11-26-2001

Master of Arts Degree Program in Communication

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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TO:  Dr. Paul Yu, College President
FROM:  The Faculty Senate Meeting on: November 26, 2001
RE:  Master of Arts Degree Program in Communication
SUBJ:  Resolution #09

I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
II. Recommendation (Urging the Fitness of)
III. Other, For your Information (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)

Signed:  \[signature\]  Date Sent: 12/1/01

TO:  The Faculty Senate
FROM:  Dr. Paul Yu, College President
RE:  Revised and Action Taken on Formal Resolution (circle)

a. Accepted. Effective Date: 9/1/02
b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on __/__/____
c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II, III. Response to Recommendation/Other
a. Received and acknowledged
b. Comment:

__________________________

DISTRIBUTION:  President, Staff, Deans, Council,
Faculty Senate, R. Merrill

Distribution Date: 12-19-01  Signed:  \[signature\]

(Office of the President, SUNY College at Brockport)

Faculty Senate, 12/06/01  
C:\My Documents/Resolutions/RESFORM.doc
To:    Dr. Jenny Lloyd, President
       Faculty Senate
From: Lynae Sakshaug, Chair
      Childhood/Early Childhood Committee

When the Childhood and Early Childhood teacher certification programs were
developed under the new SED regulations in 1999, the required cognate courses were
matched with general education courses as closely as possible to allow students to meet
both requirements at once. Because of the general education requirements and the
requirement of an academic major in addition to certification courses, only two science
courses were required. The intent was to help teacher candidates complete their programs
in a timely fashion. The two required science courses did not include biology. After
considerable discussion, we are proposing that both programs be changed to offer either a
biology elective or an earth science elective. The department supports this change in both
programs. Currently, both programs offer only the earth science elective. The rationale
for such a change is that biology is an important component of the curriculum that
teachers from preschool through grades 6 teach. Teacher candidates need the opportunity
to choose biology as part of their preparation.

Offering biology as an elective will not require more resources. Dr. Larry Kline of
the Biology department has affirmed this in his letter supporting the change. Making such
a change will just mean that teacher candidates will have more choice and will have the
opportunity to take biology, which is important in their preparation to become teachers.
Proposed Curriculum Revision

Master of Arts Degree Program in Communication

Department of Communication
SUNY College at Brockport

March 2001
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Proposal for Revised

Master of Arts In Communication
Master of Arts in Communication

Brief Description of New Program and How It Differs from Current Program

The proposed revisions to the current Master of Arts in Communication program are substantial. Perhaps most significant is the elimination in the proposed program of a thesis option available to graduate students.

Four major alterations distinguish the proposed M.A. in Communication program from that currently being offered:

1. The current M.A. allows students to complete either a 30 credit hour thesis option program or a 36 credit hour non-thesis option program. The proposed graduate curriculum eliminates the thesis opportunity and requires all students to complete 36 credit hours of graduate level courses.

2. The revised program introduces a requirement that students complete at least six additional hours in communication research methods and their application beyond the 3 credit hours (CMC 600 - Communication Research Methods) required in the current program. All students enrolling in the proposed new program will be required to complete in addition to CMC 600 (1) either CMC 601 - Quantitative Research Methods or CMC 602 - Qualitative Research Methods, and (2) CMC 797 - Research Project in Communication.

3. The proposed program specifically identifies core of communication theory seminar courses embracing the complete range of primary communication contexts required of all students, replacing and expanding in both scope and number a list of theory courses required in the current program.

4. Finally, responding to expectations promulgated by the College's Office of Graduate Studies and the Dean of Arts and Performance, the number of 500-level courses available to graduate students in reduced from 19 in the current program to 15 in the proposed program revision. While this initial reduction in the number of 500 level “swing” courses is not large, of the Department of Communication over time and as faculty resources become available plans to replace additional 500 level courses with parallel 600 level (or graduate student only) courses.

