

Graduate Courses in Communication Studies

COMS 500 Grad Scholarship in Comm St

Seminar examining current foci in the fields of Communication Studies. Designed to investigate directions for advanced inquiry within the discipline.

COMS 501 Research Methods in Telecomm

Pre/Coreq: COMS 500. Investigation of conceptual and procedural aspects of quantitative and qualitative research techniques relevant to the advanced study of mass media.

COMS 502 Research Methods in Comm

Pre/Coreq: COMS 500. Basic research methods used in the fields of Communication. Surveys of qualitative, quantitative and hybrid approaches with added focus on an approach selected by the instructor.

COMS 505 Media Theory and Criticism

Prereq: COMS 501. Survey and examination of critical approaches in TV and film including semiotics, deconstruction, structuralism, poststructuralism, feminism, psychoanalytic criticism, reception theory, queer theory, Marxist criticism, postmodernism, and post-colonial criticism. Survey of film theory and criticism from the classic theorists and critics to contemporary issues and debates.

COMS 506 Sem: Television Studies

Prereq: COMS 501. Examination of the representational practices of American commercial television and the economic imperatives that drive those practices and their ideological implications. Critical and historical examination of American television focusing on methods and issues relating to scholarship in the field.

COMS 507 Post World War II Film/TV History

Prereq: COMS 501. Variable topic seminar on seminal issues in film and television history since World War II. May be repeated once.

COMS 510 Narrative Studies in Film/TV

Prereqs: COMS 501, 505. Examination of theories, structures, and procedures of narrative in film and TV.

COMS 515 Cultural Studies

Prereqs: COMS 501, 505. In-depth study of select "media events" with an emphasis on their impacts in the formation, regulation, and contestation of public opinion. An examination of the history, theories and scholarship of cultural studies, with a particular focus on popular culture as a site of social power dynamics and contestation. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 units.

COMS 520 Sem: Documentary Film/TV

Prereq: COMS 500. Examination of the theory and practice of documentary as narrative, information, education, catalyst for social maintenance and change.

COMS 530 Sem: Organizational Comm

Prereqs: COMM 430, 450, 463, or 478. Contemporary theoretical and methodological issues or constructs in organizational communication. May be repeated once.

COMS 540 Sem: Interpersonal Comm

Prereqs: COMM 450, 478, or 478. Contemporary theoretical and methodological issues and constructs in interpersonal communication. May be repeated once.

COMS 550 Sem: Communication Theory

Prereq: COMM 450 or 487. Examination of theoretical perspectives, principles of theory building, and new developments in communication research. May be repeated to maximum of 8 units.

COMS 554 Selected Topics in Comm St

Prereq: Varies with topic. Intensive study of selected topics in communication studies. May be repeated for credit as topic changes.

COMS 555 Sem: History of Comm in America

Prereq: Instructor consent. Historical movements, contemporary theories, and development of communication as a discipline of study; examination of significant literature, scholars, and leaders in the field. May be repeated once.

COMS 560 Sem: Language and Comm Behavior

Prereq: COMM 450, 463, or 494. Contemporary theories, research perspectives, and subject areas in language and communication behavior. May be repeated to max of 8 units.

COMS 562 Sem: Theories of Mass Media

Prereqs: COMM 450 or 470 or 482 or TVF 460. Research and theory in mass media since television; analysis of media situations, messages and ideological effects. May be repeated once.

COMS 563 Seminar: Non-Fiction Writing

The study and practice of nonfiction film treatment and script writing. Discussion of career planning for non-fiction writers. May be repeated once.

COMS 564 Seminar in Adaptation

Prereq: COMS 510. Examination of the process of screen and television adaptation. Study of theories of the cinematic and televisual as pertaining to translations of literary and theatrical narrative, character, and space.

COMS 565 Seminar in Feature Film Writing

Prereq: TVF 465, COMS 510. The study and practice of feature film writing using close readings of professional and student screenplays. Discussion of screenwriting career planning. May be repeated once.

COMS 566 Seminar in Narrative TV Writing

Prereq: TVF 465, COMS 510. The study and practice of television writing using close readings of professional and student teleplays. Discussion of television screenwriting and career planning. 8 units maximum.

COMS 567 Sem: Theories of Oral Interpretation

Prereq: COMM 367. Analysis of main theories of art of interpretation, with special emphasis on their bearing on contemporary theory and practice. May be repeated once.

COMS 572 International Public Discourse

Prereqs: COMM 472, 485. Intensive study of major international orators, their ideas, style, rhetorical strategies and roles in social and aesthetic movements and in world history. May be repeated once.

COMS 573 Sem: American Public Address

Prereqs: COMM 473A *or* 473B; 485. Examination and analysis of speeches and debates about selected major issues in American affairs. May be repeated once.

COMS 576 Sem: Argumentation, Discussion and Debate

Prereq: One upper division course in rhetorical theory. Analysis of significant literature, major trends, and theories of argumentation, discussion, and debate; intensive study of relationship of those areas to each other. May be repeated once.

COMS 580 Sem: Rhetorical Theory

Prereq: At least one upper division course in rhetoric. Selected studies in philosophy of speech rhetoric and influence of rhetoric on historic and contemporary movements. May be repeated once.

COMS 589 Intercultural Communication

Prereq: COMM 489. Contemporary theories, research perspectives and significant cultural influences relating to communication between cultures. May be repeated once.

COMS 595 Graduate Performance

Prereq: Consent of grad adviser. Demonstration of graduate-level proficiency in a major performance situation: research or analytical written project directly related to performance. May be repeated to maximum of 4 units.

COMS 598 Graduate Directed Study

Prereq: Instructor consent to act as sponsor. Independent study of advanced topics in the field; regular conferences with sponsor. May be repeated for credit.

COMS 599/599S Thesis/Script Thesis

Prereqs: Advancement to Candidacy, instructor consent to act as sponsor, departmental approval of topic prior to registration. Independent research resulting in a thesis/original screen or teleplay and analytical report. Oral defense required. May be repeated to maximum of 6 units. Graded CR/NC.