Welcome!

This information booklet is designed to make you aware of the many resources available to students earning degrees in GSU’s film, journalism, speech and theatre programs, and I’m delighted to introduce it. More than 1,500 undergraduates are majoring in communication-related programs (and many more are earning degree minors), and in any given term almost a quarter of the university’s students are enrolled in at least one communication class.

Communication majors are popular because our faculty are superb, the coursework is theoretically interesting but also directly connected to interesting career paths in the media industries (many of which are doing their work within blocks of the campus), and our facilities bring students into contact with state-of-the-art equipment. GSU’s location in downtown Atlanta helps too, with CNN, GPB, the AJC, and Turner also within walking distance.

More than simply helping you survive, this information can help you thrive. Consider these great resources, all available to you:

A wonderful faculty -- Our professors connect their award-winning academic research with the day-to-day work done by the media, and are often able to do so better because they have extensive industry experience in the print, broadcast production, filmmaking, political communication or public relations sectors.

Professional networking opportunities -- We provide students with a wide range of internship opportunities that can credit to your program of study, and which have often translated into communication careers. Journalists from CNN and regional news sources are regularly on campus and meeting with our students. Our student organizations (journalism history, theatre, http://communication.gsu.edu
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debate, PR, etc.) provide additional occasions for networking -- a good example is our active undergraduate public relations student organization, PRSSA, which runs monthly professional development workshops.

Fantastic facilities -- Our desktop publishing and news-writing labs are recently renovated; in 2006 we added a well equipped film screening room. We have also completed major renovations of our broadcast production studio and university theatre (both benefited from quarter million dollar upgrades).

Please don’t hesitate to be in contact with our advisement staff, the department’s associate chair (Dr. Kathy Fuller-Seeley) or me if you have any questions -- all of us are eager to enrich your educational experience at Georgia State University!

Dr. David Cheshire
Associate Professor | Chair
Department of Communication
1020A One Park Place
Georgia State University
dcheshire@gsu.edu

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Communication majors and career choices

Communication as an industry or economic sector is a very broad category that encompasses traditional mass communication media like newspapers and television but also includes interpersonal communication careers like sales and fundraising. It's sometimes difficult for students to understand how an academic discipline that is fundamental to what people do everyday can relate to specific careers.

The Department of Communication offers four different major areas of study but portions of each have items in common, and because there are no discrete lines separating them, students can be confused about the differences among them:

- **Film/video** – This major focuses on movies and entertainment production that can be seen on television, internet, video games, etc. The career opportunities include writing and producing screenplays, crews for single-camera production, and post-production (editing). Many of the production skills are similar to those used in producing non-fiction programming, e.g. TV news and talk shows. Any job demanding critical analytical skills of moving images would be appropriate for this major.

- **Journalism** – This major has several areas of study with Public Relations included in it because PR professionals must work with journalists to be successful. It’s not that PR is producing “objective news stories” to be disseminated to a mass audience; PR professionals craft some of their messages as an advocate for clients in an attempt to persuade reporters and their readers/listeners/viewers. Regardless of the medium, journalists are interested in finding facts by using their critical analytical skills. Then they disseminate relevant information about verifiable events and documentation, which often brings conflict among reporters and PR
professionals. Career opportunities for this major include any position where concise writing and thorough research skills are valued. Besides reporters, producers and editors, journalism majors can also find employment opportunities in technical writing, advertising and corporate and non-profit organizations.

- Speech communication – This major emphasizes skills related to research and oral presentation of information. Students develop critical skills to discern valuable information from valid data, and these analytical skills can be used in research by any for-profit or non-profit organization. Career opportunities include legal and governmental careers, as well as sales, where research and interpersonal skills are valued. This area of study is not only linked to the other majors in the Department but also to almost all other academic disciplines, because knowledge must be communicated to be used and valued.

- Theater – This major is an interdisciplinary study that emphasizes the connection among live performers, the writers of the words spoken by the performers and the technical crew providing the scenery and lighting to help create the emotions and illusions on stage. Career opportunities are not confined to the live theater as the skills obtained in this area of study can also be used in other media, particularly film and television.

Students in each one of the majors have great opportunities to gain experience and begin establishing relationships with professionals in the career field working in the Atlanta metropolitan area. The city’s art community provides numerous internship and employment positions. Atlanta may be best known for media production and has been listed as one of the most prolific producers in the nation of video and multimedia content. GSU communication majors have an abundance of organizations to begin their networking with people who are already employed

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in their career of choice and often willing to help students learn the standards of their professions.

All of the careers sought by communication majors are competitive, and jobs in Atlanta are particularly valued because of the cosmopolitan offerings of the ninth largest city in the US. Many job vacancies do not have to be publicized, as so many unsolicited job seekers constantly submit resumes and supporting materials to employers.

