Media, Integrated

Mass communication is the primary means by which our society relays news, information, and entertainment to the public. Technological advances have promoted instantaneous, global, and persistent presentation of images and ideas, both positive and negative. Mass Communication at BSU has traditionally been divided into three major areas: print, electronic, and advertising/public relations. In this age of media convergence, however, these traditional barriers are almost nonexistent. Therefore, our revised curriculum aims to prepare all students to communicate meaningful messages successfully, utilizing print, still and moving images, audio and multimedia technologies.

The Department of Integrated Media encourages students to stretch themselves by taking courses outside their area of interest and by completing a minor in another department. Writing skills are emphasized. Intensive classroom and laboratory experiences include the study of historical, practical, and theoretical aspects of mass communication. These experiences help prepare students for the rapid technological and social changes they will encounter as they move through their careers. Their preparation culminates in the completion of an academic thesis or a creative project with appropriate documentation.

It is hoped that these experiences will prepare students for the challenges they encounter as technologies and media formats continue to change rapidly. All students are required to attain a 2.50 GPA in their major courses before being approved for graduation with a Mass Communication major or minor. They are also required to successfully complete at least two semesters of second language, in preparation for the global media job market.

Programs

- Environmental Communication, B.S. major
- Marketing Communication, B.S. major
- Mass Communication, B.S. major
- Environmental Communication minor
- Film Studies minor
- Mass Communication minor

Environmental Communication, B.S. major

Required Credits: 59
Required GPA: 2.50

I REQUIRED COURSES

Complete the following courses:

- COMM 3400 Environmental Communication (3 credits)
- ENVR 2000 Introduction to Environmental Science (3 credits)
- ENVR 3880 Environmental Controversies (2 credits)
- MASC 2243 Video Editing (3 credits)
- MASC 2460 Digital Photography (3 credits)
- MASC 2850 Media Writing I (3 credits)
- MASC 3260 Public Relations (3 credits)
- MASC 3270 Media and Social Change (3 credits)
- MASC 3450 Advanced Video Production (3 credits)
- MASC 3500 Media Design (3 credits)
- MASC 3720 Media Writing II (3 credits)
- MASC 4840 Portfolio (3 credits)

Choose one of the following:

- ENVR 3800 Sustainability Analytics & Modeling (3 credits)
- ENVR 4220 Sampling and Analysis (4 credits)
- GEOL 3120 Soils (4 credits)

Choose one of the following:

- ENVR 3710 Indigenous Environmental Knowledge: Global Perspective (3 credits)
  or INST 3710 Indigenous Environmental Knowledge: Global Perspective (3 credits)
- ENVR 3720 Food Sovereignty, Health & Indigenous Environments (3 credits)
  or INST 3720 Food Sovereignty, Health & Indigenous Environments (3 credits)
- ENVR 3730 Sustainable Communities: Local Indigenous Perspective (3 credits)
  or INST 3730 Sustainable Communities: Local Indigenous Perspective (3 credits)
- ENVR 3740 Environment, Wellness & the Sacred Connection to Place (3 credits)

Career Directions

Account Executive
Advertising Sales Person
Broadcaster
Editor
Information Manager
Journalist
Program Director
Program Producer
Public Relations Director
Station Manager
Also: Graduate Study

Preparation

Recommended High School Courses

- Newspaper Production
- Radio Production
- Speech
- Television Production
- Writing
Marketing Communication, B.S. major

Required Credits: 60
Required GPA: 2.25

I REQUIRED COURSES

Compete the following courses:

• BUAD 2280 Computer Business Applications (3 credits)
• BUAD 3351 Management (3 credits)
• BUAD 3361 Marketing (3 credits)
• BUAD 3467 Advertising Management (3 credits)
• BUAD 3500 Marketing Analytics (3 credits)
• BUAD 3567 Consumer Behavior (3 credits)
• BUAD 3568 Professional Selling (3 credits)
• BUAD 3569 Digital Marketing (3 credits)
• BUAD 4467 Marketing Research (3 credits)
• BUAD 4468 Marketing Management (3 credits)
• MASC 2243 Video Editing (3 credits)
• MASC 2250 Video Production (3 credits)
• MASC 2850 Media Writing I (3 credits)
• MASC 3260 Public Relations (3 credits)
• MASC 3270 Media and Social Change (3 credits)
• MASC 3350 Media Design (3 credits)
• MASC 3500 Media and Social Change (3 credits)
• MASC 4220 Multimedia Marketing (3 credits)
• MASC 4840 Portfolio (3 credits)