Rationale for New Program and Significant Included Changes

The justifications for revising the curricular program leading to a Master of Arts in Communication are fourfold. First, the proposed program places greater emphasis on graduates’ ability to read, articulate and conduct communication research at an advanced level. Second, the elimination of the thesis option in the proposed program is consistent with the program actions of a growing number of M.A. or M.S. programs in Communication across the country, that decision associated with the ideas that (1) a thesis requirement is too often paired with a requirement that students complete fewer hours of substantive coursework, and (2) the masters’ degree is a preliminary to entering a doctoral program in Communication within which a requirement to demonstrate research competencies is much more appropriate. There is, too, the increasingly common occurrence of students being admitted into doctoral programs without first completing an M.A. or M.S. program in Communication.

In addition, the proposed graduate program in developing a defined core of required communication theory courses, strengthens the department’s commitment to introducing its graduate students to theory across the range of communication contexts and experiences – public, interpersonal and group, media, and organizational – as well as placing increased emphasis on mastering the art of rhetorical and media criticism. In doing so, the Department of Communication believes it will be offering a stronger, more intellectually challenging and attractive graduate program.

Finally, the rationale for reducing the number of 500 level or “swing” courses is apparent. First, the department was directed to do so and, more importantly, doing so increases the validity and credibility of its graduate
teaching as fewer courses need be designed to accommodate both undergraduate and graduate student expectations and abilities.

Statement of How New Program Will Affect Student Interests and Enrollments

Currently providing the only masters' level program in the State University of New York that may be described as a providing comprehensive communication instruction, the Department of Communication strongly believes the proposed new graduate program will enhance further its attractiveness to prospective graduate students. The lone comparable program in the region is that at Syracuse University; a program that must be constructed by students from courses offered by the organizationally disparate Speech Communication Department and by the Newhouse School of Public Communication.

The Communication department at the present time enrolls in excess of 30 matriculated graduate students and services approximately the same number of non-matriculated students. The proposed revisions in the graduate program are expected to result in increased number of applicants to the program and students admitted.
MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

I. Required Credit Hours of Graduate Study

A minimum of 36 credit hours of graduate-level coursework beyond the bachelor's degree is required, with at least 24 credit hours at the 600 level or higher. All students must complete at least 9 credit hours of research methods courses, CMC 600, CMC 601 or CMC 602, and CMC 797. At least 15 additional credit hours must be taken in seminar courses numbered 690 through 698. (Seminar courses may not be completed by directed study, independent study or by transfer credit.) Finally, students must complete 12 additional elective credit hours selected by advisement.

II. Required Graduate Courses: The following eight courses, totaling 24 credit hours, are required of all matriculated graduate students in Communication.

Cr. Hrs.

A. Research Core Courses (9 credit hours)

CMC 600 Introduction to Research Methods in Communication 3

[CMC 600 should be one of the first courses taken and is prerequisite to both CMC 601 and CMC 602]

Either of:

CMC 601 Quantitative Research Methods in Communication: Surveys and Experiments 3

CMC 602 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication: Textual Analysis and Ethnography

CMC 797 Research Project in Communication 3

[The research project is the culmination of the graduate student's academic experience and therefore should be one of the last courses taken; departmental and instructor permission is required]

B. Seminar Core Courses (15 credit hours)

CMC 692 Seminar in Rhetorical Theory 3

CMC 693 Seminar in Organizational Communication 3

CMC 694 Seminar in Mass Communication 3

CMC 697 Seminar in Interpersonal Communication 3

And one of the following:

CMC 690 Seminar in Special Topics in Communication 3

CMC 691 Seminar in Topics of Rhetorical Criticism

CMC 695 Seminar in Periods and Types of Public Address

CMC 696 Seminar in Media Studies and Criticism
II. Elective Graduate Courses: In addition to the eight required courses, students must complete at least four additional courses (12 credit hours). These courses should be selected by advisement from the options listed below.

