

PhD Comm

Doctor of Philosophy in Communication

Under Review | Fall 2024

Proposal Information

Status	Workflow Status	
	In Progress	
	Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate	
	Waiting for Approval   Faculty Senate Approval	
Active	Rick Holmes	
	Nancy Middlebrook	
	Changes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Proposed Effective Term and Year</li><li>Learning Outcomes</li><li>Licensure Information</li><li>Program Justification</li><li>Sponsoring faculty/staff email</li></ul>	
Show All		

Proposal Information

Proposed	Proposed	
<b>Sponsoring faculty/staff member</b>	<b>Sponsoring faculty/staff email</b>	
David Weiss	davidweiss@unm.edu	
Existing	Existing	
<b>Sponsoring faculty/staff member</b>	<b>Sponsoring faculty/staff email</b>	
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<b>College</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Campus</b>
College of Arts & Sciences	Communication & Journalism	Main Campus

Effective Term and Year

Proposed  
**Proposed Effective Term and Year**  
Fall 2024

Existing  
**Proposed Effective Term and Year**  
Fall 2006

## Justification

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Proposed  
**Program Justification**

We propose removing the language/research tool requirement from our PhD program.

As noted in the Graduate Studies portion of the UNM Catalog, "While there is no University-wide language requirement, most graduate units require a demonstration of competence in one or more languages (other than English), or in some area of skill related to scholarship or research in the particular discipline."

Despite this lack of University-wide requirements, C&J has for many years had a "language/research tool" requirement. This requirement is \*in addition to\* the 9 credits of research methods courses that we already require and which we will continue to require. Thus, this additional "research tool" requirement is burdensome and unnecessary.

Further, many if not most of our PhD students were born, raised, and educated outside of the US and thus have 1st-language fluency in one or more languages of their home countries as well as at least 1st-language fluency or 2nd-language fluency in English. Requiring yet another language (the other option within the current requirement), especially of students in a discipline in which nearly all scholarship is now published in English, or is readily available in English translation, also imposes an additional burden.

Prior to the 1990s or thereabouts, fluency in a non-English language so that students could read and engage with non-English scholarly work was a reasonable expectation. However, over the past three decades or so, English has replaced French and/or German as the lingua franca of Communication scholarship. Sadly, fluency in other "world languages" is simply no longer a requirement of scholars in our field. We see no need to continue to impose this obsolete, 19th- and 20th-century burden on students becoming Communication scholars in a 21st-century world.

Existing  
**Program Justification**

Proposed  
**Graduate program revision**  
No

Existing  
**Graduate program revision**  
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## Program Category and Level

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**Program Category**

Program

**Program Level**

Graduate

**Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name**

Doctor of Philosophy in Communication

**Degree Type**

Doctor of Philosophy

**Degree/Certificate Level**

Doctoral

Proposed

**Is this program also offered online?**

No

Existing

**Is this program also offered online?**

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## Associated Forms

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Select any associated course forms that exist

Proposed

**Select any associated program forms that exist**

PhD Comm

Existing

**Select any associated program forms that exist**

## Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

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Interdepartmental Program

No

## Catalog Information

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**Program Description**

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Communication program aims to prepare students to become scholars and professionals who are conversant with one or more areas in the field of communication. Because of the wide diversity of disciplinary approaches represented in the work of the department, the graduate program is open to students with undergraduate preparation in communication, journalism, the humanities, the social sciences, and other fields related to the study of communication. For all candidates, admission must be approved by the departmental Committee on Graduate Studies.

**Admissions Requirements**

For all candidates, admission must be approved by the departmental Committee on Graduate Studies. Students entering the Ph.D. in Communication program who do not have an M.A. in Communication may be required to take CJ 500 and CJ 501. The Ph.D. Program Director makes this determination after a review of the student's application materials and/or a meeting with the student. These courses are taken in addition to the required Ph.D. credit hours.

**Communication Background:** Students entering the Ph.D. in Communication program who do not have an M.A. in Communication may be required to take CJ 500 and CJ 501. The Ph.D. Program Director makes this determination after a review of the student's application materials and/or a meeting with the student. These courses are taken in addition to the required Ph.D. credit hours.

Proposed

### **Graduation Requirements**

Academic requirements for the Ph.D. in Communication consist of an intensive program of coursework, research, and professional development. The doctoral degree requires a minimum of 39 credit hours beyond the Master's degree, plus 18 credit hours for the dissertation.

Existing

### **Graduation Requirements**

Academic requirements for the Ph.D. in Communication consist of an intensive program of coursework, research, and professional development. The doctoral degree requires a minimum of 39 credit hours beyond the Master's degree, plus 18 credit hours for the dissertation.

**Research Skill/Second Language Requirement:** Students must demonstrate competency in either a foreign/second language or research tool. There are two options to meet this requirement:

1. Students may demonstrate competency in a language other than English. Competency is demonstrated by proof of fluency in the language (e.g., being a native speaker) or by passing the equivalent of a second-year proficiency-level course with a grade of "B" or better.
2. Competency may also be demonstrated by passing a 201-level foreign language course with a grade of "B" or better, or by passing two courses in research tool or methodology. A few examples include statistics, ethnography, visual communication, and women studies. Students must pass these courses with grades of "B" or better. Courses can be taken in other departments when approved by the students' Program of Studies Committee. Courses cannot be those from the M.A. program and may include methods that are applied in the dissertation. Credit for courses taken to meet this requirement are taken in addition to the required Ph.D. credit hours. The Program of Studies Committee makes the final determination as to credit hours that may be substituted or transferred.

## **Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information**

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Proposed

**License/Certification associated with program**

No

Existing

**License/Certification associated with program**

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## **Degree Information**

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**Degree Hours**

57

**Minimum Major Hours**

**Professional Accrediting Bodies**

# Degree Requirements

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## Requirements

- Complete all of the following
  - Complete the following:
    - CJ600 - History and Philosophy of Communication (3)
    - CJ602 - Theorizing Culture and Communication (3)
  - Complete at least 1 of the following:
    - CJ507 - Introduction to Quantitative Methods (3)
    - CJ607 - Advanced Quantitative Research Methods (3)
  - Complete at least 2 of the following:
    - CJ604 - Survey of Qualitative Research Methods (3)
    - CJ605 - Qualitative Research Design and Analysis (3)
    - CJ609 - Mixed Methods Research Designs (3)
    - CJ506 - Critical and Cultural Studies (3)
  - Earn at least 12 credits from the following types of courses:  
Choose two additional courses from any concentration. See Concentration below for course lists.
  - Earn at least 12 credits from the following types of courses:  
Courses selected in consultation with the student's Program of Studies Committee. 6 credit hours must be chosen from courses outside CJ.
  - Earn at least 18 credits from the following:
    - CJ699 - Dissertation (3 - 12)
  - Note: Students who have not completed a quantitative methods course at the M.A.-level equivalent to CJ 507 are required to take CJ 507.

**Grand Total Credits: 57**

## Concentrations

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### Program Concentrations

Code	Title
CON Hlth Comm	Health Communication
CON Int Cultr Comm PhD	Intercultural Communication
CON Media Stdy PHD	Media Studies

**Concentration Required**

No

## Emphases

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**Emphasis required**

No

**Emphasis Hours****Emphasis Rules**

No Rules

## Program Learning Outcomes

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Proposed

**Learning Outcomes**

Note that these are existing outcomes. We are not proposing changing them at this time.

SLO #1: Students should be able to write in a clear, coherent manner appropriate to MA or PhD level writing.

SLO #2: Students should be able to demonstrate an ability to make an oral presentation that presents the level of professional and academic expertise appropriate to MA/PhD students.

SLO #3: Students will be able to demonstrate an ability to conduct research using library and online databases.

SLO #4: Students will demonstrate an understanding of research method and design in original research.

SLO #5: Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze and report data in an original research design.

Existing

**Learning Outcomes**