

**COMMUNICATIONS, CONCENTRATION—MASS COMMUNICATION-JOURNALISM ACADEMIC MAP:  
DEGREE BA/BS (120 CREDIT HOURS)**

This degree map is a semester-by-semester course schedule for students majoring in [Communications with a concentration in Mass Communication-Journalism](#). The milestones listed to the right of each semester are designed to keep a student on track to graduate in four years. The schedule serves as a general guideline to help build a full schedule each semester. Milestones are courses and special requirements necessary for timely progress to complete a major. When one or more milestones are missed, students should consult with an academic advisor to determine if another degree path would be more suitable for you.

The Mass Communication program offers an emphasis in multi-media journalism with specialties within today's converged media environment. Students will learn all areas of reporting from print, broadcast and on-line. Students will work with campus media outlets, learn writing, shooting, editing and more across a variety of media platforms, take this experience to local, regional and national internships and on to the job market. Interns and graduates have gone to NBC, CBS, C-SPAN, BET, CNN, WBBM, CMT, MTV, the Philadelphia Enquirer, Indianapolis Star, and the Tampa Tribune (to name a few), as well as various local stations and publications in Nashville and elsewhere, and have worked on Hollywood film productions. Students and graduates have won awards from organizations including the Society of Professional Journalists, National Association of Black Journalists, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and the National Broadcasting Society.

As a student majoring in Communications with a concentration in Mass Communication, you will be given extensive hands on experience in the various fields of media. You must pass all required Communications courses with a minimum 'C' grade. You will be most successful if you see an advisor each semester to continually work your plan toward graduation. Because the program is very active with a multitude of required video, audio and writing projects for various classes, strategic planning for each semester will increase your chances for success.

Before you begin taking the upper level (3000 – 4000) courses, the core classes for writing, along with the introduction to technology and production courses, must be completed with a minimum 'C' grade. Students who are having difficulty with writing are strongly encouraged to seek additional instruction through the Write Center on campus. Writing ability is critical to success as a Communication major, as well as professional success after graduation. Students are also encouraged to be active in the Departmental media outlets, such as WTST The Blaze campus, radio, TV98, and PAC House Productions, to gain experience that enhances course work. Projects from classes and media outlets are added to your student online portfolio which is evaluated your senior year. You can further strengthen your professional skills and portfolio by taking advantage of a variety of internship opportunities during your junior and senior years.

Tennessee State University recognizes that students have diverse learning, life, and professional experiences. The University provides opportunities for students to earn college credit toward the degree through a number of assessment options that evaluate their learning experiences. These paths are grouped under the category "Prior Learning Assessment" (PLA). Various means of earning PLA credit at TSU are the following: Advance Placement Program, American Council of Education (ACE) Military Credit, American Council on Education (ACE) other Assessed Credit, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), DSST Credit by Examination Program (includes DANTES Examination), Institutional Course Challenge Exams (Departmental Exams), International Baccalaureate Credit, Other Military Service, Portfolio Assessment. To learn more about PLA contact your academic advisor or the Office of Student Support Services for Adult and Distance Learners (615) 963-7001.

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**Department Web Address:** <http://www.tnstate.edu/Communications/>

Fall Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 1</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 1</b>
UNIV 1000*	1	
ENGL 1010	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before HIST 2010, HIST 2020, HIST 2030, HIST 2050 or HIST 2700; Minimum grade "C" Required
Natural Science I w/Lab**	4	
COMM 1040	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before all COMM 3000—4000 courses without stated pre-requisites; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
Foreign Language I*** or Elective	3	
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>14</b>	

\*An Orientation course taken at another University does NOT meet this requirement. Students with less than 60 transfer credit hours must take UNIV 1000 at TSU.

\*\*Natural Science-Must have 8 semester hours which includes the appropriate labs. Recommended courses are: BIOL 1010/1011, CHEM 1030/1031, PHYS 2030/2031 or ASTR 1010. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree.