The GSU student can have an advantage in this competition by forming professional relationships through organizations and internships. This publication is an effort by the Department of Communication to aid our students in realizing their career goals.

How to Become a Major

Georgia State University requires all students seeking a baccalaureate degree to satisfactorily complete a basic core of general education subjects. The core curriculum includes 60 semester hours of course work. Georgia State’s core curriculum provides students with a broad and general education and reflects the special mission of this university as an urban research institution with an international, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural focus. The required courses fall into two areas:

Area A-E

Areas A through E of the core curriculum are designed to provide students with a wide array of courses as a means of gaining a basic education in the liberal arts and assisting students in their choice of a major. Students should normally choose among the courses in areas A to E and select a major before taking courses in Area F.

Area A: Essential Skills (9 hours)
Area B: Institutional Options (4 hours)
Area C: Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
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Area D: Science, Mathematics, and Technology (11 hours)
Area E: Social Science (12 hours)

Regent’s Test
To demonstrate competence in reading and writing, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia requires that students pass RGTR 0198, Regents’ Reading Skills, and RGTE 0199, Regents’ Writing Skills. The Regents’ Reading Test and the Regents’ Writing Test are the final exams for RGTR 0198 and RGTE 0199 respectively. Waivers based on SAT, ACT, AP and IB scores are also possible. RGTR 0198 and RGTE 0199 do not count towards the 120 hours required for graduation.

College Advisement
The Office of Academic Assistance (OAA) provides academic advisement for students with declared majors in departments, schools or institutes within the College of Arts & Sciences.

Services provided by OAA include:
• Evaluation of transfer work
• Assistance with course selection and schedule revision
• Advisement concerning university policies and regulations
• Evaluation of degree requirements for graduation
• Preparation of graduation audits

Students are advised on an appointment basis, or may come by the office at any time during office hours for brief consultations.

Main office: 724 General Classroom Bldg
Mailing address: Office of Academic Assistance
               P.O. Box 4100
               Atlanta, GA 30302-4100

Email: daslba2@langate.gsu.edu

Area F: Preparation for a Major

http://communication.gsu.edu
Courses in Area F, which constitute the remaining 18 semester hours in the core curriculum, vary depending on major. They include all of the 1000/2000 level prerequisite courses for the upper-level courses in each major and the foreign language requirement. It is recommended that students register for their major’s prerequisite courses early in their academic careers so that they can begin competing for the seats in the upper-level courses before they become juniors.

There are many options to choose from in order to reach the 18 hours necessary for this area. Some of these optional courses may be prerequisites for upper-level courses in the student’s minor area of study to be completed along with the courses in their major.

Area G & Beyond

Courses beyond the core curriculum that are required by the university, college and the department constitute the remaining course degree requirements. The upper-level courses in the majors of Film/video, Journalism and Speech comprise 24 semester hours. Some of these courses involving computer labs and film/video equipment require a supply card fee and additional equipment to be purchased by the student. Because of the number of computers in labs and the number of cameras, microphones, etc., required in some of the production courses, enrollment is limited to allow students to obtain quality instruction and experience. Film/video production courses require an application and creative work to be submitted before authorization to register is approved.

Students must choose a minor area of study which will require a total of 15 semester hours with a minimum of nine semester hours in 3000/4000 level courses. Choosing the minor can be oriented toward career or discipline goals, but it can also be for an avocation. For example, many students enjoyed performing in their high school drama club or theatrical performances, so they choose Theater as a minor to continue that experience at GSU. Popular vocational choices for a minor outside of the Department of Communication are: African-American Studies, Criminal
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Justice, English, Hospitality Administration, History, Marketing, Political Science, Religious Studies and Spanish.

The University’s residency requirement states that students complete a minimum of 39 semester hours in 3000/4000 level courses taken at GSU to obtain a degree. With 24 semester hours in the major and nine in the minor, students often have to take several additional upper-level elective courses to complete the residency requirement. These additional semester hours provide an opportunity for the student to earn credit for internship experience, although the courses can be taken from any department or school as long as the prerequisites have been satisfied.

Departmental Advisement

The Undergraduate Studies Office, 835 One Park Place, offers a number of different services for students, including advice regarding courses in the communication majors, scheduling, internships and career counseling. Students who are unsure about when courses are offered or what sequence of courses to take should consider an advisement session. Students can schedule a session by sending a request to advise-comm@langate.gsu.edu, but it is not necessary to have an appointment as advisors are usually available everyday.

It’s best for students seeking academic advice to have a copy of their Academic Evaluation printed from their GaSalar account. This allows the advisor to quickly assess what courses the student has taken and what course options are still available.

Students who have received Graduation Audits must submit the signed Audit form to the Undergraduate Studies Office. The Graduation Audit is very important as it itemizes what the students must complete in order to graduate with a GSU degree. If there are any questions or concerns about any item on the form, an advisement should be scheduled.

There are a number of different resources available to students in this office:

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- Handouts explaining the different curricular options for each major
- Applications for scholarships, internships and film/video production courses
- Request forms for transfer credit, course substitutions, special projects, independent study courses
- Brochures for a variety of academic programs outside the Department of Communication

Transfer Students

When an applicant is accepted for undergraduate transfer admission, courses completed with grades of C or higher that parallel the curriculum of Georgia State University will be accepted for transfer credit. Only a limited number of hours in which the student received grades of D may be transferred.

A maximum of 60 academic semester hours from a two-year college or 81 academic semester hours from a four-year college may be applied in the program for which the transfer student enrolls. To satisfy GSU's academic residence requirement, transfer students must take at least 39 hours at GSU in courses numbered 3000 or above.

The determination of how transfer credit may be used to satisfy the specific course requirements for a degree is made by the Student Advisement Center or the college that administers the degree program requirements. If there are problems with your transfer credits you can take a copy of your previous college's course catalog to the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Academic Assistance in 724-GCB. If the course is from a department of communication you should bring a syllabus for each of those classes to the department to be evaluated.

Transient Students

A transient student is one who receives credit for only one semester of coursework at an institution and then transfers that work to the institution from which he or she expects to receive a
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degree. Transient students should seek academic advisement at their home institution to determine if courses taken at Georgia State will transfer into their degree program. All GSU scholastic discipline policies and all course prerequisite policies are applicable to transient students.

With the exception of summer semesters, registration as a transient student is limited to one semester. If a student wishes to become a transfer student, the student must file a new application for undergraduate admission and arrange for all transcripts to be received by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions by the appropriate deadline.

Cross-registration

Georgia State University students may enroll in courses offered by member institutions of the Atlanta Regional Consortium for Higher Education (ARCHIE) under a cross registration agreement, provided they meet the academic eligibility and other requirements of the agreement.

Students who wish to cross register must complete and submit an ARCHIE Cross Registration form to the Enrollment Services Center at Georgia State University. An approval signature of a representative of the Student Advisement Center or the Office of Academic Assistance in the student’s college of study is required. To participate in this program, students must be concurrently enrolled in at least one Georgia State course and meet the following minimum requirements: students must have at least a 2.0 GPA and the GPA required to enroll in the Georgia State course which is most similar to the course that the student wishes to take as a cross-registrant. Courses taken through cross registration count as residence credit, and grades are included in the Georgia State grade point average.

Communication Majors/Concentrations

The discipline of communication is concerned with the processes and effects of human communication in a variety of

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contexts ranging from interpersonal communication to the mass media.

Journalism

Journalism is the study of the collection, evaluation and dissemination of current information, opinion, criticism and advocacy materials. The journalism major seeks to prepare students to efficiently research and write concisely about a variety of topics in different media: blogs, internet/web site postings, magazines, newspapers, newsletters, press releases, radio, telephone, broadcast and cable television, among many others. Students learn the conventions and standards for different media and how to adapt their work to intended audiences of their writings and productions. They become media literate and are able to understand how the content of media industries can be influential in a variety of contexts.

Internships are numerous in the Atlanta area for journalism majors, but most graduates will find entry-level employment in smaller cities where they can gain enough experience to compete for better-paying jobs in larger cities. Public Relations has been identified by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as one of the fastest growing professions into the next decade.

Film & Video

Students will cover all of these areas but may specialize in one or two in their academic careers, and that is why film/video students understand the artistic and the practical aspects of film and video productions.

To register for the production courses (except for the Lighting course) students must submit an application to obtain authorization, and once in a production course, supply cards must be bought and submitted to the instructor to allow access to the computers and audio/video equipment. This modest supply card fee allows the department to keep labs and film/video equipment fully maintained and functional.
Internships and job opportunities are available in the Atlanta metro area and beyond. Many film/video graduates find employment as freelancers on production crews or work part-time in the film/video industry while having other full- or part-time employment. Many graduates are also employed full-time in the media industries. Graduates have received numerous awards from a variety of local, regional, national and international organizations, including the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (Emmy), Sundance Film Festival, and Atlanta Film Festival.

Speech
Speech communication explores the creation, transmission, analysis and impact of differing kinds of spoken messages as they occur among individuals, groups, organizations and cultures. Speech courses examine such areas as interpersonal and nonverbal communication, persuasion and argumentation, rhetorical criticism, public address, communication development and communication disorders. The concepts and skills provided by the major in speech are useful in a wide variety of occupations, including business, human resources professions, law, politics, teaching, the ministry and public relations, which require an understanding of the dynamics of human communication and proficiency in oral expression.