a. Communication electives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Cr. Hrs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMC 510</td>
<td>Speakers, Campaigns and Movements</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 511</td>
<td>Rhetorical Criticism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 513</td>
<td>Nonverbal Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 517</td>
<td>Political Rhetoric in the Information Age</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 518</td>
<td>Intercultural Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 519</td>
<td>Freedom of Expression</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 532</td>
<td>Public Relations Campaigns</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 562</td>
<td>The Rhetoric of Film</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 563</td>
<td>Media and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 573</td>
<td>Theories of Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 577</td>
<td>Organizational Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 579</td>
<td>Conflict Resolution Through Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 583</td>
<td>Communication Training and Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 592</td>
<td>Theories of Rhetoric</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 691</td>
<td>Seminar in Topics in Rhetorical Criticism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 695</td>
<td>Seminar in Periods and Types of Public Address</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 696</td>
<td>Seminar in Media Studies and Criticism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. CMC 699 Independent Study in Communication. Independent study options permit graduate students to study areas or develop projects not possible through regular course work. Students are ordinarily permitted to include a maximum of 3 credit hours of independent study as part of their plan of graduate study. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the graduate faculty.

c. Students with strong undergraduate backgrounds in communication, by advisement and with approval by the graduate faculty, may elect to take one or two courses in disciplines other than communication. Students lacking strong undergraduate backgrounds in communication must take their entire program of study in communication courses. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the graduate faculty.

d. Students who wish to study film and video production, desktop publishing and related media may do so with the Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince Street, Rochester. For programmatic purposes, graduate courses taken at the Workshop are treated as communication courses and may be taken by all matriculated graduate students, including those without strong undergraduate backgrounds in communication. Students may take a maximum of 6 credit hours of coursework at the Workshop. Such coursework should be carefully selected in consultation with the student's academic advisor.
### Comparison of Current and Proposed Programs

#### Master of Arts in Communication

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Program</th>
<th>Proposed Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. Required Courses (15 credit hours required)</strong></td>
<td><strong>I. Required Graduate Courses (24 credit hours required)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 600 Communication Research Methods</td>
<td><strong>A. Research Core Courses (9 credit hours)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 691 Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism</td>
<td>CMC 600 Introduction to Research Methods in Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 692 Seminar in Rhetorical Theory</td>
<td>or CMC 601 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC 694 Seminar in Mass Communication</td>
<td>CMC 697 Research Project in Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMC 697 Seminar in Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td><strong>B. Seminar Core Courses (15 credit hours)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 692 Seminar in Rhetorical Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 693 Seminar in Organizational Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 694 Seminar in Mass Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 697 Seminar in Interpersonal Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>And one of the following:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 690 Seminar in Special Topics in Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 691 Seminar in Topics Rhetorical Criticism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 695 Seminar in Periods and Types of Public Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMC 696 Seminar in Media Studies and Criticism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Current Program

II. Areas of Specialization (thesis option: 15 credits required, including CMC 798; non-thesis option: 21 credits required)

A. Communication Electives
   selected from:

   - CMC 510 Speakers, Campaigns & Movements
   - CMC 511 Rhetorical Criticism
   - CMC 513 Nonverbal Communication
   - CMC 515 Public Communication in Administration, Business & Professions
   - CMC 517 20th Century Political Rhetoric
   - CMC 518 Cross-cultural Communication
   - CMC 519 Problems in Freedom of Speech
   - CMC 532 Public Relations Campaigns
   - CMC 562 Rhetoric of Film
   - CMC 563 Mass Communication & Society
   - CMC 568 Law of Mass Communication
   - CMC 572 Group Leadership
   - CMC 573 Theories of Communication
   - CMC 574 Organizational Communication
   - CMC 579 Conflict Resolution Through Communication
   - CMC 583 Communication Training and Development
   - CMC 590 Special Studies
   - CMC 592 Theories of Persuasion
   - CMC 596 Contemporary Broadcast Issues
   - CMC 693 Seminar in Organizational Communication
   - CMC 695 Seminar in Periods of Rhetorical Discourse
   - CMC 696 Seminar in Types of Rhetorical Discourse
   - CMC 797 Project in Communication
   - CMC 798 Thesis

