APPROVAL FORM FOR

DEGREE PROGRAMS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

NOTE: This form is a cover sheet that must accompany the degree program change proposal. The actual proposal should be prepared in accordance with format requirements provided in the *Guide and Format for Curriculum Proposals* published by the UCCC. Both cover sheet and proposal should be submitted to UCCC Mail Stop 9702 (281 Garner Hall), Phone: 325-9410.

College: Arts & Sciences **Department:** Communication

Contact Person: Terry Likes **Mail Stop:** 9574 **E-mail:** tlikes@comm.msstate.edu

Nature of Change: Degree Modification
Date Initiated: 6/13/2023
Effective Date: Fall 2024

Current Degree Program Name: Bachelor of Arts in Communication

Major: Communication
Concentrations: Broadcast and Digital Journalism, Communication and Media Studies, Print and Digital Journalism, Public Relations, and Theatre

New Degree Program Name: Bachelor of Arts in Communication (no change)

Major: Communication (no change)
Concentration: Broadcast and Digital Journalism, Communication and Media Studies, Print and Digital Journalism, Public Relations, and Theatre (no change)

Summary of Proposed Changes:
This degree modification primarily aligns CO with the DEI standard for the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC) and National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

The proposed change includes:

- Replacing a Social Science elective with a required course in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This new course will be called CO 2003 Race, Gender, Class, and Global Media. The course will be cross listed with GS and AAS.

Approved:	Date:
Department Head	9/13/23
Director of Academic Quality	8/26/23
Chair, College or School Curriculum Committee	9/26/2023
Dean of College or School	9/26/23
Chair, University Committee on Courses and Curricula	
Chair, Graduate Council(if applicable)	
Chair, Deans Council	

1. **Catalog Description**

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication is offered. The department offers concentrations in Broadcast and Digital Journalism, Communication and Media Studies, Print and Digital Journalism, Public Relations, and Theatre. Students may choose more than one concentration. Minors are available in all areas. In addition, the department offers numerous courses online throughout the year. Contact specific advisors for additional information.

The total major consists of 48-49 semester hours in Communication courses: 12 hours of the departmental core; and 36-37 hours of additional specified work in the concentration area(s). In addition, students complete the Arts & Sciences core curriculum and electives for a total of 121 semester hours leading to the B. A. Degree.

A minimum grade of C in all Communication courses (or approved substitutes) is required. Students earning a grade lower than C in a Communication course must retake that course.
Incoming freshmen must earn a score of 20 or higher on the ACT Enhanced English sub-scale before entering the major. Students who believe that the ACT does not accurately assess their language ability and who can present evidence of above average language skills (excellent English grades, extensive writing samples, etc.) will be given the opportunity to satisfactorily complete a screening test and gain admission to the major.
No transfer student, either from another institution or within the university, will be accepted who has not earned a minimum 2.0 GPA on all college work attempted prior to entering the major.

Prospective students are reminded that Communication is a language intensive discipline. Students with only minimal oral and written language competency should expect to be at a competitive disadvantage in classes as well as in careers after graduation. Transfer students with less than a C in English composition courses may have difficulty with the advanced writing courses required in this major.

Computer and Camera Requirements
The Department of Communication requires incoming B.A. Communication majors to purchase certain technology and equipment necessary for production and presentation of projects within departmental courses. All incoming students are required to purchase a personal laptop computer and software. Each concentration in the Department provides specific guidelines for hardware and software and a suggested timetable for purchases. The required computer and software must be selected from an approved departmental list of minimum hardware and software requirements available on the Department of Communication web site.

Financial aid that includes this requirement may be available by contacting the MSU Student Financial Aid and Scholarship office.

Additionally, upon enrollment in CO 3403 Photographic Communication, students will be required to purchase a digital single-lens reflex (dSLR) camera. The required camera must be selected from an approved departmental list of minimum specifications. The approved list is available on the Department of Communication web site.

Communication Lab Fees
Additional fees associated with class materials and technology are associated with certain classes in the Department and are automatically assessed to the students upon enrollment in those courses.

Broadcast and Digital Journalism
The Broadcast and Digital Journalism concentration prepares students for work in television, radio, multi-media, and other areas. Graduates work in front of and behind the camera. In addition to the expected journalistic jobs, graduates also find positions in extension service, university relations, government, and industry.

