



**Florida State University -- School of Communication
Combined Bachelor's/Master's Pathways in Communication**

Description:

The Combined Bachelor's/Master's Pathways in Communication enable academically strong students to complete Bachelor's and Master's degrees at an accelerated pace. The FSU School of Communication offers Bachelor's and Master's degree programs, with multiple majors:

Bachelor's (majors)

Advertising
Media/Communication Studies
Digital Media Production
Public Relations

Master's (majors)

Integrated Marketing Communication
Media and Communication Studies
Public Interest Media and Communication

Note: Information Technology (IT), and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) undergraduates may also apply for admission into the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Pathways in Communication.

Combined bachelor's/master's pathways provide academically talented undergraduate students an opportunity to complete both a bachelor's and a master's degree. Upon approval, a combined bachelor's/master's pathway allows for up to 12 graduate hours to be shared with, or double-counted toward, an undergraduate degree program. A student enrolled in a combined pathway will earn the baccalaureate degree upon completion of the undergraduate program and master's degree upon completion of the graduate program.

Admission Requirements:

An undergraduate student wishing to enroll in and complete this program must:

- 1) be admitted into an undergraduate degree program in either the FSU School of Communication or School of Information,
- 2) have an F.S.U. GPA of at least 3.5,
- 3) have successfully completed a minimum of 12 graded hours in College of Communication & Information (CCI) courses, and have a GPA of at least 3.5 in all CCI courses attempted (Note: Transfer students must have completed a minimum of 24 hours at Florida State University.)
- 4) have verbal and quantitative Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores,*

- 5) be admitted into the FSU Graduate School and the School of Communication graduate program.

Students normally apply to the combined bachelor's/master's pathways in their junior year. They should take the Graduate Record Examination prior to, or no later than, the semester that they apply to the combined program.* (Note: Students applying for admission to the combined bachelor's/master's pathways may be permitted to take one (1) approved graduate class during the semester that they take the GRE exam.)

Students should make formal application for admission to the FSU Graduate School and the School of Communication graduate program no later than the first semester of their senior year.

NOTE: As of July 8, 2019, the GRE requirement will be waived for outstanding Master's applicants meeting at least ONE of the following criteria:

- A completed Master's, JD, MD, PhD, or other comparable terminal degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher from a North American accredited institution.
- Five years of professional communication-related experience and a 3.0 or higher upper-division undergraduate GPA from a North American accredited institution.
- FSU undergraduate communication majors (main campus) with an upper-division communication GPA of 3.6 or higher and an overall GPA of 3.6 or higher.

Applicants must provide evidence to satisfy the criteria being applied. To request a waiver, complete the online Entrance Exam Waiver Request Form, which can be found on our website. Applicants with a competitive GRE score will still be able to apply to the program and will not be held to these additional criteria.

Application Process:

Depending on their degree program interests, students should meet with the Area Head of either the Integrated Marketing Communication, Public Interest Media and Communication, or the Media and Communication Studies programs to obtain advising about the program. A Combined Bachelor's/Master's Pathways Application can be downloaded from the School of Communication website, Undergraduate Programs. Students should submit their completed applications, GRE scores* and transcripts to the School of Communication Graduate Coordinator.

Retention:

Students must maintain an overall minimum FSU GPA of at least 3.25 to continue in the accelerated program.

Timeline/Procedures:

Be admitted into an undergraduate degree program in either the FSU School of Communication or School of Information.

Apply for the Combined Bachelor's/Masters Pathways as early as the first semester of the junior year. Submit their completed application, GRE scores and transcript to the School of Communication Graduate Coordinator.

After admission to the combined program, the Office of the University Registrar issues the form to authorize an undergraduate to take a graduate class for dual credit. A student of senior standing or an upper-division honors student may be authorized to carry graduate courses for undergraduate credit provided the student has the advance approval of the school director and the instructor offering the course. A copy of the signed form approving dual credit for each graduate class must be submitted to the School of Communication Graduate Coordinator.

Make formal application for admission to the FSU Graduate School and the School of Communication graduate program during the first semester of the senior year.

Complete a University and a School of Communication graduation check for the Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Science degree.

Apply to graduate with a Bachelor's degree.

Complete the BA / BS degree (Total hours 120, including up to 12 graduate Communication hours).

Begin the Master's degree program.

Complete a graduate program of studies for the MA / MS degree.

Apply to graduate with the MA / MS degree.

Complete the MA / MS degree requirements in Integrated Marketing Communication, Public Interest Media and Communication, or Media and Communication Studies (Total of 33 – 36 graduate hours, including up to 12 hours of approved dual coursework).

Approved Graduate Courses:

Students must satisfy all prerequisites for specific graduate courses taken. The approved graduate communication coursework to be dually counted toward both the undergraduate / graduate degrees can be taken only as "electives." Graduate classes cannot substitute for required undergraduate courses. The following graded graduate classes qualify for elective dual coursework credit:

Integrated Marketing Communication:

ADV 5007	Foundations of Integrated Marketing Communication
ADV 5415	Hispanic Marketing Communication (* ADV3410)
COM 5316	Statistical Methods in Communication Research
COM 5450	Introduction to Project Management

VIC 5006	Digital Visual Communication
ADV 5503	Media Consumer Behavior
COM5312	Research Methods
MMC 6469	Diffusion of Innovations

Media and Communication Studies and Public Interest Media and Communication:

COM 5340	Historical-Critical Methods of Research
COM 5364	Foundations of Digital Media
COM 5565	Social Media Campaigns
COM 6015	Gender and Communication
LIS 5419	Seminar in Communication Theory: “Consumer Health” (*LIS 4772)
MMC 5305	Comparative Systems of Mass Communication
MMC 5600	Mass Communication Theory and Effects
RTV 5253	New Communication Technology: Theory and Research
RTV 5333	Documentary Video Production
RTV 5702	Communication Regulation and Policy
SPC 6236	Contemporary Rhetorical Theory and Criticism (* SPC 4680)
SPC 6715	Race, Culture, & Communication (* SPC 4710)

(* *Dual credit not given for graduate class if student also completes the corresponding undergraduate class*).

Additional Information:

Only letter-graded graduate credit hours are eligible for dual credit.

Grades of C- or better on undergraduate and graduate courses will apply towards the Bachelor’s degree.

Only grades of B or better on graduate courses will apply towards the Master’s degree.

Students will receive their Bachelor’s (B.A. or B.S.) degree when all undergraduate requirements are completed. When the graduate degree requirements are completed the Master’s (M.A. or M.S.) degree will be awarded.

Students with questions concerning financial aid, including Bright Futures awards, should contact the FSU Office of Financial Aid: Room A4400 University Center, Building A, web: <http://financialaid.fsu.edu/>, phone: (850) 644-0539, email: ofacs@admin.fsu.edu .

Contact Information: MCS Program, Davis Houck, dhouck@fsu.edu, IMC Program, Patrick Merle, patrick.merle@cci.fsu.edu, PIMC Program, Brian Graves, brian.graves@cci.fsu.edu

Admissions Questions: School of Communication Graduate Coordinator

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