School of Communications

Eric Rothenbuhler, Dean

School of Communications website (external to catalog)

Mission Statement
Instructors at the School of Communications are professional media educators, practitioners, artists and theorists. We seek to promote professional excellence in communication fields; to build on the liberal arts environment of Webster University; and to remain committed to students as they:

- Learn current and emerging theoretical, technical, creative and managerial aspects of communications;
- Become aware of the aesthetic, historical, social, ethical and global aspects of communications;
- Prepare to be future industry leaders, professionals and knowledgeable consumers who can improve all aspects of communications;
- Engage early in their future professions in communication areas through educational opportunities, field experiences, internships and interactions with professionals;
- Become life-long learners of evolving communications technologies in this rapidly changing field of study;

The School of Communications houses and supports:
- The May Gallery, a photographic exhibit space;
- The Webster University Film Series, a comprehensive alternative film series allowing students, faculty and community members to view independent features and documentaries, avant-garde films, animation, retrospectives, and short works and offering filmmaking workshops to students and the community;
- The Journal, an award-winning student newspaper offering print and Internet news;
- Idea Tree Media, a client services production group;
- The Galaxy, a student-operated radio station;
- The Ampersand, an award-winning student magazine offering print and electronic features.

Portfolio Review
Students declaring a major within the School may be required to complete a portfolio as part of their major. In the portfolio review process, students develop personal portfolios in their areas of interest. This portfolio review enables the faculty to gauge the talent, aptitude and potential of students in their area of study. The review affords faculty the opportunity to speak with students about their academic progress and career goals.

Portfolio reviews are regularly held during fall and spring semesters. Students should contact their academic advisors in the School of Communications for more specific information about portfolio review requirements as soon as they enter Webster University.

Capstone Course
Successful completion of a capstone course with a grade of B or better is part of the degree requirements for each major and emphasis. A capstone course is an advanced class designated by the major in which students demonstrate their mastery of the subject matter. The capstone course should be taken in the students' junior or senior year.

Transfer Students
Transfer students should not expect to obtain a degree in the school in less than four full semesters of sequenced courses. They should meet with an academic advisor to determine a plan of study and placement of prior course work in communications.

Transfer students who have an associate of arts (AA) degree will have satisfied all but one of the school's Global Citizenship Program (GCP) requirements. Transfer students will need only to satisfactorily complete the Keystone Seminar of the GCP requirements.

Grade Requirements
Students must earn a grade of B in their capstone course and a C- or better in any course they wish to apply toward their major. The pass/fail option is not available for courses applied towards a major, unless those courses are offered only under the pass/fail option.

Minors
The following apply to all minors:

- A minor must be comprised of only credit hours taken at Webster University.
- No course counted toward a major can also count toward a minor. If a student pursues a minor that requires a course also required for the student's major, the student should contact his or her academic advisor or the department chair to discuss an appropriate substitution.
- Students may have a major and a minor within the same department in the School of Communications; they may not have a major and minor within the same area of emphasis.
- Students must earn a grade of C- or better in any course they wish to apply toward a minor.

Certificate Programs

- Only credit hours taken at Webster University may count toward a certificate.
- Students must earn a grade of C or better in all courses applied toward the certificate as stated in the program.
- Students may choose to receive a minor or certificate in a program, but not both.

Audio Aesthetics and Technology Department
Tim Ryan, chair

 Majors and Degrees
- Audio Production (BA)
  Optional emphasis available in International Audio Production

Minors
- Audio Production

Certificates
- Entrepreneurship (Audio Majors track)*
  (In cooperation with the Walker School of Business & Technology)

*Undergraduate programs marked with this symbol are considered Gainful Employment programs. The U.S. Department of Education defines Gainful Employment program criteria and data requirements. View Webster University's Gainful Employment Disclosures at http://www.webster.edu/consumers/gainful-employment.html to see important information about the education debt, earnings and completion rates of students who attended our programs.

Audio Aesthetics and Technology Department website
School of Communications

(external to catalog)

Department Description
Students majoring in audio production learn the art and science of audio in media. Students learn to work in a variety of audio fields, including music recording, film sound, audio for video, radio, electronic sound synthesis, theatrical sound design, sound reinforcement, audio for computer applications and audio equipment maintenance. The department offers industry-leading technical ear training using sophisticated software and personal instruction. A hands-on approach to equipment is a key part of the program and complements lectures on audio theory. The history of the audio industry is also an important component of the program, lending perspective and offering insight into the industry’s future.

