School of Communications

Eric Rothenbuhler, Dean

Mission Statement
The School of Communications is a worldwide educational organization of student-centered faculty and staff, preparing undergraduate and graduate students to achieve excellence in the ever-changing global fields of communication and media.

We do this by providing theory and practice in media courses framed within a liberal arts-based curriculum, augmented by personalized mentorship and professional development opportunities.

Students:
- 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 lifelong 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 Ampersand, an award-winning student magazine offering print and electronic features;
- The Galaxy, a student-operated radio station;
- Ida Tree Media, a client services production group;
- The Journal, an award-winning student newspaper offering print and internet news;
- Several clubs and organizations.

Capstone Course
Successful completion of a capstone course with a grade of B or better is part of the degree requirements for most majors. 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 students’ junior or senior year.

Transfer Students
The School of Communications welcomes transfer students at all stages of their educational journey. Students transferring to the School of Communications should meet with an academic advisor to discuss an appropriate plan of study and to determine placement of prior course work in communications before starting in a degree program at the school.

Dual Majors and Dual Degrees
Students in the School of Communications who pursue a dual major or dual degree will be expected to fulfill the requirements of both majors or both degrees. The same course may not satisfy the requirements for two different majors or two different degrees. When majors or degrees have conflicting or duplicate requirements, their academic advisor will help determine an appropriate plan of study. Students pursuing a dual major or dual degree will complete the Global Citizenship Program requirements of one of the programs. For more information about dual majors and dual degrees, please see Dual Majors and Dual Degrees in the Academic Policies section of this catalog.

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 toward 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
Timothy Ryan, chair

Majors and Degrees
- Audio in Media Arts (BA)
  Optional emphasis available in International Audio Production
- Sound Recording and Engineering (BS)

Minors
- Audio in Media Arts
- Sound Recording and Engineering

Certificates
- Entrepreneurship (Audio Production 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
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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 (external to catalog)

Special Study Opportunities
Students learn about areas of interest within their field of study through internships at top facilities around the country including recording studios, live sound companies and post-production houses. Audio production students have secured internships in St. Louis as well as in Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Nashville and New York City.

Recent internship placements have included Atlantic Records, Capitol Studios, Burton Stroube Studios, Chicago Recording, Eighth Day Sound Systems, Ironman Sound Industries, Jazz St. Louis, KDHX Community Media, Logic Systems Sound & Lighting, Native Sound Recording, Open Studio Network, Sonic Magic Studios, St. Louis Cardinals, St. Louis Public Radio, Shock City Studios and Switch.

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
- Journalism/Professional Writing
- Magazine Production
- Outdoor/Environmental Journalism
- Sports Journalism*

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Communications and Journalism Department website (external to catalog)

Special Study Opportunities
Internships
Students have opportunities to learn about areas of interest within their field of study through internships and externships in communications companies, agencies, and other organizations. Communications and journalism students have secured internships at organizations in St. Louis as well as in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York City.

Recent internship placements have included Abstrakt Marketing, Contemporary Art Museum, COCA, Coolfire Studios, Creative Producers Group, FleishmanHillard, Fox Theatre, Fox Sports Midwest, KMOV-TV, KTVI-TV, Live Nation, KSDK, Missouri Botanical Garden, Momentum Worldwide, MTV Networks, Nine Network of Public Media, NoCoast Originals, Riverfront Times, Ronald McDonald House Charities, St. Louis American, St. Louis Science Center and St. Louis Blues.

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 (Geneva only)
- Documentary Production*
- Entrepreneurship (Animation, Photography, or Film, Television and Video Production Majors 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
(external to catalog)

Special Study Opportunities
Students learn about areas of interest within their field of study through internships and externships in communications businesses, production houses and other organizations. Electronic and photographic media students have secured internships in St. Louis as well as in Los Angeles, New York City, and Orlando. Recent internship placements have included Bad Dog Pictures, Bruton Stroube Studios, Coolfire Studios, Dreyfus & Associates Photography, ESPN, Genius Games, Graphite Lab, Halski Studio, HEC Media, Jennifer Silverberg Photography, Missouri Botanical Gardens, MTV Networks, Nine Network of Public Media, Pixel Press Technology, Plymptoons, Riverfront Times, Saint Louis Science Center, Spot Media Production Group, St. Louis Blues, Titmouse, Unbridled Media, and Vidzu Media.