Theatre
Theatre is a featured emphasis in the College of Art and Science’s Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies program, mainly administered by department of communication faculty, and focuses on the history, theory and practice of creating live theatrical performance. Theatre courses are designed to promote the artistic development of students whose interests and talents will lead them to careers in theatre or allied arts. It also helps students with other vocational interests to understand and appreciate the cultural heritage represented in the drama and to improve their oral communication skills. The University Theatre,

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The Players of Georgia State University and The Black Student Ensemble, a co-curricular activity of the Department of Communication, afford theatre majors practical experience through participation in productions. Theatre coursework is focused on a state-of-the-art production and rehearsal complex in Alumni Hall, which received a $300,000 total renovation in 2006.

Internships

Why consider an internship?

Internships are one of the best ways students can market themselves to prospective employers as someone who has professional experience. Internship experience allows the student to defeat the paradox of having to prove they have relevant work experience to obtain an entry-level job. Some employers will accept classroom assignments and/or work in student organizations as adequate evidence; graduates will be able to function in entry-level positions, but many employers insist on professional experience only, meaning that professionals are overseeing and accepting the work produced by the student.

Earning academic credit for an internship experience often means the difference between treated as a “go-for” (coffee, copies, fax, staples, etc.) and treated as an employee who is sought out to contribute at the site because her/his original, creative works have become valuable to many other employees and managers. The student earning academic credit for an internship will have to produce a tangible outcome of her/his experience in order to complete the internship course, and often that requirement of the internship course sets the intern apart as a creative contributor whose input is welcomed and often relied upon by those who make hiring decisions at the site.

There are a few minimal items students would want to obtain from an internship: several descriptive lines on their resume about their internship experience; items required by prospective employers to be included in future job applications, e.g., portfolio...
of original writings, performances, edited audio/video/internet clips, etc.; and a positive reference letter from an employee (preferably a manager) at the site. Earning academic credit for an internship experience cannot guarantee the latter, but the student can accomplish the other two items with a diligent work effort at the site that can help ensure the glowing reference letter.

Student Eligibility

Undergraduate students must have completed at least 12 hours of 3000/4000 level courses in the major with a 3.0 GPA or 15 to 21 hours with a 2.75 GPA in the major and a 2.50 GPA overall. Students who transfer to Georgia State University with credit in their major must have at least ten additional credit hours of 3000/4000 level courses in the same major from the Department of Communication in order to be eligible for an internship. Only students who meet the criteria will be able to receive academic credit for performing duties at a work site.

Curriculum

Students will be required to attend group sessions with the Faculty Internship Coordinator. The first session includes a general orientation about the internship program and the schedule for the other sessions during the semester. Student interns will also be given a syllabus and assignments to be completed during the internship semester.

Time sheets must be maintained during the internship to document the number of hours student interns are at the placement site. The time sheets are signed by the site supervisor to verify that the student has completed 180 hours for undergraduates earning 3 semester credit hours (240 hours for graduate students) at the placement site during a semester. Their site supervisor and the Faculty Internship Coordinator will evaluate student interns, and the final grade will be based on these evaluations, the quality of the timely completed student assignments, and attendance at the mandatory group sessions.

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Application Procedure

Students must apply for an internship the semester prior to the internship: spring interns by the prior October 1, summer interns by the prior March 1 and fall interns by the prior July 1.

The application form should be filled out completely and handed in to the Department of Communication’s Faculty Internship Coordinator along with the student’s resume and up-to-date PACE form.

An interview will be scheduled for eligible students to discuss with the Faculty Internship Coordinator the available internship placement sites and the Work Program Plan form to be filled out by the student and the internship site supervisor. Once the Work Program Plan is completed, the Faculty Internship Coordinator will meet with the student to review the plan to ensure that it meets the standards of academic credit. Once the Faculty Internship Coordinator approves the program plan, the student will be authorized to register for internship credit for the following semester. It is necessary for the student to have the plan approved by the internship site supervisor and the Faculty Internship Coordinator before registration will be authorized.

Faculty Internship Coordinator: Dr. Douglas A. Barthlow
Office: 835C One Park Place
Email: joudab@langate.gsu.edu

Student Organizations

More than 200 student organizations are chartered on campus. Many of them are geared towards students’ career ambitions and provide strong networking opportunities for students. The student organizations related to communication majors include:

Journalism History Society

JHS recognizes the outstanding scholarship organized by undergraduate students in the media history research course each
**Survival Guide**

semester. JHS publishes the best student work in the Journalism History Society’s Student Activity-supported publication, the *Atlanta Review of Journalism History*. JHS also organizes a book sale each semester to raise funds to subsidize undergraduate student attendance at academic conferences.

