

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

Theoretical Base, Practical Experiences

Be equipped for success in graduate or professional school and in your chosen profession.

Communication majors at Truman pursue one of three areas of emphasis: communication studies, journalism, or public communication. All three emphases prepare students for the professional world or for graduate school. To enhance their experience at Truman, students are actively encouraged to participate in student media and other co-curricular activities.

Communication studies incorporates the study of theories and practices from both rhetorical and social-scientific viewpoints and prepares students for a wide variety of careers in management, consulting, research, and client/customer service.

The **journalism** emphasis promotes convergence, critical thinking and competencies required for careers in mediated communication platforms such as online and mobile, newspapers, magazine, radio, and television.

Specialists in **public communication** choose from a variety of careers in public policy development, political consulting, public relations, integrated and social marketing, non-profit activism, and other areas of social influence.

Prepare to meet today's communication challenges.

COMMUNICATION.TRUMAN.EDU



"The communication faculty at Truman equipped me with not only the academic skills to compete in an internationally-recognized graduate program but also the emotional support and confidence to apply. The encouragement given to me by my professors made all the difference in my post-graduate plans. Today I consider them trusted mentors and close friends."

Alexandria J. Witt, Class of 2013
Pursued at Truman: **BA in Communication, Political Science**
Pursued after Truman: **MSc in Political Communication and Journalism at the London School of Economics**
Currently pursuing: **Digital Manager at the DNC**

PURSUING COMMUNICATION

BA
DEGREE
OFFERED

MAJORS OFFERED

**Communication Studies,
Public Communication
& Journalism**

51%
of majors do
an internship

MINORS OFFERED

**Communication &
Political Communication**

300

approximate number
of students pursuing
one of these majors

50

approximate number
of students pursuing
one of these minors

13 full-time faculty
members

3 part-time faculty
members

RECENT AWARDS — Geoffrey Woehlk, 2013 Best College Station Manager in US, and Brooke Giddens, 2013 Best College Program Director in US, from the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System. The Truman Speech and Debate team won the 2010 National Forensics Association (NFA) National Championship Sweepstakes in Individual Events and the 2012 NFA National Championship Sweepstakes in Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Dr. James Cianciola was Truman's Educator of the Year for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Faculty

- Join active teacher-scholars who regularly present their research at disciplinary conferences and publish in academic journals, as well as work collaboratively with students on undergraduate research projects.
- Faculty travel nationally and internationally to study, attend conferences, and conduct research, and often take Truman undergraduates with them. For example, student members of the Forensic Union recently accompanied faculty members as trainers and adjudicators for the 13th FLTRP Cup, China's English-speaking national debate championships.
- Full-time faculty members with professional media credentials advise student media.
- Full-time faculty members with extensive backgrounds in both debate and individual speaking events direct our forensics program.
- Full-time faculty members with relevant industry and government experience advise our student pre-professional and academic honorary organizations.
- To learn more about our communication faculty, visit truman.edu/communication-major.

Students

- Attend student or **professional conferences** to present your research or co-curricular work, such as: College Media Advisers, Missouri Broadcast Education Association, the National Communication Association, and the Central States Communication Association.
- Student organizations** include Lambda Pi Eta (national honor society), NCA Student Club, Ad & PR Club (affiliated with International Association of Business Communicators), Truman Media Network (student-produced media), Toastmasters, and Up-Chuckles (a student-run stand-up comedy association).
- Compete in the nationally-ranked **Forensics program**. Our team consistently receives honors and awards, including



"Studying communication, along with mastering skill sets for an ever-changing marketplace, requires sustained collaboration between faculty and students. At Truman, my students consistently lend their creative spirit and fresh insights, whether inside the classroom or in our learning laboratories (the Truman Media Network), to the challenges posed by both enduring and emerging media. While being able to practice innovation, we also work together to maintain the long-standing principles of effective communication that remains a vital part of their liberal arts education."

Dr. Marilyn Yaquinto
Associate Professor of Communication

first place individual awards in national competitions and team sweepstakes awards.

- Students consistently receive honors and awards from national, regional and state organizations for their **media production** including: Best Weekly and Overall Newspaper; Best Magazine; First Place in Convergent Journalism, Radio Play-by-Play, as well as Audio and Video Documentary, Audio Commercial and PSA.

Curriculum

- We offer a **Bachelor of Arts (BA)** degree in Communication with options for an emphasis in **Communication Studies, Journalism, or Public Communication**.
- In addition to Communication coursework, pursue at least one industry, non-profit or government internship, as well as study abroad and/or conduct undergraduate research.
- The largest classes could have 65 students, but the majority of classes have 20 to 30 students, and some elective classes are as small as 10 to 15 students.

Facilities & Equipment

- Learn in state-of-the-art classrooms equipped with computer and AV projection systems, cameras for recording presentations, and internet access.
- Join a cross-platform department with both Mac and PC computer classrooms and production lab facilities.
- Experience all-digital production facilities for classes and student media in broadcast, print, and online work.
- In addition to teaching space and the Forensics squad room, Communication houses other learning laboratories: the Communication Lab, the Student Media Center that includes the state-of-the-art multimedia NewsCenter, the KTRM-FM radio station, and the television studio and control room.
- The Communication Lab offers assistance in preparation for speech assignments, and provides space for faculty seminar studies or student research involving focus groups and small groups.

Employers

- Pursue a career at places like: Xinhua News Agency (China), Fleishman-Hillard, Wall Street Journal, United States Institute of Peace, City of New York (Asst. District Attorney), DreamWorks Animation, St. Luke's Hospital.

Graduate Schools

- Programs pursued at the graduate level by recent alumni include: University of Kansas, London School of Economics, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, Loyola University (Chicago), Columbia University (New York City), University of Denver, University of Missouri.