Select 1 of the following courses, 3 credits:

• BUAD 4970 Internship (1-12 credits)
• BUAD 4970 Internship (1-12 credits)

Mass Communication, B.S. major

Required Credits: 45
Required GPA: 2.50

I REQUIRED CORE COURSES

Complete the following courses:

• MASC 1100 Mass Media and Society (3 credits)
• MASC 1500 Making Media (1 credit)
• MASC 2243 Video Editing (3 credits)
• MASC 2250 Video Production (3 credits)
• MASC 2460 Digital Photography (3 credits)
• MASC 2850 Media Writing I (3 credits)
• MASC 3112 Broadcasting Practicum (1 credit)
• MASC 3270 Media and Social Change (3 credits)
• MASC 3350 Northern Student Magazine Practicum (1 credit)
• MASC 3450 Advanced Video Production (3 credits)
• MASC 3500 Media Design (3 credits)
• MASC 3600 Social Media Marketing (3 credits)
• MASC 3720 Media Writing II (3 credits)
• MASC 3850 Media Ethics and Law (3 credits)
• MASC 4840 Portfolio (3 credits)

Complete the following course for 3 credits:

• MASC 4970 Internship (1-12 credits)
II REQUIRED ELECTIVES

Select 3 semester credits of electives from the following courses:

- MASC 2600 Advertising and Culture (3 credits)
- MASC 2925 People of the Environment: Mass Media Perspectives (3 credits)
- MASC 3150 Photojournalism (3 credits)
- MASC 3260 Public Relations (3 credits)
- MASC 3330 Performance and Production (3 credits)
- MASC 3510 Podcasting 101 (3 credits)
- MASC 3670 Documentary Film (3 credits)
- MASC 3790 Screenwriting (3 credits)
- MASC 3900 Topics in Mass Communication (1-3 credits)
- MASC 3900 Topics in Mass Communication (1-3 credits)
- MASC 4220 Multimedia Marketing (3 credits)
- MASC 4330 Engineering for Electronic Media (3 credits)
- MASC 4340 Digital Cinema (3 credits)
- MASC 4840
- MASC 4970
- MASC Required Electives
  - Core Curriculum Requirements

Program Learning Outcomes | Mass Communication, B.S.

1. Presentation Skills: Plan, prepare, organize and present written and spoken content individually or collaboratively in a professional manner.

2. Professional Ethics: Conduct themselves professionally and ethically, and approach problem solving tenaciously, creatively, and systematically.

3. Research and Evaluation: Be able to conduct thorough research using a variety of methods, and be able to critically evaluate and synthesize information.

4. Storytelling: Identify the elements of effective storytelling and craft polished stories.

5. Technical Proficiency: Demonstrate technical proficiency in video, audio, photography and design, and will demonstrate mastery of at least one area.

6. Writing: Write correctly, clearly, accurately and appropriately for a variety of media formats and audiences.

SUGGESTED SEMESTER SCHEDULE FOR MASS COMMUNICATION, B.S. MAJOR

The following is a list of required Mass Communication, B.S. major courses by year. This schedule is intended to help students plan their courses in an orderly fashion; however, these are only suggestions and this schedule is flexible.

