

Suggested Course Sequence for JCU Communications Majors

For students completing a major in Communications, it is important to strategize a course sequence that will help build skills and concepts overtime. In the final semester, Communications majors will complete the program by taking the Senior Seminar (COM 480), in which students will perform an academic research project that includes a video essay and written paper. What follows are guidelines and a suggested sequence for four-year degree seekers and three-year transfer students.

For the first four semesters we suggest that you concentrate on completing core courses. We do not discourage you from taking additional COM classes, such as production or journalism courses; however, the core courses will expose you to different perspectives and approaches in the field and will allow you to discover your particular strengths and interests. You are also encouraged to take major electives, in particular those that fulfill both general distribution requirements and COM major electives (only two classes other than CMS/COM/DMA/DJRN can be used as major electives - please refer to the on-line guides to determine which these are).

Courses that fulfill general distribution and COM major elective requirements (please visit the COM web page for a complete and updated list of approved major electives) are the following:

- AH 273 Introduction to the History of Photography (Fine Arts)
- AS 101 Graphic Design (Fine Arts)
- AS 199 Basic Photography (Fine Arts)
- AS 289 Digital Photography (Fine Arts)
- AS 349 Advanced Photography (Fine Arts)
- AS 399 Advanced Graphic Design (Fine Arts)
- CS 130/131 Web Design I & II (Mathematics and Science)
- EN 215 Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theories (English Literature)
- HS 311 History, Memory and Popular Culture (Humanities)
- HS 368 The Other American: History of the Counterculture (Humanities)
- PH 304 Philosophy of Art and Beauty (Humanities)

(Social Science classes are not included on this list since all COM classes apply towards Social Science general distribution requirements)

Core Courses	Cluster Courses (choose CMS, DMA or DJRN)	Major Electives (only two can be other than CMS/COM/DMA/DJRN)
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 101	<input type="checkbox"/> Cluster 1:	<input type="checkbox"/> Elective:
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 111	<input type="checkbox"/> Cluster 2:	<input type="checkbox"/> Elective:
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 210	<input type="checkbox"/> Cluster 3:	<input type="checkbox"/> Elective:
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 220		<input type="checkbox"/> Elective:
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 221		
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 230	<i>Four major electives must be 300 level or higher</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 311		
<input type="checkbox"/> CMS 300		
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 470		
<input type="checkbox"/> COM 480		

Use these check boxes to track your progress

Suggested Four-year Sequence

Note: Transfer credits will be applied on a case-by-case basis.

Year One

Some classes have an English Composition prerequisite, so make sure you prioritize those courses in your sequence.

Fall Semester

COM 101 Public Speaking
COM 111 Introduction to Visual Communication

Spring Semester

COM 220 Media, Culture and Society
Choose one: COM 220 Writing Across the Media, COM 210 Introduction to Film, COM 230 Foundations of Digital Video Production

Year Two

Fall Semester

COM 311 Digital Media Culture
Choose one: COM 220 Writing Across the Media, COM 210 Introduction to Film, COM 230 Foundations of Digital Video Production

Spring Semester

CMS 200 or 300 level course*
Choose one: COM 220 Writing Across the Media, COM 210 Introduction to Film, COM 230 Foundations of Digital Video Production

* Though we encourage students to pursue their interests, we do recommend that COM majors take CMS 316 Race and Gender in Popular Media and CMS 330 Global Media.

Year Three

During your third year you should start working on your concentration and taking major electives. In addition to 300-level CMS courses, to graduate you will need a three-course concentration with one of the following course code prefixes: CMS, DMA or DJRN. If you plan to do a semester abroad, this would be the right time to do it. We recommend that you take advantage of the study abroad program to take major electives that meet the criteria of your concentration but also are in specializations that we don't offer at JCU (core courses should be taken at JCU and not in the Study Abroad program).

Year Four

In your final year you complete your concentration, major electives and core courses. You should take COM 470 the semester before COM 480. We HIGHLY discourage you from taking COM 470 and COM 480 simultaneously. You will be much better prepared for COM 480 if you take COM 470 in the previous semester.

Fall Semester

COM 470 Advanced Media Theory

Spring Semester

COM 480 Senior Seminar

Suggested Three-year Sequence

Note: Transfer credits will be applied on a case-by-case basis.

Year One

Some classes have an English Composition prerequisite, so make sure you prioritize those courses in your sequence.

Semester One

COM 101 Public Speaking
Choose one-to-two: COM 111 Introduction to Visual Communication, COM 220 Writing Across the Media, COM 210 Introduction to Film, COM 230 Foundations of Digital Video Production

Semester Two

COM 220 Media, Culture and Society

Choose one-to-two: COM 111 Introduction to Visual Communication, COM 220 Writing Across the Media, COM 210 Introduction to Film, COM 230 Foundations of Digital Video Production

Year Two

Semester Three

COM 311 Digital Media Culture

Choose one-to-two: COM 111 Introduction to Visual Communication, COM 220 Writing Across the Media, COM 210 Introduction to Film, COM 230 Foundations of Digital Video Production

Semester Four

CMS 200 or 300 level course*

Choose one-to-two: COM 111 Introduction to Visual Communication, COM 220 Writing Across the Media, COM 210 Introduction to Film, COM 230 Foundations of Digital Video Production

* Though we encourage students to pursue their interests, we do recommend that COM majors take CMS 316 Race and Gender in Popular Media and CMS 330 Global Media

With your fourth semester you should start working on your concentration. In addition to 300-level CMS courses, to graduate you will need a three-course concentration with one of the following course code prefixes: CMS, DMA or DJRN. If you plan to do a semester abroad, this would be the right time to do it. We recommend that you take advantage of the study abroad program to take major electives that meet the criteria of your concentration but also are in specializations that we don't offer at JCU (core courses should be taken at JCU and not in the Study abroad program).

Year Three

In your final year complete your concentration, major electives and core courses. We don't allow you to take COM 470 and COM 480 simultaneously (exceptions are made for extraordinary circumstances).

Semester Five

COM 470 Advanced Media Theory

Semester Six

COM 480 Senior Seminar