

11-29-1982

Revision and Retitling of the M.A. in Speech Communication as the M.A. in Communication

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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Resolution #7, 1982-83

Revision & Retitling of the
M.A. in Speech Communication
as the M.A. in Communication

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering

FROM: The Faculty Senate

Meeting on 11/29/82
(Date)

RE: X I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)

SUBJECT: Revision and Retitling of the M.A. in Speech Communication
as the M.A. in Communication

(see attached)

Signed: Bill W. Reed Date Sent 11/30/82
(For the Senate)
Bill W. Reed, President, Faculty Senate.....

TO: The Faculty Senate

FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering

RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution

- a. Accepted. Effective Date _____
- b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on _____
- c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation.

II., III. a. Received and acknowledged

b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: Vice Presidents: _____

Others:

Distribution Date: _____

Signed: _____
(President of the College)

Date Received by the Senate: _____

Proposal for the Revision and Retitling
of the

M.A. IN SPEECH COMMUNICATION

as the

M.A. IN COMMUNICATION

Department of Communication
SUNY College at Brockport, New York

November 12, 1982

- I. Rationale. The objectives of the Department of Communication in proposing a revision and retitling of the M.A. in Speech Communication as the M.A. in Communication are to (1) make the title of the degree program consistent with the recently adopted new name for the department; (2) simplify, clarify and streamline the curriculum of the graduate program in the Department of Communication; and (3) adjust the nature and description of the program to conform with present and future organizational, programmatic and structural changes within the department.

Other than the proposed change in title for the graduate program of the department, significant modifications of the currently offered M.A. in Speech Communication are two in number. First, the department is proposing to delete the Comprehensive Examination as one option (the other being the completion of a thesis) as a means for the partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree. Increasingly, the graduate students pursuing graduate study in Communication at the SUNY College at Brockport are part-time students, with their programs of study requiring several years to complete. In these circumstances, a comprehensive examination has proven not to be particularly meaningful, as well as being increasingly difficult to compile and evaluate. Frequently, the faculty from whom students have taken courses are no longer on campus and it has been almost impossible to design and evaluate responses to examination questions covering the content of those courses.

The other significant modification involves the introduction of a non-thesis option in the proposed program for the M.A. in Communication. This option, which would require that graduate students pursuing it successfully complete six semester hours of coursework not required of those in the thesis option, is intended for those graduate students who are returning to or entering professional and business fields and have no ambitions for continuing their studies at the doctoral level. Such students increasingly comprise a major portion of the matriculated student numbers in the graduate program of the department.

Graduate students choosing the non-thesis option will be required to complete a "culminating project." The nature of that project, which might take any one of a variety of presentational forms (e.g., a paper, a video presentation, a film, a graphic presentation), may involve the analysis of a communication issue, examination of a communication problem or practice, development of a communication program, exploration of a new program area, or the synthesis of other subjects or topics of significance. The nature and modality of the required "culminating project" would be developed in consultation with the student's graduate program advisor.

II. Proposed M.A. Program. The proposed M.A. in Communication requires that graduate students complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework (including thesis) if choosing the thesis option, or a minimum of 36 semester hours of coursework (including culminating project) if electing the non-thesis option. Each student's program of study will include 15 semester hours of required coursework in research methods and seminar courses, together with additional coursework in Communication electives and a cognate area.

The specific course of study required of each student will be prepared by the student and his/her faculty advisor in conformance with College and departmental graduate policies and the specific interests and needs of the individual student. When a course of study has been approved, it will constitute a binding agreement between the student, the department and the College. However, if either necessary or desirable, changes may be made in the course of study by mutual agreement of the student and the departmental graduate faculty.

III. Curriculum Description.

M.A. IN COMMUNICATION

Required hours of graduate study: a minimum of 30 semester hours for the thesis option and a minimum of 36 hours for the non-thesis option are required beyond the bachelor's degree with at least half of the program at the 600 level or above. At least 12 semester hours must be earned in seminar courses numbered 691 through 698.

A. Required courses: the following courses, totalling 15 semester hours, are required of all matriculated graduate students:

CMC 600	Research in Communication or other <u>approved</u> research methods course (e.g., ENL 601 Bibliography and Methods of Research, PSH 601 Nonexperimental Methods in Behavioral Research, PSH 703 Quantitative Methods and Research Design)	3 hrs.
CMC 691	Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism <u>or</u>	
CMC 695	Seminar in Periods of Rhetorical Discourse <u>or</u>	
CMC 696	Seminar in Types of Rhetorical Discourse	3 hrs.
CMC 692	Seminar in Problems in Rhetorical Theory	3 hrs.
CMC 693	Seminar in Interpersonal and Organizational Communication	3 hrs.
CMC 694	Seminar in Mass Communication	3 hrs.

B. Thesis option: graduate student electing this option must complete 15 additional semester hours in:

1. Elective courses in Communication selected with advisement	3-6 hrs.
2. Cognate area courses selected with advisement	3-6 hrs.
3. Thesis	6 hrs.

C. Non-Thesis option: graduate students electing this option must complete 21 additional semester hours in:

1. Elective courses in Communication selected with advisement	6-12 hrs.
2. Cognate area courses selected with advisement	6-12 hrs.
3. Culminating Project	3 hrs.

IV. Implementation. It is the intent of the faculty of the Department of Communication that the revised and retitled M.A. in Communication program be implemented and first made available to graduate applicants in the 1983-1984 academic year.

No additional faculty staffing or other resources beyond those currently available in and to the department will be required to initiate the proposed new graduate program.