Freshman

- MASC1500
- MASC2243
- MASC2460
- MASC2850
- Core Curriculum Requirements (MASC 1100 Mass Media and Society fulfills Goal Area 9)

Sophomore

- MASC2250
- MASC3111
- MASC3720
- MASC3600
- MASC1100

Junior

- MASC3270
- MASC3850
- MASC3112
- MASC3330
- MASC3450
- MASC3500
- MASC4970
- MASC Required Electives
  - Core Curriculum Requirements

Senior

- MASC4840
- MASC4970
- MASC Required Electives
  - Core Curriculum Requirements

Environmental Communication minor

Required Credits: 20
Required GPA: 2.25

I REQUIRED COURSES

Complete the following courses:

- ENVR 2000 Introduction to Environmental Science (3 credits)
- ENVR 3880 Environmental Controversies (2 credits)
- MASC 2460 Digital Photography (3 credits)
- MASC 2850 Media Writing I (3 credits)

II REQUIRED ELECTIVES

Choose two 3 credit courses from the following:

- BIOL 3337 Science Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 1100 Public Speaking (3 credits)
- COMM 2100 Career and Professional Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 3400 Environmental Communication (3 credits)
- MASC 2243 Video Editing (3 credits)
- MASC 3150 Photojournalism (3 credits)
- MASC 3260 Public Relations (3 credits)
- MASC 3270 Media and Social Change (3 credits)
- MASC 3450 Advanced Video Production (3 credits)
- MASC 3500 Media Design (3 credits)
- MASC 3600 Social Media Marketing (3 credits)
- MASC 3720 Media Writing II (3 credits)
- MASC 3900 Topics in Mass Communication (1-3 credits)
- MASC 4220 Multimedia Marketing (3 credits)

Choose one course from the following:

- ENVR 2925 People of the Environment: Sustainability Perspective (3 credits)
- ENVR 3040 Environmental Economics (3 credits)
- ENVR 3600 Environmental Justice and Sustainability (3 credits)
• ENVR 3700 Natural Resource Management (3 credits)
• ENVR 3710 Indigenous Environmental Knowledge: Global Perspective (3 credits)  
or INST 3710 Indigenous Environmental Knowledge: Global Perspective (3 credits)
• ENVR 3720 Food Sovereignty, Health & Indigenous Environments (3 credits)  
or INST 3720 Food Sovereignty, Health & Indigenous Environments (3 credits)
• ENVR 3730 Sustainable Communities: Local Indigenous Perspective (3 credits)  
or INST 3730 Sustainable Communities: Local Indigenous Perspective (3 credits)
• ENVR 3740 Environment, Wellness & the Sacred Connection to Place (3 credits)  
or INST 3740 Environment, Wellness & the Sacred Connection to Place (3 credits)
• ENVR 3750 Sustainable Communities: Global Indigenous Perspective (3 credits)  
or INST 3750 Sustainable Communities: Global Indigenous Perspective (3 credits)
• ENVR 3800 Sustainability Analytics & Modeling (3 credits)
• ENVR 3840 Wetlands Ecology (3 credits)
• ENVR 4050 Geochemistry (3 credits)
• ENVR 4110 Environmental Chemistry (3 credits)
• ENVR 4200 Wastewater Treatment (3 credits)
• ENVR 4210 Environmental Law and Policy (3 credits)
• ENVR 4220 Sampling and Analysis (4 credits)
• ENVR 4240 Waste Management (4 credits)
• ENVR 4260 Risk, Resilience and Sustainable Community Development (3 credits)
• ENVR 4400 Environmental Microbiology (3 credits)
• ENVR 4500 Environmental Toxicology (4 credits)
• ENVR 4610 Sustainability: Theory and Practice (4 credits)
• GEOG 3125 Weather and Climate (3 credits)
• GEOG 3226 Cartography (3 credits)
• GEOG 3231 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3 credits)
• GEOG 3232 Intermediate Geographic Information Systems (3 credits)
• GEOG 3255 Introduction to Remote Sensing (3 credits)
• GEOG 3400 Economic Geography (3 credits)
• GEOG 3532 Political Ecology (3 credits)
• GEOG 4140 Landscape Ecology (3 credits)
• GEOL 3120 Soils (4 credits)
• GEOL 3211 Environmental Hydrology (3 credits)
• GEOL 3212 Hydrogeology (3 credits)
• GEOL 3400 Glacial and Pleistocene Geology (3 credits)
• GEOL 3500 Topics in Paleontology (3 credits)
• GEOL 3600 Stratigraphy and Sedimentation (3 credits)
• GEOL 3700 Environmental Geophysics (3 credits)