**Advisor:** Dr. Leonard Teel  
**Email:** lteel@gsu.edu

**PRSSA**

The Georgia State University chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America provides a number of opportunities and resources for students to enhance their knowledge and skills of public relations. The group holds monthly career building workshops and training sessions to help students organize professional portfolios. Many students have received both internships and jobs as a result of joining GSU PRSSA. More information about GSUPRSSA can be found at http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwp/r/student/index.htm  

**Advisor:** Dr. David Cheshier  
**Email:** dcheshier@gsu.edu

**GSU Players**

The GSU Players is the oldest student-run university theater group in Atlanta and the university’s oldest continuously running student organization. Each academic year, the Georgia State University Players collaborates with theatre faculty to produce a series of full workshop and studio productions, offer theatre workshops in a variety of areas, sponsor field trips to local productions and support student involvement in professional conferences around the nation. There are many opportunities for Georgia State students to become involved, from the artistic and technical aspects of theater to its business and publicity concerns, and these are available regardless of a student’s experience with theatre.

**Advisor:** Dr. Frank Miller  
**Email:** fmklin2001@comcast.net

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Debate

Georgia State Debate provides coaching and support for students who wish to compete in weekend tournaments against teams from outstanding schools such as Harvard, Michigan and Stanford. Debate offers great training in critical thinking, public speaking and research skills beyond the intellectual challenge of arguing against other bright students. They welcome undergraduates at all experience levels, organize the nation’s largest college tournament (held every September on campus), and coordinate debate instruction for 15 metro-Atlanta high schools.

Advisor: Dr. Joe Bellon
Email: joujmb@langate.gsu.edu

Communication Career Possibilities

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<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Government Relations Specialist</th>
<th>Photojournalist</th>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising Account Executive</td>
<td>Graphic Artist</td>
<td>Producer- TV, Film, Theatre</td>
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<td>Advertising Copywriter</td>
<td>Greeting Card Writer</td>
<td>Production Assistant</td>
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<td>Broadcast Advertising Salesperson</td>
<td>Lighting Technician</td>
<td>Proofreader</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications Lawyer</td>
<td>Market Research Specialist</td>
<td>Public Information Officer</td>
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<td>Contestant/Guest Coordinator</td>
<td>Media Buyer</td>
<td>Public Relations Assistant</td>
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<td>Copywriter</td>
<td>Media Manager</td>
<td>Publisher</td>
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<tr>
<th>Director - Film, Video, Theatre</th>
<th>Narrator</th>
<th>Radio/TV Announcer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Editorial Assistant</td>
<td>News Writer/Editor</td>
<td>Reporter/Journalist</td>
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<td>Electronic Publication Specialist</td>
<td>Photographer</td>
<td>Sales Representative</td>
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<td>Script Writer</td>
<td>Telemarketer</td>
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<td>Video Editor</td>
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**How to Earn a Communication Minor**

**Academic Requirements**

Students who wish to minor in one of the department's four programs must take 15-18 hours in the specific area, including at least nine semester hours at the 3000 level or above. Students taking more than 15 hours in courses in the specific area may count the additional hours toward their electives or may consider completing a double major. A grade of "C" or better is required in all courses counting toward the minor.

**Areas of Minor**

The Department of Communication offers the following minors:

- **Minor in Film and Video**: All students who select a minor in film and video are required to complete at least 15 hours, 9 of which must be at the 3000/4000 level.

[http://communication.gsu.edu](http://communication.gsu.edu)
Minor in Journalism: All students who select a minor in journalism must complete Jour 1010 and at least 15 hours, 9 of which must be at the 3000/4000 level and one of which must be a writing course.

Minor in Speech: All students who minor in speech are required to complete at least 15 hours, 9 of which must be at the 3000/4000 level.

Minor in Theatre: All students who minor in theatre are required to complete at least 15 hours, 9 of which must be at the 3000/4000 level.

For Communication Majors

Majors in the Department of Communication must choose a minor and must meet all minor requirements. The minor can be in a discipline within the Department of Communication other than the major (e.g., a film major could minor in journalism, speech, or theatre) or in another academic department/school/institute (e.g., a speech major could minor in sociology or mathematics). Journalism majors cannot choose another journalism concentration as their minor (e.g., a journalism student concentrating in public relations could not “minor” in print journalism). The requirements for a minor must be fulfilled in a department/school/institute that offers a baccalaureate degree and with courses at the 3000/4000 level, unless the courses are otherwise specified by the minor granting department/school/institute.

Facilities

Cox Multimedia Lab (307 Classroom South)

Equipped with twenty-one computer stations, the James Cox, Jr. Multimedia Lab is used by the Communication Department's journalism courses to teach students desktop editing and publishing, feature writing, news writing for radio and TV, public relations writing and non-fiction screenwriting. Some of the

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equipment in the Lab has also been furnished by grants from the Student Technology Fee.