Spring Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 2</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 2</b>
ENGL 1020	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before HIST 2010, HIST 2020, HIST 2030, HIST 2050 or HIST 2700; Minimum grade "C" Required
Natural Science II w/Lab*	4	
MATH 1013 or 1110 or 1710	3	
COMM 1050	2	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 2640; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 1060	1	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 2360, COMM 2400, COMM 2500 ; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
Foreign Language II** or Elective	3	
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>16</b>	

\*Natural Science-Must have 8 semester hours which includes the appropriate labs. Recommended courses are BIOL 1020/1021, CHEM 1040/1041, PHYS 2040/2041 or ASTR 1020. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree

Fall Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 3</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 3</b>
History 2010	3	
Social/ Behavior Science I*	3	
Foreign Language III** or Elective	3	
COMM 2400	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 3000—4000 Journalism courses; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 2640	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 3000—4000 courses; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 2200	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before all COMM 3000—4000 courses without stated pre-requisites; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>18</b>	

\* AFAS 2010, ANTH2300, ECON2010-2020, HPSS1510, POLI 1010-2010, PSYC 2010, HIST 1210, HIST 1220, WMST 2010 will meet this requirement. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree

Spring Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 4</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 4</b>
THTR 1020	3	Minimum Grade of "C" Required
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective*	3	
HIST 2020	3	
Social Behavior Science II**	3	
ENGL Literature ***	3	
Foreign Language IV*** or Elective	3	
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>18</b>	

\* ART1010, MUSC 1010, PHIL 1030, RELS 2010 will meet this requirement.

\*\* AFAS 2010, ANTH2300, ECON2010-2020, HPSS1510, POLI 1010-2010, PSYC 2010, HIST 1210, HIST 1220, WMST 2010 will meet this requirement. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*\*ENGL 2012-2322 will meet this requirement; must have 3 credit hours in this discipline.

\*\*\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree.

Fall Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 5</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 5</b>
COMM 2800	3	Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 3800	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 4350; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 3300	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 4360; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 3400	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 4350; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM Elective 3000 – 4000 level*	3	Minimum Grade of "C" Required
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>15</b>	

\*Chosen in consultation with advisor from all available 3000-4000-level Communications courses. Course prerequisites apply.

Spring Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 6</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 6</b>
COMM 4050	3	Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 3150	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 4500 or COMM 4510; Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 3950	3	Minimum Grade of "C" Required
Elective Any Level	3	
Elective 3000 – 4000 Level	3	
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>15</b>	

Fall Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 7</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 7</b>
COMM 4350 or 4360	3	
COMM Elective 3000 – 4000*	3	Minimum Grade of "C" Required
COMM 3520	3	
Elective 3000 – 4000 Level	3	
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>12</b>	

\*Chosen in consultation with advisor from all available 3000-4000-level Communications courses. Course prerequisites apply.

Spring Schedule		Milestones
<b>Semester 8</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>	<b>Semester 8</b>
COMM 4500 or 4510	3	
Electives 3000-4000	3	
Any Electives	6	
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>12</b>	

**Employment Information:**

Many career options are available with a degree in Mass Communication. These include Advertising/Marketing, Business, Broadcasting, cable and corporate video, Film, Journalism, Publishing, Radio and Live Events production.

**Representative Job Titles Related to this Major:**

Reporter, Producer, Associate Producer, Writer, Videographer, Multi-media Journalist

**Representative Employers:**

Interns and graduates have gone to NBC, CBS, C-SPAN, BET, CNN, WBBM, CMT, MTV, the Philadelphia Enquirer, Indianapolis Star, and the Tampa Tribune (to name a few), as well as various local stations and publications in Nashville and elsewhere, and have worked on Hollywood film productions.

**International study is available for all TSU students and may include opportunities for internships or taking course work towards various minors.** International study may have an impact on the MAP; therefore, it is important to consult with the academic advisor for this major before participating in international Program opportunity. Students interested in study abroad opportunities should contact the Office of International Programs and consult with their academic advisor.

This map is not intended to be a contract; either expressed or implied, between the University and the students, but represents a flexible program of the current curriculum which may be altered from time to time to carry out the academic objectives of the University. TSU specifically reserves the right to change, delete or add to any MAP at any time within the student's period of study at the University.