Communication and Media Studies
Communication and Media Studies trains students to understand and investigate how humans use symbols to

make meaning in interpersonal, mediated, professional, public, and political contexts. This concentration prepares students for careers in professional and public communication roles and with the research, writing, and presentation skills needed for graduate study.

Print and Digital Journalism
In addition to filling positions for newspapers, magazines, and digital publications in the state and around the country, graduates of the Print and Digital Journalism concentration obtain news-related jobs in universities, business, and industrial relations.

Public Relations
The Public Relations concentration prepares students for a variety of professional positions. In addition to work with public relations and advertising firms, graduates are employed by colleges and schools, newspapers and broadcasting organizations, banks, churches, hospitals, insurance companies, businesses and corporations, charitable and political groups, and state and federal governments.

Theatre
The Theatre concentration prepares well-rounded artists for performance or production careers in theatre, film, and education.

Communication Minors
Minors in each of the concentration areas (Broadcast and Digital Journalism, Communication and Media Studies, Print and Digital Journalism, Public Relations, and Theatre) are available. Because of the differences between and among the disciplines in the department, students considering a minor are advised to meet with the department head or advising coordinator prior to making a decision regarding a minor. The Department of Communication endeavors to work with individual students so that the minor field combines appropriately with his/her major field of study. Students with majors in business, agriculture, social sciences, and the humanities are especially encouraged to consider a minor in one of the related areas.

Professional Societies and Scholarships
Students in any of the departmental concentration areas with superior averages after completing certain courses may qualify for membership in the Theta Alpha Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the official honor society of the National Communication Association. Students in Theatre may be tapped for Alpha Psi Omega honorary after completing certain work in theatrical productions.

Numerous scholarships are available in the Department of Communication. See the department's website for a complete list of available scholarships.

Professional societies are available for students in most of the concentration areas. The Public Relations Student Society of America, the Public Relations Association of Mississippi, and the Southern Public Relations Federation provide pre-professional experience and contacts for students of Public Relations. Blackfriars is available to students of Theatre. The Student Broadcasting Association services students in the Broadcast and Digital Journalism concentration; this group is directly involved in the production of several audio/video/film programs.

2. Proposed Curriculum Outline

CURRENT Degree Description	PROPOSED Degree Description
Degree: Bachelor of Arts Major: Communication Concentration(s): Broadcast and Digital Journalism, Communication and Media Studies, Print and Digital Journalism, Public Relations, and Theatre.	No change
The Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication is offered. The department offers concentrations in Broadcast and Digital Journalism, Communication and Media Studies, Print and Digital Journalism, Public	The Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication is offered. The department offers concentrations in Broadcast and Digital Journalism, Communication and Media Studies, Print and Digital Journalism, Public Relations, and

Relations, and Theatre. Students may choose more than one concentration. Minors are available in all areas. In addition, the department offers numerous courses online throughout the year. Contact specific advisors for additional information.

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Theatre. Students may choose more than one concentration. Minors are available in all areas. In addition, the department offers numerous courses online throughout the year. Contact specific advisors for additional information.

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CURRENT CURRICULUM OUTLINE	Required Hours	**PROPOSED CURRICULUM OUTLINE**	Required Hours
English Composition: EN 1103 English Composition I or EN 1104 Expanded English Composition I EN 1113 English Composition II or EN 1173 Accelerated Composition II	 3 3	English Composition: EN 1103 English Composition I or EN 1104 Expanded English Composition I EN 1113 English Composition II or EN 1173 Accelerated Composition II	 3 3
Foreign Language: Foreign Language I Foreign Language II Foreign Language III	 3 3 3	Foreign Language: Foreign Language I Foreign Language II Foreign Language III	 3 3 3