Television Studio (119 General Classroom)

In the television studio, students can study the basics of multiple camera video production, acting for the camera and lighting design. Students use industry-quality cameras and associated video/audio equipment to produce live-to-tape television programs, e.g. talk shows, newscasts and productions appropriate for training videos, demonstrations and corporate video news releases. Some of the equipment has been acquired by grants from the Student Technology Fee, and some other equipment has been furnished with a grant from the James Cox, Jr., Foundation.

Digital Video Editing Lab and Classroom (119 General Classroom)

Nearly all of the video production courses in the Film/Video major and Journalism major use the 30 workstations and associated video/audio equipment in the classroom and lab to produce projects from a range of genres—TV news stories, short theatrical movies, documentaries, etc. All of the equipment has been acquired by grants from the Student Technology Fee.

Writing Lab (105 General Classroom)

Annually, more than 600 students majoring in Speech Communication and Journalism use the PC computer lab to strengthen their written and oral communication skills. Courses held in the lab include Reporting I, Reporting II, Editorial and Critical Writing, Feature Writing, Writing for Mass Audiences, Public Relations Writing and Communication Research and Information Technology. All of the equipment has been furnished by grants from the Student Technology Fee.

DAEL (100 One Park Place)

The Digital Arts and Entertainment Laboratory (DAEL) offers

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a full range of equipment and facilities for digital media research and production. It also includes state-of-the-art equipment and facilities for producing and manipulating extraordinarily high quality moving images. Supported image capture formats include HDTV and 35mm film. In addition, DAEL provides state-of-the-art facilities and equipment for assessing audience responses to film, television, computer animation, and interactive media. All of the equipment has been furnished by grants from the Georgia Research Alliance.

**Theater (116 Alumni Hall)**

University Theatre is the Communication department production arm for the theatre area. Faculty and guest directors develop new plays, employ nontraditional production methods and explore emerging scenographic design possibilities in this theatrical venue. Students work with faculty to develop original projects that focus on the changing nature of contemporary theatre practice.

**Campus Resources to Help You Succeed**

"I continue to struggle with writing assignments. Where can I go for help? Where do I go if I’m having trouble with time management? I have a research paper due. Where do I go to find sources? I am having trouble hearing. Is there a place I can go on campus? I think I may have an eating disorder, where can I go to talk to someone?"

Georgia State University has places to help with all of these and other issues. Adjusting to life in college can be difficult, and so can transitioning out of college. The following services may make those transitions easier. A complete list of student services can be found at [http://www.gsu.edu/student_services.html](http://www.gsu.edu/student_services.html).

Department of English Writing Studio

http://communication.gsu.edu
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The Writing Studio in the Department of English offers help with writing to GSU students from all departments and colleges across the university. They focus on the rhetorical aspects of the text, provide one-on-one session to identify strengths and weakness, and offer tools to help. The Writing Studio is located in 976 General Classroom Building.

Library Research Services

The University Library contains more than 1.4 million volumes books and other materials. The library provides access to numerous electronic periodical and resource indexes, more than 14,000 electronic journals, and about 30,000 electronic books. The library also provides a research guide for communication majors at http://www.library.gsu.edu/research/liaison.asp?ldID=9. Jason Schultz is the department of communication’s liaison and he can assist you with your research and answer your questions.

Counseling Center

The Georgia State University Counseling Center provides a wide range of services to meet the emotional, educational, and vocational needs of students. These services include: clinical services for personal growth; testing for admissions and scoring of national, professional, and university tests; life skills (stress management, time management, educational counseling). The Counseling Center Building is located at 106 Courtland Street.

Educational Opportunity Center

The Educational Opportunity Center provides information and regarding financial aid and academic assistance for adults who want to pursue post-secondary education. The services they provide include:

- Academic and career assessments
- Help selecting and enrolling in colleges and universities
- Assistance finding and filing for financial aid including FAFSA on the web
- Help with Defaulted Student Loans

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- Referral to appropriate GED, SAT, GMAT, GRE & TOEFL.
- Free basic computer classes & computer based training
- Individual and group counseling sessions

Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic

The clinic provides evaluation and therapy services to clients with disorders of all types, including language disorders, voice disorders, fluency disorders, speech sound disorders and hearing disorders. If a client is diagnosed with a speech, language, or hearing disorder, he or she may be enrolled in weekly therapy sessions at the clinic. The clinic is located at the College of Education Building.

Disability Services

The Office of Disability Services provides services for students with physical, health, learning and psychological disabilities. They provide individuals with the tools by which they can accomplish their educational and career goals, including assistive devices, adaptive hardware and software, note-taking, sign language interpreters, testing accommodation, priority registration, coaching, learning strategies, etc. The Office of Disability Services is located in suite 230 of the Student Center.