Special Study Opportunities
Students learn about their fields of interest through internships at top facilities around the country, including recording studios, live sound companies and post-production houses. In recent years, audio production students have secured internships in Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Seattle, Cleveland, Nashville, New York City, Washington, D.C. and Spain.

Recent internships have included Atlantic Records, Capitol Studios, Burton Stroube Studios, Emmis Communications, Eighth Day Sound Systems, Fever Recording Studios, KDHX Community Media, Logic Systems Sound & Lighting, Phat Buddha Productions, Quad Studios Nashville, Smithsonian Folkways, Sonic Magic Studios, Stanco Productions, St. Louis Cardinals, St. Louis Public Radio, Shock City Studios and Studio X.

Successful graduates of the Department of Audio Aesthetics and Technology will:
• Function professionally using a variety of audio/media technology;
• Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of the theories underlying the science and art of audio production;
• Perform professionally in the field of audio production.

Communications and Journalism Department
Gary Ford, chair

Majors and Degrees
• Advertising and Marketing Communications (BA)
• Global Journalism (BA)
• Journalism (BA)
• Media Communications (BA)
• Professional Writing (BA)
• Public Relations (BA)
• Scriptwriting (BA)
• Speech Communication Studies (BA)
• Sports Communication (BA)

Minors
• Advertising and Marketing Communications
• Journalism
• Media Communications
• Media Literacy
• Public Relations
• Scriptwriting
• Speech Communication Studies
• Sports Communication

Certificates
• Broadcast Journalism
• Community Journalism
• Journalism/Professional Writing
• Magazine Production
• Outdoor/Environmental Journalism
• Sports Journalism*

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Communications and Journalism Department website
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Special Study Opportunities
Internships
Students have opportunities to learn about their fields of interest through internships and externships in communication businesses and organizations. In recent years, students in the department of communications and journalism have secured internships at organizations in St. Louis as well as in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York City.

Recent internships have included: Boxing Clever, Coolfire Originals, Creative Producers Group, Emmis Communications, FleshmanHillard, Fox Theatre, KMOV-TV, KTVI-TV (Fox 2), Live Nation, KSDK, Missouri Botanical Garden, Momentum Worldwide, MTV Networks, Nine Network of Public Media, Osborn Barr, Ronald McDonald House Charities, St. Louis Science Center, St. Louis Blues and St. Louis Cardinals.

Independent study and reading courses add further flexibility to the established curriculum.

Electronic and Photographic Media Department
Aaron AuBuchon, chair

Majors and Degrees
• Animation (BA)
• Film Studies (BA)
• Film, Television and Video Production (BA)
• Games and Game Design (BA)
• Interactive Digital Media (BA)
• Motion Media Production (BA)
• (not currently offered)
• Photography (BA)

Minors
• Animation Production
• Film Studies
• Film, Television and Video Production
• Interactive Digital Media
• Photography

Certificates
• Animation Production
• Digital Media - Design and Production
• Documentary Production*
School of Communications

- Entrepreneurship (Animation, Photography, or Video Production track)*
  (In cooperation with the Walker School of Business & Technology)
- Game Design
- Interactive Digital Media*
- Photojournalism/Editorial Photography
  (Geneva and St. Louis only)
- Studio/Commercial Photography

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Electronic and Photographic Media Department website
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Special Study Opportunities
Students learn about their fields of interest through internships and externships in communications businesses, production houses and organizations. In recent years, electronic and photographic media students have secured internships in St. Louis as well as in Los Angeles and New York City. Internships have included Bruton Stroube Studios, Coolfire Media, Coolfire Originals, Emmis Communications, ESPN, Jennifer Silverberg Photography, Lamplight Productions, Missouri Botanical Gardens, Momentum Worldwide, MTV Networks, Nine Network of Public Media, Pixel Press Technology, Plymptoons, Saint Louis Science Center, Sheldon Galleries, Simutronics Corp., St. Louis Blues and The Telegraph.