Select a minimum of 6 credits from the following:
• ANTH 3280 Bollywood: Films and Culture of India (3 credits)
• ENGL 3607 Film Topics (3 credits)
• ENGL 4707 Advanced Film Topics (3 credits)
• MASC 3450 Advanced Video Production (3 credits)
• MASC 3900 Topics in Mass Communication (1-3 credits)
• MASC 4340 Digital Cinema (3 credits)

Mass Communication minor

Required Credits: 18
Required GPA: 2.50

I REQUIRED CORE COURSES

Complete the following courses:

• MASC 2850 Media Writing I (3 credits)
• MASC 3850 Media Ethics and Law (3 credits)

Select 3 of the following courses:

• MASC 2243 Video Editing (3 credits)
• MASC 2250 Video Production (3 credits)
• MASC 2460 Digital Photography (3 credits)
• MASC 3150 Photojournalism (3 credits)
• MASC 3330 Performance and Production (3 credits)
• MASC 3500 Media Design (3 credits)
• MASC 3600 Social Media Marketing (3 credits)
• MASC 3670 Documentary Film (3 credits)
• MASC 3720 Media Writing II (3 credits)
• MASC 3790 Screenwriting (3 credits)
• MASC 4220 Multimedia Marketing (3 credits)
• MASC 4340 Digital Cinema (3 credits)

II REQUIRED ELECTIVES

Select 3 semester credits from Mass Communication courses at the 2000 level or above.

Film Studies minor

Required Credits: 15
Required GPA: 2.00

I REQUIRED COURSES

Complete the following courses:

• ENGL 2340 The American Film (3 credits)
• MASC 3670 Documentary Film (3 credits)
• MASC 3790 Screenwriting (3 credits)

II REQUIRED ELECTIVES

Select a minimum of 6 credits from the following:

• MASC 1500 Making Media (1 credit)

This course introduces students to the field of mass media by exploring the variety of forms and processes that shape the media landscape; i.e. television, radio, cinema, print, podcasts, web-based streaming, etc. Students new to the Mass Communication major will also be introduced to a variety of student media opportunities including KBSU-TV, FM90, the Northern Student and the Headwaters Film Festival. [BSU Focus: Performance and Participation]

MASC 1100 Mass Media and Society (3 credits)

This class explores how the media we use shifts our thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and societies. We will look into the history of and current practices in major media industries, including print, television, radio, film, music and social media. We will learn how mass media affect politics, society and culture and examine some of the ethical issues. We will also analyze how we use, consume and create media every day. [Core Curriculum Goal Area(s) 5 & 9.]

MASC 1500 Making Media (1 credit)

Video editing is a skill that is in demand for almost every discipline. We’ll emphasize storytelling, you’ll develop or improve your video editing skills, and study the aesthetics of editing. External storage device required.
MASC 2250 Video Production (3 credits)
This course introduces the creative process and tools of audio and video production from a convergent media perspective. Students create their own audio and video productions in order to gain hands-on experience in the creative process of media production in a studio and on-location. Prerequisite: MASC 2243.

MASC 2460 Digital Photography (3 credits)
This course is intended to move you from taking snapshots to becoming a visual communicator. You will explore the technical as well as the aesthetic dimensions of digital photography. On the technical side the focus will be on camera handling and basic photo editing techniques. At the aesthetic dimension, you will learn to see with a camera and to create carefully composed, meaningful quality images. You will also gain a general understanding of the historical and current developments in the photography industry.

MASC 2600 Advertising and Culture (3 credits)
Advertising is everywhere and we are bombarded by a great number of mediated messages each day. This course examines the theoretical and practical aspects of advertising and gives an overview of the field. Students will gain an increased awareness of how advertising works, where it fits into the fabric of our society, and how it is used—sometimes ethically and sometimes not. The course incorporates lecture, discussion, and projects and students analyze print, broadcast and digital advertising.