Humanities: Literature– A&S core History– A&S core Philosophy– A&S core Humanities Electives [1]	 3 3 3 9	Humanities: Literature– A&S core History– A&S core Philosophy– A&S core Humanities Electives [1]	 3 3 3 9
Mathematics: Math– A&S core	 3	Mathematics: Math– A&S core	 3
Fine Arts: CO 1503 Introduction to Theatre [2]	 3	Fine Arts: CO 1503 Introduction to Theatre [2]	 3
Natural Sciences: Physical Science w/ lab– A&S core Life Science w/ lab– A&S core Natural Science Elective– A&S core	 3-4 3-4 3-4	Natural Sciences: Physical Science w/ lab– A&S core Life Science w/ lab– A&S core Natural Science Elective– A&S core	 3-4 3-4 3-4
Social Sciences: PSY 1013 General Psychology SO 1003 Introduction to Sociology GR 1123 Introduction to World Geography CO 1403 Introduction to Mass Media *Social Science Elective* Social Science Elective	 3 3 3 3 3 3	Social Sciences: PSY 1013 General Psychology SO 1003 Introduction to Sociology GR 1123 Introduction to World Geography CO 1403 Introduction to Mass Media **AAS/CO/GS 2003 Race, Gender, Class, and Global Media** Social Science Elective	 3 3 3 3 3 3
Oral Communication: Satisfied within the major core		Oral Communication: Satisfied within the major core	
Jr/Sr Writing: Satisfied within each concentration		Jr/Sr Writing: Satisfied within each concentration	
Major Core: CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking [4] CO 1223 Introduction to Communication Theory	 3 3	Major Core: CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking [4] CO 1223 Introduction to Communication Theory	 3 3
Note: Students must complete 31 upper division hours in A&S in residence at MSU. [1] Humanities electives must be courses in A&S and must cover two disciplines. [2] Required for Theatre concentration; students in other concentrations may substitute alternative A&S core fine arts course if taken prior to declaring major. [3] Social Science electives must be courses in A&S and cannot be additional CO courses. The total 18 hours in Social Science must cover four disciplines; maximum of 6 hours per discipline; only one EC on A&S core list allowed.		Note: Students must complete 31 upper division hours in A&S in residence at MSU. [1] Humanities electives must be courses in A&S and must cover two disciplines. [2] Required for Theatre concentration; students in other concentrations may substitute alternative A&S core fine arts course if taken prior to declaring major. [3] Social Science electives must be courses in A&S and cannot be additional CO courses. The total 18 hours in Social Science must cover four disciplines; maximum of 6 hours per discipline; only one EC on A&S core list allowed.	

[4] Required for all students in major; students may substitute CO 1013 if taken prior to declaring major; students cannot count both CO 1003 and CO 1013 toward graduation requirements.		[4] Required for all students in major; students may substitute CO 1013 if taken prior to declaring major; students cannot count both CO 1003 and CO 1013 toward graduation requirements.	
Choose one or more of the following concentrations:		Choose one or more of the following concentrations:	
Broadcast and Digital Journalism		Broadcast and Digital Journalism	
CO 2333 Television Production	3	CO 2333 Television Production	3
CO 2413 Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	3	CO 2413 Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	3
CO 3313 News Writing for the Electronic Media [5]	3 3	CO 3313 News Writing for the Electronic Media [5]	3 3
CO 3333 Advanced Television Production	3	CO 3333 Advanced Television Production	3
CO 3403 Photographic Communication	3	CO 3403 Photographic Communication	3
CO 3713 Digital Communication	3	CO 3713 Digital Communication	3
CO 4313 Mass Media Law	3	CO 4313 Mass Media Law	3
CO 4343 Backpack Video Journalism	4	CO 4343 Backpack Video Journalism	4
CO 4394 Broadcast Capstone	3	CO 4394 Broadcast Capstone	3
CO 4403 Journalism Ethics	3	CO 4403 Journalism Ethics	3
CO 4713 Digital Communication II	3	CO 4713 Digital Communication II	3
Communication Upper Division Elective– consult advisor		Communication Upper Division Elective– consult advisor	
General Electives– consult advisor	9-12	General Electives– consult advisor	9-12
Total Hours	121	Total Hours	121
Communication and Media Studies		Communication and Media Studies	
Methods-choose from the following: CO 3221 Applied Communication & Media Studies CO 3223 Communication & Media Research Methods	3-4	Methods-choose from the following: CO 3221 Applied Communication & Media Studies CO 3223 Communication & Media Research Methods	3-4
Theory-choose from the following: CO 3233 Communication and Media Ethics CO 4223 Advanced Communication Theory CO 4243 Rhetorical Theory CO 4253 Elements of Persuasion [5] CO 4924 Film Theory	6-7	Theory-choose from the following: CO 3233 Communication and Media Ethics CO 4223 Advanced Communication Theory CO 4243 Rhetorical Theory CO 4253 Elements of Persuasion [5] CO 4924 Film Theory	6-7
Context-choose from the following: CO 1021 Overcoming Communication Apprehension CO 2904 Introduction to Film CO 2253 Fundamentals of Interpersonal Communication CO 3213 Small Group Communication CO 3243 Advanced Public Speaking CO 3903 Advanced Cinema Studies CO 4043 Communication and Leadership CO 4063 Family Communication CO 4124 Topics in Film CO 4203 Nonverbal Communication CO 4213 Political Communication	18-20	Context-choose from the following: CO 1021 Overcoming Communication Apprehension CO 2904 Introduction to Film CO 2253 Fundamentals of Interpersonal Communication CO 3213 Small Group Communication CO 3243 Advanced Public Speaking CO 3903 Advanced Cinema Studies CO 4043 Communication and Leadership CO 4063 Family Communication CO 4124 Topics in Film CO 4203 Nonverbal Communication CO 4213 Political Communication	18-20