Campus Resources Related to Communication

Student Media

Album 88 is the campus student run and commercial free radio station. On the air since 1970, WRAS is known throughout the U.S. for its cutting edge format. WRAS provides the students of GSU and the Atlanta community with alternatives to commercial broadcasting. GSU panther basketball games and other GSU events are also broadcast on WRAS. If you are interested in working at Album 88, pick up an application on the 1st floor of

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University Center. Find them on the web at: http://www2.gsu.edu/~www885/main2.html.

Signal is the student newspaper of GSU, provides students with an excellent learning workshop and source of journalistic, marketing, photographic and communication skills. SIGNAL is published each Tuesday of the academic semester and can be found in over 50 locations on campus. Find them on the web at: http://www.gsusignal.com/.

Rampway is an Internet media group for Georgia State University students, is an Internet media group. Rampway allows students to hone their skills in web design and other technology intensive fields. It also allows writers, photographers and graphic designers the chance to develop their abilities in an Internet-based environment. Find them on the web at: http://www.rampway.org/.

GSTV is the campus closed-circuit television station. GSTV does not limit its appeal to any one particular course of study, and all students are invited to take an active role in its production. GSTV provides practical hands-on experience to students interested in television production, editing and broadcasting. Information about GSTV can be found at: http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwsta/studentmedia/.

GSU Review, the University’s literary magazine, is published by and for the students of GSU. In addition to showcasing the literary and artistic talent of the university, the Review offers students an opportunity in editing and publishing. The Review is located online at: http://www.review.gsu.edu/modules/sections/.

Career Services

Are you getting close to graduation, and need a job? The University Career Services can help. Career Services offers links to job search engines and internships, listings for career fairs, and resume and job search services. Join the PantherCareerNet from http://communication.gsu.edu
their website http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwjcjs/ to get the most out of these services.

**Careers Related to Communication Majors**

What can I do with a degree majoring in Journalism?

Here are some careers in journalism: News director, announcer, disc jockey, station manager, advertising sales coordinator, technical director, account executive, floor manager, news writer, comedy writer, reporter, editor, acquisitions editor, copy writer, author, talk show host, news service researcher, and media interviewer.

What can I do with a degree majoring in Film/Video?

There are many careers in film, some are behind the scenes in production and other unexpected places. Some specific careers in film are casting director, actor, gaffer, key grip, film editor, film/tape librarian, technical director, special effects director, account executive, producer, director, make-up artist, camera operator, screen writer, production director, costume designer, film critic, film historian, film educator, college professor, sound technician, soundtrack producer, set designer, public relations, promotions, executive producer, and any number of film related business careers. People who study film in college go on to other careers outside of film because they are outstanding communicators, which is a skill that can be used in any career.

What can I do with a degree majoring in Speech?

A speech communication graduate may go into advertising sales, speechwriting, politics, education, public affairs, law, government, fundraising for charities, and management—any place where communication is an integral part of what the organization does on a routine basis. Businesses welcome speech majors because all businesses require people who are good communicators; in fact, many job descriptions include “good
communication skills" as an important factor for new hires to work with colleagues at the employment site and to interact with customers or potential clients and investors. Many of the courses are designed to foster the critical analytical skills employers seek to determine what’s valuable and what can be ignored in an information-rich society. The careers after school are limitless and include such work settings as colleges/universities, public schools, research laboratories, medical institutions, think tanks, private corporations, nonprofit agencies, state legislatures, and a variety of other governmental positions.

Students may also choose to further their education by attending graduate school in a more specialized area of communication, such as rhetorical studies, communication disorders, strategic communication, organizational communication, health communication, etc. The undergraduate speech communication major helps prepare students for more rigorous and theoretical study at the graduate level.

What can I do with a degree majoring in Theater?

Many of the careers in theatre are off the stage, working in technical and production positions as well as theatre management, and instruction. Some specific careers in theatre are casting director, model, theatre professor, stage manager, costume designer, script writer, performing artist, producer, directors, theatre critic, scene designer, director, arts administrator, lighting designer, make-up artist, performing arts educator. People who study theatre in college go on to other careers outside the theatre arts as well because they are outstanding communicators, which is a skill that can be used in any career.

Job Listings

Holding a degree in Communication allows for many possibilities in the job market. Below is a list of websites featuring job listings. While the websites are divided by concentration, you may find that other categories house sites that better fit your personal interests. The section headed “All Communication

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Disciplines” contains a list of websites where all types of communication-related jobs are listed.

