

# Interested in majoring in communication or journalism?

2021-2022 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 Ohio State 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 OHIO STATE STUDENTS CHANGING TO PRE-COMMUNICATION OR PRE-JOURNALISM:** Current Ohio State 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 Ohio State 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 Ohio State, a merged transfer GPA will be used. Once an Ohio State 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 Ohio State. 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 Ohio State 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

**2021-2022 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.

**SUMMER SEMESTER APPLICATION**

Application Opens: June 14, 2021  
Application Deadline: August 4, 2021

**AUTUMN SEMESTER APPLICATION**

Application Opens: October 18, 2021  
Application Deadline: December 15, 2021

**SPRING SEMESTER APPLICATION**

Application Opens: March 21, 2022  
Application Deadline: May 4, 2022

**MAJOR INFORMATION SESSIONS:** Students interested in majoring in communication or journalism are required to complete a virtual Major Information Session module on Carmen Canvas in order to change to the pre-major. This module is designed to provide information about the majors offered in the School of Communication. Students must complete the major information session module before scheduling an individual advising appointment with a School of Communication advisor. Overviews of each major and specialization will be given during the module, plus information about pre-major coursework and the application process. Career information, internship for credit, and undergraduate research information will also be reviewed. Students can declare the pre-communication or pre-journalism during the quiz at the end of the major info session module.

To request access to the module or for more information, please contact [commadvising@osu.edu](mailto:commadvising@osu.edu).

**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)

*Revised 4/2021*

