

More life

The Master of Arts in Communication

The Master of Arts in Communication is designed for scholars who seek quality graduate education without disruption of family life or current employment. Delivered entirely online, the Master of Arts in Communication curriculum provides a learning environment that fosters critical thought and scholarship, helping students develop and exchange concepts related to understanding and improving communication within organizations and industries around the world.

By choosing to earn your master's degree from Spring Arbor University you're choosing:

• **CLASSES THAT GIVE YOU CONTROL**

With all courses offered online, you can complete your assignments at home, at the office or even on the road—for learning that is both challenging and convenient.

• **REAL COMMUNITY**

Through cohorts and Web-based interactive media, we build a community of scholars and practitioners. In our program, networking isn't just between computers.

• **A FAST TRACK TO GRADUATION**

The master of arts in communication program can be completed in as little as 24 months.

• **SERVICE AND CONVENIENCE**

From easy registration and textbook access, to advisors who help you plan and register for classes, Spring Arbor University helps you with all the details, large and small.

• **AN EDUCATION GROUNDED IN FAITH**

Our Christian commitment means that questions of ethics, religion and faith are welcomed and encouraged as an essential part of a meaningful education.

• **A HISTORY OF EXCELLENCE**

Founded in 1873, Spring Arbor University began Michigan's first adult studies programs in the early 1980s. Since that time, we've helped thousands of working adults like you get more out of life.

In short, Spring Arbor University's graduate programs allow you to make the most of your time, your money, your career and your life.

Call 877.MORELIFE today to find out more.

SPRING ARBOR UNIVERSITY IS ACCREDITED BY THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION.

Admission and Financial Aid

Admission to this program requires completion of an application (available at www.arbor.edu/communication), a score of at least the 40th percentile on the General Information section of the Graduate Record Exam, three recommendations (two from faculty members or current supervisors, and one from a member of the clergy of your faith community), official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate course work, a personal goals statement, and completion of an online computer literacy test.

A student enrolled in at least six graduate semester hours during any semester is considered full-time. As a full-time student, you are eligible for federal and state student financial aid, and you may also be eligible for education assistance through your employer.

A student can receive financial aid and loans as a part-time student with three semester hours, if approved for the program.

For more information on how to apply for financial aid, contact the main campus or visit www.arbor.edu/morelife.

A more flexible curriculum

The Master of Arts in Communication course work allows you to develop your skill sets and advance your career without significantly interrupting your schedule. Plus, you choose the concentration that best fits your interests and goals.

To graduate from the Master of Arts in Communication program, students must complete 38 credits: 17-20 core and foundation credits, a minimum of 12 concentration credits and elective credits.

Nine credits may be transferred from other regionally accredited institutions. All students begin by taking core and foundation courses, then move to their chosen elective and concentration courses. To conclude the program, all students complete either a final thesis or portfolio.

FOUNDATION AND COMMUNICATION CORE COURSES

- **COM 502 - GRADUATE SEMINAR**
Introduces students to expectations and resources for graduate study; includes orientation to online learning and research as well as program-specific library resources
- **COM 504 - COMMUNICATION THEORY AND WORLDVIEW**
Surveys the theoretical frameworks related to various contexts of communication; theology and ethics of communication are examined in light of a Christian worldview
- **COM 506 - RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION**
Develops skills in designing, interpreting and evaluating research designs by examining and applying both quantitative and qualitative research methods
- **COM 601 - INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION**
Analyzes interpersonal study, as well as the relationships between interpersonal communication and group, family, gender and intrapersonal processes
- **COM 603 - GROUP AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**
Examines how personal and professional communication styles impact group dynamics, conflict, team building, leadership and public presentations
- **COM 605 - MASS COMMUNICATION, CULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY**
Considers the challenges of and opportunities for living faithfully in mediated societies as new media technologies create ways to serve people and to oppress them
- **COM 607 - COMMUNICATION ETHICS AND MORAL REASONING**
Case study approach to problems and issues that confront communicators in contemporary culture
- **COM 609 - INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION**
Emphasizes intercultural communication competence, examining paralinguistic and nonverbal influences in cross-cultural contexts; theological impacts will be considered

CONCENTRATION COURSES

Special topics and independent studies are available in each concentration. An individualized option is also available.

COMMUNICATION LEADERSHIP

- **COM 510 - COMMUNICATION LEADERSHIP (3)**
- **COM 610 - ADVERTISING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS (3)**
- **COM 612 - CONFLICT RESOLUTION (3)**

COMMUNICATION EDUCATION

- **COM 520 - INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY (3)**
- **COM 620 - ASSESSING AND TEACHING COMMUNICATION ARTS (3)**
- **COM 622 - TEACHING AND LEARNING ONLINE (3)**

COMMUNICATION MINISTRIES

- **COM 530 - THE CHURCH IN CYBERSPACE (3)**
- **COM 630 - COMMUNICATION IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES (3)**
- **COM 632 - COMMUNICATING CHANGE: SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND RENEWAL (3)**

PROFESSIONAL WRITING

- **COM 540 - WRITING AS VOCATION (3)**
- **COM 640 - WRITING AND REPORTING (3)**
- **COM 642 - EDITING AND PUBLISHING (3)**

NEW MEDIA

- **COM 550 - COMPUTER MEDIATED COMMUNICATION (3)**
- **COM 650 - VISUAL COMMUNICATION (3)**
- **COM 652 - WEB PUBLISHING (3)**

ELECTIVES

- **COM 560 - COMMUNICATION AND DIVERSITY (3)**
- **COM 562 - COMMUNICATION AND CHANGE (3)**
- **COM 660 - AESTHETICS: THEORY AND CRITICISM (3)**
- **COM 662 - COMPARATIVE MASS MEDIA (3)**
- **COM 570 - SPECIAL TOPICS (1-3)**
- **COM 670 - SPECIAL TOPICS (1-3)**
- **COM 590 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-3)**
- **COM 690 - INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-3)**

PORTFOLIO OR THESIS

- **COM 698 - PORTFOLIO (2)**
Offered each semester; upon completion of 36 hours, must be repeated each semester during which student uses university resources until portfolio is approved
- **COM 699 - THESIS (2)**
Offered each semester; upon completion of 36 hours, must be repeated each semester during which student uses university resources until thesis is approved

For the most up-to-date curriculum information contact an admissions specialist or review the course catalog available online at www.arbor.edu/morelife.

Applying to Spring Arbor

- 1 Contact a Spring Arbor admissions specialist and arrange a meeting.
- 2 Complete and submit an application, autobiographical outline, writing sample and a \$30 nonrefundable application fee.
- 3 Arrange to have transcripts from each college you have attended sent to our offices.
- 4 Complete financial aid information such as the FAFSA, student loan request forms and employer assistance forms, if applicable. Our admissions specialists are available to help you if you have any questions.
- 5 Meet with your Spring Arbor academic advisor to discuss your graduation requirements and plan for their completion.
- 6 Attend your first night of class!



SPRING ARBOR
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

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www.arbor.edu/morelife