B. Independent Study Options
   - CMC 699 Independent Study in Communication

Proposed Program

II. Elective Graduate Courses (12 credits required)

A. Communication Electives
   selected from:

   - CMC 510 Speakers, Campaigns & Movements
   - CMC 511 Rhetorical Criticism
   - CMC 513 Nonverbal Communication
   - CMC 517 Political Rhetoric in the Information Age
   - CMC 518 Intercultural Communication
   - CMC 519 Freedom of Expression
   - CMC 532 Public Relations Campaigns
   - CMC 562 Rhetoric of Film
   - CMC 563 Media and Society
   - CMC 572 Group Leadership
   - CMC 573 Theories of Communication
   - CMC 577 Organizational Communication
   - CMC 579 Conflict Management Through Communication
   - CMC 583 Communication Training and Development
   - CMC 592 Theories of Rhetoric
   - CMC 691 Seminar in Topics in Rhetorical Criticism
   - CMC 695 Seminar in Periods and Types of Public Address
   - CMC 696 Seminar in Media Studies and Criticism
   - CMC 699 Independent Study in Communication
Master of Arts in Communication

Department of Communication
SUNY College at Brockport

The Master of Arts in Communication program is designed to provide a broad survey of the several discrete areas within the discipline as well as an in-depth concentration in a selected area. Upon completion of the program, students will be qualified (1) to take up or continue careers in the communication professions or (2) to enter a doctoral program in communication. Our students will typically enter the program with a broad diversity of backgrounds and with equally broad interests and needs, so the program is constructed with the greatest possible flexibility to be responsive to this diversity. SUNY Brockport offers graduate courses in the areas of interpersonal communication, organizational communication, mass communication, and rhetorical theory and criticism. Because a substantial portion of the communication graduate students are fully employed part-time students, we offer all the required courses in the program as evening classes.

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

The Master of Arts in Communication requires the following:

1. **Required credits of graduate study**: a minimum of 30 credits (if electing the thesis option) or a minimum of 36 credits (if electing the non-thesis option) of study beyond the bachelor’s degree with at least 15 hours at the 600 level or above. At least 12 credits must be earned in seminar courses numbered 691 through 698. Seminar courses may not be taken by directed study, independent study or by transfer credit.

2. **Required courses**: the following courses, totaling 15 credits, are required of all matriculated graduate students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) CMC 600 – Communication Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(CMC 600 should be the first course for all matriculated graduate students and is a prerequisite for all CMC 600 and 700 level courses)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) CMC 691 – Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) CMC 692 – Seminar in Rhetorical Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) CMC 694 – Seminar in Mass Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) CMC 697 – Seminar in Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Areas of Specialization: In addition to the five required courses, you will select additional elective courses by advisement. If you elect the thesis option, you will need five additional courses for a minimum total of 30 credits, including six credits for CMC 798, Thesis. If you select the non-thesis option, you will be required to complete at least seven additional courses for a minimum total of 36 credits.

(a) Communication electives (3 to 7 courses)

CMC 510 - Speakers, Campaigns and Movements
CMC 511 - Rhetorical Criticism
CMC 513 - Nonverbal Communication
CMC 515 - Public Communication in Administration, Business and the Professions
CMC 517 - 20th Century Political Rhetoric
CMC 518 - Cross-cultural Communication
CMC 519 - Problems in Freedom of Speech
CMC 532 - Public Relations Campaigns
CMC 560 - Media Research Methods
CMC 562 - The Rhetoric of Film
CMC 563 - Mass Communication and Society
CMC 568 - Law of Mass Communication
CMC 572 - Group Leadership
CMC 573 - Theories of Communication
CMC 577 - Organizational Communication
CMC 579 - Conflict Resolution Through Communication
CMC 583 - Communication Training and Development
CMC 590 - Special Studies
CMC 592 - Theories of Persuasion
CMC 596 - Contemporary Broadcast Issues
CMC 693 - Seminar in Organizational Communication
CMC 695 - Seminar in Periods of Rhetorical Discourse
CMC 696 - Seminar in Types of Rhetorical Discourse
CMC 797 - Project in Communication
CMC 798 - Thesis

(b) Independent study options are available to study areas or develop projects not available through regular course work. We ordinarily permit students to take a total of three hours of independent study as part of their program of graduate study. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the graduate faculty.

