course will ask students to critically reflect on consumption in terms of global, environmental and labor concerns.

COMM 5540 Intercultural Communication**3 Credits**

This course examines the relationship between communication behavior and cultural factors such as nationality, ethnicity, race, gender, class, sexuality, and religion. We will focus on cross-cultural sense-making, relationships, problem-solving, and organizing with particular application to business, education, and health care encounters. The course reviews the social science research of variations in normative communication behavior, as well as the theoretical approaches to understanding the relationship between worldview/cultural values and preferred communication practices. Examples will be used from a variety of nations, as well as those within the diverse cultural landscape of contemporary United States.

COMM 5545 Race, Identity, Representation**3 Credits**

Rooted in a constitutive approach to communication, this course advances the notion that identities are not bound within the self, but rather, are socially negotiated through communication practices and are situated firmly in cultural and historical settings. Specifically, this course examines how racial identities emerge, reform, and are redirected through discourse. In addition to exploring how racial categorizations are socially constructed, this course attends to contemporary representations of race within media, education, and health care systems. Further, students in this course will interrogate social issues involving structural inequality, privilege, power, and hegemony.

COMM 5547 Healthcare Organizational Communication**3 Credits**

This course examines the processes and complexities of modern healthcare organizations (hospitals, nursing homes, insurers, associations, pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, non-profits, marketing, advertising, and PR firms, provider education institutions, etc.). The primary purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of how communication within, to, and from healthcare organizations impacts the company, its employees, stakeholders, customers, federal and local governments, and U.S. healthcare delivery. This course will evaluate and explore the multidimensional processes utilized by healthcare organizations and how communication is critical to their successes or failures and to the health and well being of their customers.

COMM 5548 Health Communication**3 Credits**

Communicating to people about health has become one of the most active areas of communication research and practice. This course focuses on the theory and practice of communication in health settings. Topics covered include doctor-patient communication, health campaigns, effects of media on health, intercultural issues in health communication, and risk communication in relation to health practices.

COMM 5980 Communication Practicum**3 Credits**

The communication practicum is a semester-long internship or other type of placement carried out by graduate students in communication in local, national, or international contexts. These placements are determined in conjunction with, and carried out under the supervision of, a faculty member. Practicums allow students to gain professional experience; where possible these activities should relate directly to thesis projects and other long-term academic interests. Students must commit to a minimum of 120 hours at an approved work site (internships cannot be done at a student's place of employment) and are also responsible for completing additional academic requirements.

COMM 6900 Special Topics in Communication Research**3 Credits**

This course is taught when a particular faculty member has a compelling proposal for a topic that has been approved by the department. Preference will be given to topics related to contemporary issues or to a current faculty research project.

COMM 6961 Project Proposal**3 Credits**

This course operates as an independent study experience under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the secondary supervision of one additional faculty reader. Each proposal and project should have a total of two readers, the faculty advisor and one additional reader from the Communication Department who has taught the student. At the student's request, a faculty member from another department who has taught the student in a graduate course could serve as a third reader. In unusual circumstances (e.g., a conflict between the faculty advisor and the second reader) a third reader would be assigned by the Graduate Program Director. The project will be presented to the faculty and should have some kind of public presentation or impact.

COMM 6962 Independent Project**3 Credits**

This course operates as an independent study experience under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the secondary supervision of one additional faculty reader. Each proposal and project should have a total of two readers, the faculty advisor and one additional reader from the Communication Department who has taught the student. At the student's request, a faculty member from another department who has taught the student in a graduate course could serve as a third reader. In unusual circumstances (e.g., a conflict between the faculty advisor and the second reader) a third reader would be assigned by the Graduate Program Director. The project will be presented to the faculty and should have some kind of public presentation or impact.

COMM 6963 Continuing Project**3 Credits****COMM 6971 Thesis Proposal****3 Credits**

This course operates as an independent study experience under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the secondary supervision of one additional faculty reader. Each proposal and thesis should have a total of two readers, the faculty advisor and one additional reader from the Communication Department who has taught the student. At the student's request, a faculty member from another department who has taught the student in a graduate course could serve as a third reader. In unusual circumstances (e.g., a conflict between the faculty advisor and the second reader) a third reader would be assigned by the Graduate Program Director. The thesis will be orally presented to the faculty.

COMM 6972 Thesis Research**3 Credits**

This course operates as an independent study experience under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the secondary supervision of one additional faculty reader. Each proposal and thesis should have a total of two readers, the faculty advisor and one additional reader from the Communication Department who has taught the student. At the student's request, a faculty member from another department who has taught the student in a graduate course could serve as a third reader. In unusual circumstances (e.g., a conflict between the faculty advisor and the second reader) a third reader would be assigned by the Graduate Program Director. The thesis will be orally presented to the faculty.

COMM 6973 Continuing Thesis Research**3 Credits****COMM 6990 Independent Study****3 Credits**

This course allows students to thoroughly investigate communication concepts, theories, or issues presented in a previously completed graduate communication course. Independent study does not substitute for any other required course(s) in the graduate program and students' investigations must be scholarly in intent. An independent study may be taken only once. Enrollment by approval of the Graduate Director only, with the sponsorship of a communication faculty member.