MASC 2780 Career Pathways (3 credits)
Prepares students to apply for an internship or job. Students will work on their resumes, portfolio and interview skills, as well as explore and discuss how their passion, values, skills and abilities play out in their personal and professional life. Prerequisite(s): Mass Communication or Marketing Communication major.

MASC 2850 Media Writing I (3 credits)
You will learn the basics of media writing, how to craft good stories, and to how to shape those stories to fit a variety of media, such as: news, marketing, public relations, broadcast, and social media.

MASC 2925 People of the Environment: Mass Media Perspectives (3 credits)
For both majors and non-majors. Theoretical aspects of the effect of the mass media on environmental processes. Students should gain an understanding of the complexity of the cultural, political, and economic forces that shape media coverage of the environment, and the importance of such an understanding to maintaining a sustainable global environment. The course is a discussion section of the interdisciplinary lecture on environmental issues for core curriculum. [*Core Curriculum Goal Area 10]*

MASC 2970 Internship (3 credits)
Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only. Student internships may be either full-time or part-time in a public or private agency appropriate to the degree objective. Internships consist of closely supervised periods of service that are arranged in advance of the course registration. Students should consult their advisor concerning prerequisites.

MASC 3112 Broadcasting Practicum (1 credit)
Open to students of all majors, this practicum is designed to give students hands-on learning opportunities by working in television, radio and other broadcasting environments. Students may work with program creation, be on-air talent, or work on the production crew.

MASC 3150 Photojournalism (3 credits)
Based on solid photographic skills, this course will improve your knowledge and skills as a visual communicator. You will have in-depth practice of technical and aesthetic aspects of digital photography, you will become familiar with various categories of professional photojournalism, and you will develop your visual storytelling skills. You will also explore ethical as well as legal dimensions in a photojournalistic context, and how both may influence a professional’s work. The course will provide a closer insight into the photojournalism industry. The outcome will be a digital portfolio that demonstrates your photojournalistic skills. Prerequisites: MASC 2460. (May not be offered every year.)

MASC 3250 Public Relations (3 credits)
Learn the strategic planning process of doing public relations work and how to create a public relations plan. Students will learn and apply the various tactics used by public relations professionals to meet organizational goals.

MASC 3270 Media and Social Change (3 credits)
This course examines how media organizations and social activists alike communicate their messages to wide audiences in order to achieve social change. It explores critical and theoretical approaches to understanding contemporary mass media. Students learn to analyze media from across political, popular, and professional cultures. Prerequisite(s): MASC 2850.

MASC 3330 Performance and Production (3 credits)
This is an advanced media production course that provides an in-depth understanding of live programming, production, and field reporting. Students are taught how to perform professionally on-air in television, radio and web-based streaming environments. Prerequisite(s): MASC 2243, MASC 2250.

MASC 3350 Northern Student Magazine Practicum (1 credit)
Open to students of all majors, this practicum is designed to give students hands-on learning opportunities by working with the Northern Student magazine to learn the various aspects of print publishing. Students may write stories, do photography, or design page layouts.

MASC 3450 Advanced Video Production (3 credits)
An advanced media course in which students learn hands-on video production on-location and in-studio. Areas of study include documentary, advanced newsgathering, and experimental/music video. All projects are edited with non-linear computer systems and published to DVD and Web. Lab hours are required. Prerequisite(s): MASC 2243, MASC 2250, or consent of instructor.

MASC 3500 Media Design (3 credits)
Good visual design is everywhere; from ads and magazines, to mobile content and websites, to marketing reports and brochures. Learn and apply effective design principles to a variety of projects using Adobe InDesign. Also learn the basics of interactive digital publishing.

MASC 3510 Podcasting 101 (3 credits)
This class is designed to teach you the audio skills needed to create a podcast from start to finish, and how to launch it to share it with listeners. You will learn how to edit audio and tailor your podcast to a target audience. You will learn to interview guests and tell stories that others want to hear. The course is open to all students of any major. No prior media experience needed. You will learn how to work with media equipment in a hands-on environment, enabling you to produce quality podcasts to get your message out to the world.

