MEDIA STUDIES, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements
For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Media Studies, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>3-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td>39-48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0-3 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: Film Option - 0-3 credits of GH courses or 0-3 credits of GA courses; Media Effects Option - 3 credits of GS courses.

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Students must select at least 72 credits in courses outside the Bellisario College of Communications, including at least 65 in the liberal arts and sciences.

General Education
Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains
- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)
- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements
First Year Engagement
All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements
Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)
Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

Requirements for the Major
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44. (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 100N</td>
<td>The Mass Media and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 270</td>
<td>Introduction to Multimedia Production</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 304</td>
<td>Mass Communication Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 305</td>
<td>Introduction to Critical Studies of Media</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 405</td>
<td>Political Economy of Communications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 413W</td>
<td>The Mass Media and the Public</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requirements for the Option

Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better
Select an option 21-30

Requirements for the Option
Film and Television Studies Option (21 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 150N</td>
<td>The Art of the Cinema</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 242</td>
<td>Basic Video/Filmmaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 250</td>
<td>Film History and Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better
Select 9 credits of the following: 9
- COMM 451 Topics in American Film
- COMM 452 Topics in International Cinema
- COMM 453 Narrative Theory: Film and Literature
- COMM 454 Documentary in Film and Television
- COMM 455 Advanced Film Theory and Criticism
- COMM 495 Internship
- COMM 496 Independent Studies

Select 3 credits of the following: 3
- CAS 415 Rhetoric of Film and Television
- CHNS 121N Chinese Film and New Media
- CMLIT 153 International Cultures: Film and Literature
- ENGL 403 Literature and Culture
- FR 138N French Culture Through Film
- FR 487 Topics in French Film History and Theory I: 1895-1945
- FR 488 Topics in French Film History and Theory II: 1945-2002
- IT 475 Modern Italian Literature and Cinema

International Communications Option (21-30 credits)

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 110</td>
<td>Media and Democracy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 410</td>
<td>International Mass Communications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 419</td>
<td>World Media Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better
Select 3 credits of the following: 3
- COMM 118 Introduction to Media Effects
- COMM 150N The Art of the Cinema
- COMM 205 Gender, Diversity and the Media
- COMM 320 Introduction to Advertising
- COMM 381 Telecommunications Regulation
- COMM 452 Topics in International Cinema

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better
Select at least one of the following for a minimum of 9 credits and a 9-18 maximum of 18 credits (no more than 9 credits in COMM) 1
- University approved minor in foreign language, area studies or international studies
- University approved education abroad program
- Other international related courses or programs with prior departmental approval

1 More than one is strongly recommended.

Media Effects Option (21 credits)

A minor in a complementary area of study is encouraged (e.g. Psychology or Sociology).

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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 118</td>
<td>Introduction to Media Effects</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 418</td>
<td>Media Effects: Theory and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better
Select 3 credits of the following: 3
- COMM 110 Media and Democracy
- COMM 150N The Art of the Cinema
- COMM 180 Survey of Electronic Media and Telecommunications
- COMM 205 Gender, Diversity and the Media
- COMM 320 Introduction to Advertising
- COMM 403 Law of Mass Communications
- COMM 412 Sports, Media and Society

Select 3 credits of the following: 3
- COMM 325 Effects of digital games
### COMM 326 Effects of social media
### COMM 327 Effects of entertainment media
### COMM 328 Effects of Science, Environmental and Health Media

Select 3 credits of the following:

- PSYCH 221 Introduction to Social Psychology
- PSYCH 256 Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

### Supporting Courses and Related Areas

**Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better**

Select 3 credits in research methods from an approved department list

### Society and Culture Option (21 credits)

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<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 411</td>
<td>Cultural Aspects of the Mass Media</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better**

Select 6 credits of the following:

- COMM 110 Media and Democracy
- COMM 118 Introduction to Media Effects
- COMM 150N The Art of the Cinema
- COMM 205 Gender, Diversity and the Media

Select 12 credits (at least 9 credits at the 400 level) in communication theory from the following:

- COMM 110 Media and Democracy
- COMM 118 Introduction to Media Effects
- COMM 150N The Art of the Cinema
- COMM 170 Introduction to the Sports Industry
- COMM 180 Survey of Electronic Media and Telecommunications
- COMM 408 Cultural Foundations of Communications
- COMM 409 News Media Ethics
- COMM 410 International Mass Communications
- COMM 412 Sports, Media and Society
- COMM 417 Ethics and Regulation in Advertising and Public Relations
- COMM 418 Media Effects: Theory and Research
- COMM 419 World Media Systems
- COMM 451 Topics in American Film
- COMM 452 Topics in International Cinema
- COMM 453 Narrative Theory: Film and Literature
- COMM 454 Documentary in Film and Television
- COMM 455 Advanced Film Theory and Criticism