Department of Communication Arts

The Department of Communication Arts provides a forum through which students can develop life skills such as confidence in oral and written presentations, communication skills, and critical analysis and problem solving skills. Students in the Department represent a broad spectrum of majors, interests, and career possibilities in Communication Studies, Multimedia Film & Production, Multimedia Journalism, Public Relations, and Theatre. Students work together and with faculty on research projects, state-of-the-art productions, events, online news outlets, and broadcasts.

Students graduating with a B.A. degree in Theatre will be able to:

1. critically analyze play texts and pieces of theatre (productions, performance events, etc.), using the vocabulary of the field, and will ascribe meaning to the usages and applications of production elements.
2. develop and defend informed judgments of play texts and pieces of theatre, and will effectively articulate complex ideas in both written and oral communication. Students will create and articulate a personal aesthetic that applies the vocabulary of the focus area (acting, directing, design/technology, stage management).
3. recognize historical styles, and the cultural forces that shaped them; students will be conversant with the major theatrical periods, personages, and technological innovations that have shaped the development of theatre, and will be able to differentiate the defining characteristics of distinct periods and styles.
4. conduct research by selecting appropriate resources to inform artistic decisions; students will analyze and synthesize information from multiple sources in the construction of a production, design, or acting concept. Students will assess scholarship in the field and connect that scholarship to their understanding of historical practice.
5. demonstrate the ability to collaborate effectively with both peers and professionals in a production setting, consistently demonstrating a disciplined usage of professional working standards. Students will produce a body of work built on sound professional practices, which is presented in a portfolio appropriate to the focus area; students will identify career opportunities within the focus area.

Students earning the B.S. in Communication Studies will:

1. develop a research prospectus employing appropriate methodologies to study their stated communication research question and/or hypothesis regarding human communication behavior.
2. develop an analysis of a communication artifact utilizing an appropriate rhetorical criticism model.
3. develop a research report that applies Dewey’s Reflective Thinking Method to a contemporary communication problem to reach a rational solution to the problem.
4. demonstrate knowledge of various rhetorical criticism models used to analyze speeches and/or rhetorical movements.
5. demonstrate knowledge pertaining to the historical underpinnings of the field of Communication Studies and how historical developments have influenced the current study of communication.
6. utilize current events as data for analysis of arguments in persuasive communication.
7. demonstrate an awareness of ethical standards as related to original research.
8. demonstrate an awareness of ethical standards as they relate to persuasive communication.
9. recognize the importance of culture and its impact on the reception of communication messages.

Programs

Majors

- Communication Studies B.S. (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/communication-studies-bs)
- Multimedia Film and Production B.S. (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/multimedia-communication-bs-production-emphasis)
- Multimedia Journalism B.S. (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/journalism-bs)
- Public Relations B.S. (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/public-relations-bs)
- Theatre B.A. (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/theatre-ba)

Minors

- Communication Studies Minor (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/communication-studies-minor)
- Multimedia Film and Production Minor (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/multimedia-communication-minor)
- Multimedia Journalism Minor (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/journalism-minor)
- Public Relations Minor (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/public-relations-minor)
- Theatre Minor (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/undergraduate/arts-humanities/communication-arts/theater-minor)