

Interested in majoring in Communication or Journalism?

2020-2021 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 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 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 → Undergraduate → Information for Pre-Majors → Apply to the Major

2020-2021 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 15, 2020

Application Deadline: August 1, 2020

Autumn Semester Application

Application Opens: October 19, 2020

Application Deadline: December 9, 2020

Spring Semester Application

Application Opens: March 22, 2021

Application Deadline: May 5, 2021

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.

Please contact the School of Communication Advising office at 614-292-8444 for details about major information sessions.

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



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION