

# COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES

The Department of Communication and Media Studies at Fordham University (CMS) is dedicated to the interdisciplinary examination of human communication in an increasingly networked society. Just as digitalization and other forms of technological innovation yield a media environment that is constantly changing and evolving, sometimes in revolutionary ways, our diverse program keeps current with the most recent developments in theory and practice while staying true to its mission of emphasizing ethics and social engagement.

The department provides its students in all its programs with an interdisciplinary approach to the study of communication, including an emphasis on the media technologies, industries, and institutions that support the processes of mediated communication and their relationship to culture and society. The program blends theory and practice to prepare students for advanced study or careers in communications, all within the context of a rigorous liberal arts education supplemented by New York City's resources as the media capital of the world. We pride ourselves on offering opportunities for undergraduate students to work directly with faculty members in scholarship and training for future careers in multiple communication and media-focused careers.

In fall 2016, the department began to offer four new programs of study at Fordham College Rose Hill and Fordham College Lincoln Center, replacing a single undergraduate major and minor in communications for those two colleges.

- Communication and Culture (major, minor)
- Digital Technologies and Emerging Media (major, minor)
- Film and Television (major, minor)
- Journalism (major, minor, plus a minor in sports journalism)

The new areas of study allow students the opportunity to explore their interests in much greater depth than was possible within a single major or minor; both elective and required courses will now be better aligned with the specific interests of students and faculty in each area. (Students in PCS may still pursue a major or minor in communications.)

The original communications major and minor is no longer offered to incoming students at FCRH and FCLC. Students who began at Fordham after spring 2016 will be permitted to pursue only one of the new majors or minors, and may not major or minor in communications.

*Note: Information about the Communication and Media Management area at Gabelli is listed separately.*

## Course Prerequisites

- COMM 1000 Fundamentals of Communication and Media Studies must be taken before any of the following courses (students prior to fall 2017 may have taken COMM 1010 instead):
  - COMC 1101 Communications and Culture: History, Theory, and Methods
  - DTEM 1401 Introduction to Digital Technologies and Emerging Media
  - FITV 1501 Understanding Film
  - FITV 1601 Understanding Television

- DTEM 1401 Introduction to Digital Technologies and Emerging Media is recommended to be taken before DTEM 1402 Digital Cultures, especially for DTEM majors.
- JOUR 1702 Introduction to Journalism must be taken before any intermediate or advanced writing/reporting course (i.e., any JOUR course where the second two digits are 71 or 72).
- FITV 1501 Understanding Film must be taken before FITV 2501 History of Film, 1895-1950 or FITV 3501 Film Theory and Criticism
- FITV 1601 Understanding Television must be taken before FITV 2601 History of Television or FITV 3601 Television Theory and Criticism.

## Ethics, Law, and Policy Course Requirement

A course in ethics, law, and policy (ELP) is required for students majoring in communication and culture, digital technologies and emerging media, or film and television, as well as for students minoring in communication and culture or film and television. An ELP course is also required for students majoring or minoring in communication (FCRH/FCLC students enrolling prior to fall 2016 or PCS students).

The ELP requirement may be fulfilled by taking any course in COMC, DTEM, FITV, or JOUR with the CELP attribute, which includes the following courses:

*Courses in this group have the CELP attribute.*

Course	Title	Credits
AAST 3280	Representing Asians in Journalism and Media	4
COLI 4570	Films of Moral Struggle	4
COMC 2277	Media and Sexuality	4
COMC 3240	Photography, Identity, Power	4
COMC 3260	Media Regulation	4
COMC 3280	Representing Asians in Journalism and Media	4
COMC 3310	Ethics and Popular Culture	4
COMC 3330	Peace, Justice, and the Media	4
COMC 3350	Media Law	4
COMC 3370	Ethical Issues in Media	4
COMC 3375	Children and Media	4
COMC 3380	International Communication	4
COMC 4170	Dissent and Disinformation	4
COMC 4340	Freedom of Expression	4
COMC 4360	Communication Ethics and the Public Sphere	4
COMC 4370	Ethical Controversies in 21st Century Media	4
DTEM 2450	Digital Property: Rights, Policies, and Practice	4
DTEM 3500	Resistance and Global Activism	4
DTEM 4430	Digital Media Ethics	4
DTEM 4440	Privacy and Surveillance	4
DTEM 4470	Values in Design	4
DTEM 4480	Digital Media and Public Responsibility	4
FITV 2670	Television and Social Change	4
FITV 4570	Films of Moral Struggle	4
FITV 4660	Ethics of Reality Television	4

JOUR 3740	Ethics and Diversity in Journalism	4
JOUR 3760	The Journalist and the Law	4
JOUR 4750	Values in the News	4
JOUR 4770	Media Law and Journalism Ethics	4

the Kavanagh Award, and the Edward A. Walsh Scholarship for studies in communications.

## For more information

Visit the Communication and Media Studies department web page.

## Program Requirements

For all majors: To become a major in communications, communication and culture, digital technologies and emerging media, film and television, or journalism, a student must demonstrate an earned cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better or receive written permission from the associate chair or chair of the department. In addition, no D-grade work will be credited toward the major or minor.

## Internships

A significant feature of all the communication and media studies majors is the opportunity to participate in internships working under the direct supervision of professionals in media organizations, ranging from daily newspapers and television networks to public relations and advertising agencies and corporate communication programs.

### Internship Requirements

- For their first internship, ALL CMS students wishing to receive credit for that internship MUST enroll in COMM 4701 Internship Seminar and successfully complete that course. This course is worth four credits and counts toward an elective in all four undergraduate majors.
- For all subsequent internships, students may take a tutorial —COMM 4999. Typically, these internships are worth one (1) course credit and *do not* count as an elective.
- All internships for academic credit must be approved by the department prior to registration. In general, students requesting academic credit for internships are expected to have a 3.0 cumulative GPA.
- The department recommends about 15 hours per week of internship duty over a semester (e.g., two days per week, seven hours per day; or three days per week, five hours per day).

## Independent Research

Independent studies enable both majors and minors to pursue special projects as part of their requirements. Students may register to study with a professor for an Independent Tutorial for one to four credits, based upon an agreement with the professor.

## Extracurricular Activities

Majors who belong to affiliated professional organizations may be eligible to apply for membership in Lambda Pi Eta, the Communication Honors Society. They are also active at WFUV ([wfuv.org](http://wfuv.org), 90.7 FM), Fordham University's highly regarded public media station; on a number of campus publications, including *The Ram* and *The Observer*; on *Fordham Nightly News*; and in many other student organizations.

## Departmental Awards

Awards presented by the department include the Society of Professional Journalists/Sigma Delta Chi Award, the Herbert Robinson Award in Creative Writing, the Ralph W. Dengler, S.J., Award, the William F. DiPietra Awards in film and in screenwriting, the Ann M. Sperber Biography Award,