

Changes to the Master of Arts in Communication Program Policy Statement

- Included that all MA students, during all semesters of coursework, must each semester enroll in COMM890: Communication Colloquium. This is a continued push by the Department of Communication to feature departmental research and to expose our students to different research perspectives and methodologies. This will bring our MA program in line with what is also required of our PhD students in terms of the Communication Colloquium.
- MA students previously were all assigned to the Director of Graduate Studies as their academic adviser. With the growth of the Department of Communication's graduate programs students in the MA program will now come in assigned to a member of the graduate faculty, one who is aligned with the students in terms of scholarship and research interests, as their academic adviser.
- MA students will now meet with their academic adviser, rather than the Director of Graduate Studies, to determine their path to the degree: a thesis or comprehensive exams. In addition at this meeting they will decide who is most appropriate among the faculty to direct the thesis or comprehensive exams (their academic adviser may also serve in this role).
- Removed from the thesis procedure the requirement of a pre-proposal. The department feels that the development of the student's thesis can progress without the need of a pre-proposal and this brings the requirements of the Master's Thesis in line with the requirements of the Doctoral Dissertation (two meetings: a proposal meeting and an oral defense).
- Added COMM650: Media Effects, a newly created course, to the list of potential electives a student may take.