Communication and Media Studies (PhD)

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The doctoral program in Communication and Media Studies provides a foundation in theory and methods for research in the field of communication and media studies. Students acquire an overview of theoretical and methodological approaches to studying the gathering, expression and dissemination of ideas, images and information in society. Each student also develops both an inside and outside area of specialization. Each student's program is monitored to facilitate preparation for comprehensive exams and dissertation research, and students work closely with advisors and other faculty in small seminar settings and via independent study.

Our internationally recognized faculty offer students the opportunity to study with leading experts in a range of overlapping specialties, including: media institutions; science, health, and environmental communication; technology and society; game studies; global media; critical/cultural approaches to communication; persuasion and media psychology; media and public life; media ethics and law; journalism studies; and visual communication.

Admission Process

Please visit the program's website (https://journalism.uoregon.edu/academics/graduate-programs/media-studies-phd/).

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Acquire an understanding of key theories that define the field of media studies.
- Gain a working understanding of empirical methods.
- Demonstrate a proficiency in one outside area and one outside.
- Develop and present an empirical research project.
- Communicate their findings in the form of a dissertation.

Communication and Media Studies Major Requirements

Candidates for the PhD degree in communication and media studiestake a minimum of 81 graduate-level credits of course work beyond the master's degree. The program concludes with a dissertation.

Note: Please review the SOJC graduate student handbook for updated program requirements, which do not yet appear in the catalog: https://sojcstudent.uoregon.edu/graduate/student-handbook/

Code	Title	Credits
J 612	Media Theory I	5
J 613	Media Theory II	5
J 619	Teaching and the Professional Life [5]	4
J 641	Qualitative Research Methods [1]	4
J 642	Quantitative Research Methods [1]	4
J 643	Advanced Doctoral Seminar [1]	5
Courses in outside field [2]		18
Two additional methods courses [3]		8
At least three 600-level courses (611 and above) within the School of Journalism and Communication [4]		12
J 603	Dissertation [6]	18
Total Credits		**83**

1. Completed within the first three terms of study.
2. In close consultation with an academic advisor and the school's graduate studies director, each student designs an integrated outside-field component for his or her program. Because the program stresses the interconnection of communication with other disciplines, the outside field may involve more than one outside department.
3. Taken within or outside the school.
4. Subject to approval by the school's graduate affairs committee. J 601–610 do not count toward this requirement. In some cases, appropriate courses from outside the journalism school may count toward this requirement.
5. Appropriate teaching experiences are arranged following completion of the course.
6. A professionally central experience in the design, conduct, and dissemination of original research. It is written after the student's proposed dissertation topic is approved.

Additional Requirements

- After coursework is complete, the student, the graduate studies director, and the student's comprehensive examination committee schedule an examination that requires a synthesis of what the student has learned.
- After passing the comprehensive examination, the student writes a dissertation proposal. The proposal must be approved in writing at a meeting of the dissertation committee, usually within one term of the comprehensive exam. The committee must approve the proposal before the student may advance to candidacy and enroll in dissertation credits.