

PH.D. IN MEDIA COMMUNICATION

The Ph.D. in Media Communication focuses on the historical, social, and cultural factors that shape the development of mediated communication, and the role of mediated communication in the public's understanding of contemporary issues. Students are encouraged to pursue a concentration in one of the following: Science Communication, Strategic Communication, or Journalism Studies. The program prepares students with high-level research and theoretical skills for careers in academic and communication research or research management positions.

[Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin.](#)

Learning Objectives

1. Develop an in-depth understanding of a wide range of communication, psychological, social, and structural theories related to media communication research;
2. Develop competency in research design, including theory-building, conceptualization, operationalization of concepts, development of research questions, hypothesis testing, and quantitative and/or qualitative methodologies applicable to conducting communication research;
3. Develop expertise in a specific content area outside of the Department of Journalism and Media Communication;
4. Practice instructional methods and presentation skills appropriate for higher education and industry;
5. Conduct a focused communication dissertation using the skills and knowledge acquired in the program;
6. Execute public dissemination of the primary dissertation project undertaken while a student in the program.