CO 4233 Gender and Media CO 4263 Gender Communication CO 4273 Intercultural Communication CO 4283 Health Communication CO 4313 Mass Media Law CO 4323 Mass Media and Society CO 4433 Television Criticism CO 4643 Race and the Media		CO 4233 Gender and Media CO 4263 Gender Communication CO 4273 Intercultural Communication CO 4283 Health Communication CO 4313 Mass Media Law CO 4323 Mass Media and Society CO 4433 Television Criticism CO 4643 Race and the Media	
Capstone-choose from the following: CO 4053 Internship in Communication CO 4293 Communication & Media Studies Capstone	3	Capstone-choose from the following: CO 4053 Internship in Communication CO 4293 Communication & Media Studies Capstone	3
Communication Upper Division Electives– consult advisor	6	Communication Upper Division Electives– consult advisor	6
General Electives– consult advisor	6-13	General Electives– consult advisor	6-13
Total Hours	121	Total Hours	121
Print and Digital Journalism		Print and Digital Journalism	
CO 2333 Television Production	3	CO 2333 Television Production	3
CO 2413 Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	3	CO 2413 Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	3
CO 3403 Photographic Communication	3	CO 3403 Photographic Communication	3
CO 3423 Feature Writing [5]	3	CO 3423 Feature Writing [5]	3
CO 3433 Editing and Design	3	CO 3433 Editing and Design	3
CO 3443 Advanced News Writing and Reporting [5]	3	CO 3443 Advanced News Writing and Reporting [5]	3
CO 3713 Digital Communication	3	CO 3713 Digital Communication	3
CO 4313 Mass Media Law	3	CO 4313 Mass Media Law	3
CO 4403 Journalism Ethics	3	CO 4403 Journalism Ethics	3
CO 4494 Bulldog Online Newsroom	4	CO 4494 Bulldog Online Newsroom	4
CO 4713 Digital Communication II	3	CO 4713 Digital Communication II	3
Communication Upper Division Elective– consult advisor	3	Communication Upper Division Elective– consult advisor	3
General Electives– consult advisor	9-12	General Electives– consult advisor	9-12
Total Hours	121	Total Hours	121
Public Relations		Public Relations	
CO 2413 Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	3	CO 2413 Introduction to News Writing and Reporting	3
CO 3803 Principles of Public Relations	3	CO 3803 Principles of Public Relations	3
CO 3813 PR Case Problems	3	CO 3813 PR Case Problems	3
CO 3853 PR Writing [5]	3	CO 3853 PR Writing [5]	3
CO 3863 PR Production	3	CO 3863 PR Production	3
CO 3873 PR Multimedia	3	CO 3873 PR Multimedia	3
CO 4253 Elements of Persuasion [5]	3	CO 4253 Elements of Persuasion [5]	3
CO 4803 Research in PR & Advertising	3	CO 4803 Research in PR & Advertising	3
CO 4813 PR in Organizations	3	CO 4813 PR in Organizations	3
CO 4313 Mass Media Law or CO 4323 Mass Media and Society	3	CO 4313 Mass Media Law or CO 4323 Mass Media and Society	3
Communication Upper Division Electives– consult advisor	6	Communication Upper Division Electives– consult advisor	6
General Electives– consult advisor	10-13	General Electives– consult advisor	10-13
Total Hours	121	Total Hours	121