CMC 699 - Independent Study in Communication
(c) Students with strong undergraduate backgrounds in communication may elect to take by advisement one or two courses in disciplines other than communication. Students electing the thesis option may take three credits (out of 30) and students electing the non-thesis option may take six credits (out of 36) in courses in other disciplines. Students without strong undergraduate backgrounds in communication must take their entire program of study in communication studies. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the graduate faculty.

(d) Students who wish to study film and video production, desktop publishing and related media may do so at the Visual Studies Workshop, conveniently located at 31 Prince Street in Rochester. For programmatic purposes, graduate courses taken at the Workshop are considered equivalent to communication courses and may be taken by all matriculated graduate students, even those without undergraduate backgrounds in communication. Students electing the thesis option may take up to three credits (out of 30) and students electing the non-thesis option may take up to six credits (out of 36) of coursework at the Workshop. Such coursework must be carefully selected in consultation with your academic adviser.

4. Thesis Option: If you select the thesis option, the minimum course of graduate study will be 30 credits including credit awarded for the thesis (CMC 798) – normally six credits. A master’s thesis is a substantial body of independent scholarly activity resulting in a final written product that explores your chosen topic in depth. Possible thesis subject areas include critical studies of communication, survey and experimental studies, replication and validation studies, and studies that extend prior work. The Drake Memorial Library houses copies of all the theses that have been produced by Department of Communication graduate students. A full list of these theses under the departmental heading is available at the periodicals desk in the periodicals reading room of the library.
Appendix A

Catalog Descriptions

PROPOSED NEW COURSES

CMC 601  Quantitative Research Methods in Communication: Surveys and Experiments. Provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to design and conduct both experimental and survey research on communication topics. Requires students to design and conduct quantitative research prospectuses. 3 Cr.

CMC 602  Qualitative Research Methods in Communication: Textual Analysis and Ethnography. Provides students with knowledge and skills necessary to design and conduct qualitative communication research. Focuses on various methods of rhetorical criticism, textual analysis and ethnography. Requires students to design and conduct qualitative research prospectuses. 3 Cr.
Appendix B

Catalog Descriptions

COURSE TITLE, CATALOG DESCRIPTION AND/OR CONTENT CHANGES

Change in Course Catalog Description and/or Change in Course Title Only [Course content remains essentially changed.]

CMC 417 / 517 Political Rhetoric in the Information Age (A). Critically examines significant 20th century American political speeches and campaigns. Explores the ways in which individuals and institutions use media to exercise power and influence opinion through the use of verbal and visual symbols. Special emphasis placed on representations of gender in political rhetoric. 3 Cr.
Former Title: 20th Century Political Rhetoric

CMC 418 / 518 Intercultural Communication (A). [Catalog description unchanged.]
Former Title: Cross-Cultural Communication

CMC 419 / 519 Freedom of Expression (A). Critically examines the First Amendment by exploring its historical foundations and significant legal, political and philosophical arguments. Explores a variety of contemporary controversies concerning an individual's right to freedom of verbal and nonverbal expression, including hate speech, incitement to violence and obscenity. Controversies are examined in a variety of contexts, including the public speaking platform, print, television and the Internet. 3 Cr.
Former Title: Problems in Freedom of Speech

CMC 463 / 563 Media and Society (A). [Catalog description unchanged.]
Former Title: Mass Communication and Society

CMC 479 / 579 Conflict Management Through Communication (A). Interpersonal conflict and its essential characteristics; the evolution of the study of social conflict; perspectives from which social conflict is viewed, including psychological, sociological, economic, political and mathematical; the sources, conditions and consequences of social conflict within a given social setting; skills of conflict management. 3 Cr.
Former Title: Conflict Resolution Through Communication

