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

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).

Program Requirements

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<td>Requirements for the Minor</td>
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Code | Title                  | Credits |
Prescribed Courses
- COMM 100N  The Mass Media and Society  3

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