Theatre CO 1542 Technical Theatre Practicum CO 2503 Acting CO 2512 Introduction to Theatrical Design CO 2523 Introduction to Stagecraft CO 3541 Theatre Performance Practicum CO 3573 Script Analysis CO 4503 History of Theatre I: Classical [5] CO 4513 History of Theatre II: Contemporary [5] CO 4523 Directing CO 4591 Theatre Capstone		Theatre CO 1542 Technical Theatre Practicum CO 2503 Acting CO 2512 Introduction to Theatrical Design CO 2523 Introduction to Stagecraft CO 3541 Theatre Performance Practicum CO 3573 Script Analysis CO 4503 History of Theatre I: Classical [5] CO 4513 History of Theatre II: Contemporary [5] CO 4523 Directing CO 4591 Theatre Capstone	
	2 3 2 3 1 3 3 3 3 1		2 3 2 3 1 3 3 3 3 1
Design Requirement Choose 4 hours: CO 3502 Costume Design CO 3512 Scenic Design CO 3522 Lighting for the Stage and Screen	4	Design Requirement Choose 4 hours: CO 3502 Costume Design CO 3512 Scenic Design CO 3522 Lighting for the Stage and Screen	4
Sophomore Level Flexible Requirement Choose 1 hour: CO 2531 Voice and Articulation CO 2551 Sound for the Stage and Screen CO 2561 Makeup for the Stage CO 2591 Auditioning and Monologues	1	Sophomore Level Flexible Requirement Choose 1 hour: CO 2531 Voice and Articulation CO 2551 Sound for the Stage and Screen CO 2561 Makeup for the Stage CO 2591 Auditioning and Monologues	1
Junior Level Flexible Requirement Choose 5 hours: CO 3532 Theatre for Change CO 3552 Professional Practice for Theatre CO 3583 Theatre for Young Audiences CO 3593 Drawing for the Stage	5	Junior Level Flexible Requirement Choose 5 hours: CO 3532 Theatre for Change CO 3552 Professional Practice for Theatre CO 3583 Theatre for Young Audiences CO 3593 Drawing for the Stage	5
Senior Level Flexible Requirement Choose 3 hours: CO 4533 Advanced Acting CO 4563 Stage and Production Management CO 4583 Playwriting	3	Senior Level Flexible Requirement Choose 3 hours: CO 4533 Advanced Acting CO 4563 Stage and Production Management CO 4583 Playwriting	3
General Electives– consult advisor [6]	9-12	General Electives– consult advisor [6]	9-12
Total Hours	121	Total Hours	121
[5] Satisfies Jr/Sr Writing requirement.		[5] Satisfies Jr/Sr Writing requirement.	
[6] May need to be upper division to meet A&S upper division requirement.		[6] May need to be upper division to meet A&S upper division requirement.	

3. Justification and Learning Outcomes

This degree modification primarily aligns CO with the DEI standard for the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC) and National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).

The ACEJMC pre-accreditation site team report stated: "There is no required DEI class in the concentrations." ACEJMC Standard 4 states: *Standard 4 requires that a program address DEI in our society where people have been disenfranchised, especially as grounded in race, ethnicity, gender, ability, and sexual orientation.* The NAST handbook states, *"...recognizing diversity as well as the common basic purposes of all member institutions...to encourage the diversity of American education."*

The proposed change involves:

- Replacing a Social Science elective with a required course in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This new course will be called CO 2003 Race, Gender, Class, and Global Media. The course will be cross listed with GS and AAS.

  Also, per this modification, adding the course at the 2000 level proves vital for our transfer students, who have traditionally had difficulty in completing their UD A&S requirements.

4. **Effective Date**
   Fall 2024

5. **Four-Letter Abbreviation**
   CO "COMM if needed – current Banner code is CO and the department proposes no change."

6. **Letter of Support**
   See attachment.

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Communication

P.O. Box PF
216 President's Circle
Mississippi State, MS 39762

P. 662.325.3320
F. 662.325.3210
www.comm.msstate.edu

September 13, 2023

Dear Curriculum Committees:

The curriculum committee of the Department of Communication has approved the new course proposal for CO 2003 Race, Gender, Class, and Global Media. The course will be cross listed with GS and AAS. This course fulfills a diversity, equity and inclusion requirement for Communication students as the department pursues national accreditation from the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

This support letter also conveys support for the cross listed GS and AAS sections and the accompanying CO Degree modification. Thjs modification replaces a Social Science elective with CO 2003 Race, Gender, Class, and Global Media.

Faculty Member	Approve	Faculty Member	Approve
Wendy Roussin, MFA *Associate Professor & Chair*	X	Jesse Wade, MFA *Assistant Clinical Professor*	X
Kevin William, PhD *Associate Professor*	X	Amy Knight, MA *Instructor II*	X
Holli Seitz, PhD *Associate Professor*	X	Josh Foreman, MFA *Instructor*	X
Heesook Choi, PhD *Assistant Professor*	X		