CMC 490 / 590 Special Topics (A). Prerequisite: Instructor permission. An umbrella course enabling the instructor to define the course focus and subject matter to address a topic or topics not covered in other communication courses. May be repeated for credit under different topics course title. Additional information can be obtained from the Communication department office. 3 cr.
Former Title: Special Studies

CMC 492 / 592 Theories of Rhetoric (A). [Catalog description unchanged.]
Former Title: Theories of Persuasion

CMC 600 Introduction to Research Methods in Communication. [Catalog description unchanged.]
Former Title: Communication Research Methods

CMC 691 Seminar in Topics in Rhetorical Criticism. [Catalog description unchanged.]
Former Title: Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism
CMC 695  Seminar in Periods and Types of Public Address. [Catalog description unchanged.]
Former Title:  Seminar in Periods in Rhetorical Discourse

Change in Course Content, Course Title and Catalog Description

CMC 696  Seminar in Media Studies and Criticism. Examines various approaches to media studies and criticism, including technological determinism, rhetorical criticism, semiotics, social criticism, cultural studies and ideological criticism. J Cr.
Former Title:  Seminar in Types of Rhetorical Discourse
Appendix C

Currently Offered Communication Courses
to be Deleted and Deregistered
effective Fall 2002

Graduate Courses

CMC 515    Public Communication in Administration, Business and the Professions
CMC 560    Media Research Methods
CMC 568    Mass Media Law and Ethics
CMC 798    Thesis
I would like to address those concerns expressed about the proposal to revise the MA degree in the Department of Communication.

Current Program

The program will help strengthen the rigor of the program, for the current non-thesis program requires 15 seminar hours at the 600 level including one significant research course CMC 600: Introduction to Research Methods in Communication, and the remaining 21 hours can be all 500 level courses.

If the student chooses the thesis option, he/she will take 15 seminar hours, 9 hours at 500 levels, then 6 credits of thesis. (This involves less than 10% of our graduate students)

Proposed Program

All must take the CMC 600 Research course as listed above, plus another CMC 601/602 Quantitative/Qualitative Research Methods, and MUST do a significant research project with a member of the graduate faculty. All students must complete 24 hours at the 600 level or above, significantly reducing the number of 400/500 level swing courses that a graduate student may utilize. This should create a more significant research component to the graduate program. It is not an option but rather is a required course.

CMC 797: Research Project in Communication

1. This is the culminating project for the Masters Program. It should utilize those research methodologies learned in CMC 600: Introduction to Research Methods in Communication and either CMC 601: Quantitative Research Methods in Communication: Surveys and Experiments, or CMC 602: Qualitative Research Methods in Communication: Textual Analysis and Ethnography.

2. This is a contract course. Each student will negotiate with the graduate faculty member with whom he/she has common disciplinary or research interests. Department and instructor permission are required in order to enroll.

3. Working with his or her project advisor, the student will undertake necessary planning and research preliminary to preparing, and will prepare a detailed project proposal for review and approval by the student's project advisor. This proposal normally should be completed and submitted no later than the end of the third week of the semester in which the student is registered for CMC 797. [The student, once having earlier selected his or her project advisor, may wish to work with that advisor to begin work on, and perhaps complete for review and approval, the proposal prior to the beginning of the semester in which registered for CMC 797.]
4. Immediately following the project advisor’s approval of the student’s proposed project, the student will resume, continue and complete the preliminary planning and research effort remaining, if necessary. The student will conduct and complete the research project activities described in the project proposal, and subsequently write and submit the completed project report/project to his/her project advisor for review, evaluation and assignment of a final course grade no later that the end of the thirteenth week of the semester.

5. The project advisor with whom the student has registered for the course will assign final course grades for CMC 797. The advisor following evaluation of both preliminary work done on and the completed project report/product will determine that grade. In assigning a final course grade, the advisor will take into account the manner in which the student worked through the thesis or project requirement process, as well as both the content and writing mechanics of the completed project report.

6. Students, upon the recommendation of their project advisor, may be encouraged to present their completed project in a forum open to members of the college, or a wider academic or professional community.