MASC 3600 Social Media Marketing (3 credits)
Social media has moved from a pastime to a professional endeavor. This course introduces the major social media platforms and theoretical constructs and examines how companies use social media for marketing, analytics and customer service. This course will give future media and communications professionals practical experience needed to successfully utilize social media for strategic endeavors.

MASC 3670 Documentary Film (3 credits)
Historical overview of the genre. Students view and analyze a variety of documentary films to gain an understanding of their purpose, their impact, their audiences, and their cultural and artistic value. (Might not be offered every year.)

MASC 3720 Media Writing II (3 credits)
Knowing how to research and write a good story is important for many professions: journalism, public relations, marketing, blogging and advertising. This class will teach you the important skills of researching, reporting and writing stories. Prerequisite: MASC 2850.

MASC 3790 Screenwriting (3 credits)
This is a specialized writing course in which students learn the process of writing a dramatic screenplay for film and digital cinema. Students learn to develop the critical dramatic elements that are central to a successful screenplay: characterization, plot development, and cinematic description. Each student develops and writes a screenplay that is formatted to film industry standards.
MASC 3850 Media Ethics and Law (3 credits)
This course introduces students to the study of media ethics and the principles of media law as they apply to the work of media and communications professionals in a variety of fields. Examines the principles on which American law is based and discusses the creation, interpretation and the role of law, while analyzing ethical issues through case studies concerned with different media, including advertising, film, photojournalism, print and broadcast journalism, public relations, television and World Wide Web. Introduces a variety of key issues in media law and ethics and demonstrates the complexities in reaching outcomes.

MASC 3900 Topics in Mass Communication (1-3 credits)
Study of a specific mass communication topic or development, person, or time period, with the specific title being announced in each semester's class schedule.

MASC 3970 Internship (1-12 credits)
Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only. Student internships may be either full-time or part-time in a public or private agency appropriate to the degree objective. Internships consist of closely supervised periods of service that are arranged in advance of the course registration. Students should consult their advisor concerning prerequisites.

MASC 4220 Multimedia Marketing (3 credits)
This course focuses on reaching potential customers through the use of multimedia content marketing. Using video, photos, audio and text, you will learn content marketing strategies and how to create content that delivers information about your product or services to your target audience. Prerequisite(s): MASC 2243.

MASC 4330 Engineering for Electronic Media (3 credits)
A very practical "mini course" in electronic fundamentals. Explores the basic theory of how things function in a broadcast environment. Practical use and repair of audio/video connectors, components, and circuitry. Reading of instruments, levels, and oscilloscope patterns in a television/radio studio. Techniques of soldering connectors, and cable repair used in everyday television/radio stations. Audio theory and components, as well as video signal operation. At the end of this course, students will have sufficient electronic knowledge to pass the FCC Amateur Radio license exam. This class builds confidence and understanding of broadcast operations. Lab hours required. Prerequisites: MASC 2250.

MASC 4340 Digital Cinema (3 credits)
Introduction to the theory and practice of motion picture filmmaking as it applies to digital media. An interdisciplinary group of students work together to make short films that manifest their ideas and beliefs. Topics include familiarity with filmmaking equipment; basic cinematic techniques; converting ideas to images; the use of lighting, editing, and sound in cinema; scheduling, casting, and location scouting; and the role of acting, directing, and good storytelling in the filmmaking process. (Might not be offered every year.)

MASC 4840 Portfolio (3 credits)
This course helps students organize and complete a professional portfolio. Students will present their portfolio to faculty and media professionals, and they will receive a constructive, one-on-one evaluation of their work from a variety of media, marketing and advertising professionals. Prerequisite(s): Mass Communication, Marketing Communication or Environmental Communication major and have senior status or consent of instructor.

MASC 4917 DIS Tchg Assoc | (1-2 credits)
Directed Independent Study | Teaching Associate

MASC 4970 Internship (1-12 credits)
Graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only. Student internships may be either full-time or part-time in a public or private agency appropriate to the degree objective. Internships consist of closely supervised periods of service that are arranged in advance of the course registration. Students should consult their advisor concerning prerequisites.

All-University Courses

The course numbers listed below, not always included in the semester class