All Communication Disciplines
http://www.mediabistro.com
http://www.idealist.org
http://www.roundtable.org/siteoverview.html
http://www.journalismjobs.com
http://www.newsroom-usa.com
http://www.journalismnext.com

Film/Video
http://www.mandy.com/l/filmvjobs.cfm
http://www.showbizjobs.com
http://www.eaj.com
http://www.hcdoonline.com/jobboard
http://www.varietycareers.com

Telecommunications
http://www.tvandradiojobs.com
http://www.tvjobs.com
http://www.medialine.com
http://www.turner.com/jobs
http://www.lostremote.com
http://www.tvspy.com/jobbank.cfm
http://www.bigtvjoblist.com
http://www.newsjobs.com
http://www.newsroomjobs.com

Print Journalism
http://writejobs.com
http://www.editorandpublisher.com
http://www.writersweekly.com
http://adweek.careerest.com
http://journalism.berkeley.edu/jobs
http://www.sunoasis.com/jobpostings.html

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http://www.writerfind.com/freelance_jobs
http://www.naa.org/classified
http://www.ap.org/apjobs
http://jobs.publishersweekly.com
http://www.staffwriters.com

Public Relations
http://www.workinpr.com
http://www.prweekjobs.com
http://www.talentzoo.com

Communication Professional Organizations

Joining an organization related to your career interests can be an excellent way to meet professionals who are working at what you may want to do after graduation. It is also a way to begin building a network of contacts able to provide advice, internships, mentor relationships and perhaps, even a job offer. One of the best advantages of being a GSU student is the proximity to so many businesses and organizations directly related to the majors offered by the Department of Communication.

Students are encouraged to join organizations in the greater Atlanta area relevant to your future professional careers. Nearly all these organizations have deeply reduced membership fees for students and/or reduced costs to attend programs, workshops and conferences. Below is a list of some of the organizations and their websites:

National Communication Association
http://www.natcom.org
Southern States Communication Association
http://www.ssca.net
International Communication Association
http://www.icahdq.org
Association for Women in Communications
http://www.womcom.org

http://communication.gsu.edu
American Journalism Historians Association
http://www.berry.edu/ajha
Association of American Publishers
http://www.publishers.org
International Publishers Association
http://www.ipa-uc.org
Magazine Publishers of America
http://www.magazine.org
National Newspaper Publishers Association
http://www.nnpa.org
American Society of Journalists and Authors
http://www.asja.org
Society of Professional Journalists
http://www.spj.org
National Association of Black Journalists
http://www.nablj.org
National Association of Hispanic Journalists
http://www.nahj.org
National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association
http://www.nlgja.org
Asian American Journalists Association
http://www.aajja.org
National Arab American Journalists Association
http://www.naajja.org
Public Relations Society of America
http://www.prsa.org
Women Executives in Public Relations
http://www.wepar.org
Public Relations Student Society of America
http://www.prssa.org
Society for Technical Communication
http://www.stc.org
Institute for Global Communications
http://www.igc.org
Society for News Design
http://www.snd.org

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National Telecomm Cooperative Association
http://www.ntca.org
National Association of Broadcasters
http://www.nab.org
American Women in Radio and Television
http://www.awrt.org

Atlanta-Based Professional Organizations

Atlanta Press Club
http://www.atlantapressclub.org
Asian American Journalists Association- Atlanta Chapter
http://chapters.aaja.org/Atlanta/
Atlanta Association of Black Journalists
http://www.aabj.org/index.cfm
Black Public Relations Society of Atlanta
http://www.hprsatlanta.org/
Georgia Association of Latin American Journalists
http://www.galaj.org/
International Association of Business Communicators-Atlanta
http://www.iabcatlanta.com/pages/home.shtml
National Academy of Television Art & Science-Southeast Chapter
http://www.natassoutheast.tv/
Public Relations Society of America- Georgia Chapter
http://www.prsageorgia.org/home/p_home.cfm
Atlanta Urban Filmmakers Association
http://www.urbanmediamakers.com/index.htm
Women in Film Atlanta
http://www.wifa.org/
Atlanta Coalition of Performing Arts
http://www.atlantaperforms.com/

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Contact Information

Department of Communication

Main office: 10th Floor, One Park Place
Mailing address: Department of Communication
                Georgia State University
                P.O. Box 4000
                Atlanta, GA, 30302-4000

Contacts for answers if you have specific questions:

Film/video: Dr. Ted Friedman
            ted@tedfriedman.com
            Production courses: Niklas Vollmer
                                niklas@gsu.edu
                                Ly Bolia
                                lybolia@gsu.edu

Journalism/print: Dr. Greg Lisby
                  glisby@gsu.edu
                  Dr. Merrill Morris
                  journem@langate.gsu.edu

Public Relations: Dr. Arla Bernstein
                  jouabb@langate.gsu.edu

Telecommunications: Dr. Doug Barthlow
                    dbarthlow@gsu.edu

Speech Communication: Dr. Jaye Atkinson
                    jla@gsu.edu

Communication Disorders: Dr. Mary Ann Romski
                        mmromski@gsu.edu

Theater: Dr. Gayle Austin
         gaustin@gsu.edu
         Dr. Frank Miller
         jofmm@langate.gsu.edu
         Todd Studebaker
         joutas@langate.gsu.edu

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