

# Interested in majoring in Communication or Journalism?

2016-2017 Academic Year Requirements

## Pursuing Communication or Journalism at Ohio State

Students interested in majoring in communication or journalism typically begin in the pre-major program in the School of Communication. Students are required to apply for admission to their major and specialization after completion of pre-major coursework. Each program is competitive for admission; GPA cutoffs fluctuate with every applicant pool. The competitive admissions process is based on cumulative grade point average, pre-major course completion, and enrollment capacity. Major admission is not guaranteed. Applications are accepted each semester. See below for the different pathways in becoming a communication or journalism major:

### Pre-Major Students

New first-year students typically begin their first year at OSU as a pre-communication or pre-journalism major. During the first year, students typically complete the pre-major course requirements and apply for admission to their major and specialization at the end of spring semester.

### Current OSU Students Changing to Pre-Communication or Pre-Journalism

Current OSU students interested in majoring in communication or journalism are required to attend a Major Information Session in order to change to the pre-major. Students should declare pre-communication or pre-journalism while completing the pre-major course requirements. Pre-major declaration can be completed at the session. Pre-major students are encouraged to complete the pre-major course requirements and apply for admission to their major and specialization within 1-2 semesters after declaring the pre-major.

### Transfer Students

Transfer students typically begin their first semester at OSU as a pre-communication or pre-journalism major. During the first semester, students complete the pre-major course requirements and apply for admission to their major and specialization at the end of the semester. Direct equivalents to the pre-major requirements are permitted but credit for these courses must be posted to the student's Ohio State record by the Major & Specialization Application deadline. Ohio State cumulative GPA is used for the application decision; however, if you apply prior to your first semester of enrollment at OSU, a merged transfer GPA will be used. Once an OSU student, the School of Communication does not consider transfer GPAs in the major admissions decision.

### School of Communication DirectAdmit Students

Select new first-year students at the Columbus campus are offered direct admission to the major program based on their high school academic profile. Eligibility is determined during the Ohio State Undergraduate Admissions application process and eligible students are notified by the School of Communication (see [comm.osu.edu](http://comm.osu.edu) for eligibility requirements). DirectAdmit students complete the pre-major courses by the end of the first year at OSU. Communication DirectAdmit students submit the Major & Specialization Application to declare their communication specialization at the end of spring semester. Journalism DirectAdmit students will undergo a program review to ensure pre-major course completion and adequate progress towards the degree program in lieu of the application at the end of spring. No additional students are added to the DirectAdmit first year class after June 1. DirectAdmit students wanting to change their major should use the Major & Specialization Application to do so. Regional campus, international students, and transfer students are not eligible for School of Communication DirectAdmit.

### Honors Students

Incoming first-year students accepted to the University Honors Program will directly enroll into the Arts and Sciences Honors Program if they choose to major in Communication or Journalism. ASC Honors students do not need to submit a Major & Specialization Application. Instead, honors students must meet with the School of Communication Honors Advisor to declare the major and/or specialization. Pre-major coursework is still required for honors students.

If you are a current Ohio State honors student who is *changing majors to the School of Communication* from another Ohio State college or program outside of Arts and Sciences (such as University Exploration, the Fisher College of Business, the College of Engineering, etc.), you will need to apply for membership in the Arts and Sciences (ASC) Honors Program to retain your honors status. See [aschonors.osu.edu](http://aschonors.osu.edu) for membership information.



## Pre-Major Course Requirements

All students must complete two pre-major courses. A grade of C- or better is required in both courses for a Major & Specialization Application to be considered.

COMM 1100 – Communication in Society (with a grade of C- or better)  
COMM 1101 – History of Communication (with a grade of C- or better)

## Application Information

Major & Specialization Application review does not begin until final grades have been posted for the semester. Students can submit their application while completing the final pre-major coursework. Grades of C- or better in both courses must be posted to OSU record by the time of application review. Students who are not competitive for their first choice program will be considered for their second choice. The application is available on the School of Communication website:

[comm.osu.edu](http://comm.osu.edu) → Undergraduate → Information for Pre-Majors → Apply to the Major

## 2016-2017 Application Dates

Applications are accepted each semester during the academic year. Students can apply for admission to the major during summer, autumn, or spring semester.

### Spring Semester Application

Application Opens: March 20, 2017

Application Deadline: May 3, 2017

### Summer Semester Application

Application Opens: June 19, 2017

Application Deadline: August 2, 2017

### Autumn Semester Application

Application Opens: October 16, 2017

Application Deadline: December 13, 2017

## Major Information Sessions

Students interested in majoring in communication or journalism are required to attend a Major Information Session in order to change to the pre-major. These sessions are designed to provide information about the majors offered in the School of Communication. Students must attend a major information session before scheduling an individual advising appointment with a School of Communication advisor. Overviews of each major program will be given at the session, plus information about pre-major coursework and the application process. Career information, internship for credit, and undergraduate research information will also be discussed. Students can declare the pre-major at the session.

### Spring 2017 Major Information Session Dates

All sessions are located in 3136 Derby Hall.

Tuesday, January 17th at 3:30pm  
Monday, January 23rd at 10:30am  
Wednesday, February 1st at 3:30pm  
Friday, February 10th at 10:30am  
Thursday, February 16th at 3:30pm  
Tuesday, February 21st at 10:30am  
Monday, February 27th at 3:30pm  
Wednesday, March 8th at 10:30am

Tuesday, March 21st at 3:30pm  
Thursday, March 30th at 10:30am  
Friday, April 7th at 10:30am  
Wednesday, April 12th at 3:30pm  
Monday, April 17th at 10:30am  
Tuesday, April 25th at 10:30am  
Monday, May 1st at 3:30pm

Contact Information: School of Communication Advising Office, 3033 Derby Hall, 154 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210  
614-292-8444      [comm.osu.edu](http://comm.osu.edu)



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION**