

MEDIA STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The Media Studies minor is designed for students who want to develop their knowledge of the mass media from a variety of approaches, including aesthetic, humanistic, social-behavioral, and legal-policy. This minor is a theory-based rather than a professional program. In fact, students in the minor may not take professional skills communications courses as part of this program. The minor consists of 18 credits, at least 6 of which must be at the 400 level.

You Might Like This Program If...

You are a major in another discipline that can be complemented by increased knowledge about the mass media or have curiosities about the role of the mass media in an increasingly connected and/or mediated society. The media studies minor – depending on the set of classes that you enroll in – will provide you with foundational, conceptual and theoretical exposure vital to your understanding of the pivotal roles that the mass media play in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world.

Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
COMM 100N	The Mass Media and Society	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 3 credits of the following:		3
COMM 110	Media and Democracy	
COMM 118	Introduction to Media Effects	
COMM 150N	The Art of the Cinema	
COMM 180	Survey of Electronic Media and Telecommunications	
Select 12 credits of the following:		12
COMM 205	Gender, Diversity and the Media	
COMM 250	Film History and Theory	
COMM 261	The Literature of Journalism	
COMM 304	Mass Communication Research	
COMM 404	Telecommunications Law	
COMM 401	Mass Media in History	
COMM 403	Law of Mass Communications	

COMM 405	Political Economy of Communications
COMM 408	Cultural Foundations of Communications
COMM 409	News Media Ethics
COMM 410	International Mass Communications
COMM 411	Cultural Aspects of the Mass Media
COMM 413W	The Mass Media and the Public
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
COMM 484	Emerging Telecommunications Technologies
COMM 496	Independent Studies
COMM 499	Foreign Study--Mass Communications

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

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<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/penn-state-online-media-studies-minor> (<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/penn-state-online-media-studies-minor/>)