Communication Arts Department

About the Department
The Communication Arts (CMAT) Department offers a diversified curriculum and helps prepare students for a wide range of careers and graduate study. The department offers a Bachelor of Arts with five tracks: Human Communication Studies, Multimedia Journalism, Public Relations and Strategic Communication, Media Studies, and Media Production. We also offer a CMAT minor for students wanting to complement degrees with important communication skills such as interpersonal communication, managerial communication, intercultural communication, meeting management, media writing and production, and media analysis and criticism.

The department is dedicated to providing students with first-hand experience in the burgeoning global communications market. Department faculty routinely offer courses in Ecuador, Scotland, London, Vietnam and India for CMAT majors and other SU students who wish to participate in off-campus learning. The CMAT Department also has a Global Experiences Internship program that places students in such locations as Italy, Spain, Ireland and the UK.

Students Groups & Internships
The department offers many opportunities for students to practice the skills and concepts they learn in settings outside the classroom. We have several student groups, including the National Broadcasting Society, the Society of Professional Journalists, the Public Relations Student Society of America, SU-TV and Lambda Pi Eta – a national communications honors society. There are practicum experiences available at various on- and off-campus organizations. Students who are eligible may enroll in an internship to gain credit for working in an organization outside the University. Recent students have completed internships at sites including the Baltimore Orioles, Aflac, WNBA, Washington Capitals, Walt Disney World, Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Wicomico County Chamber of Commerce, Clear Channel Radio, Nassau Broadcasting and the Washington Center.

Outstanding Facilities & Faculty
Media production classes are held in the new state-of-the-art Integrated Media Center (IMC). At 18,500 square-feet, the IMC may be the most technologically advanced facility of its kind at any Maryland higher education institution. The center features a 3,000-square-foot high-definition digital video production studio and a 24-track audio recording studio. These studios are supported by 13 video editing suites and five audio editing suites. All CMAT courses are taught in fully-equipped “smart” classrooms that feature modern media technology that aid in student learning and comprehension.

Communication Arts Department professors are dedicated instructors who recognize the importance of practicing what they teach. Many are active researchers, authoring numerous books and receiving national grants for their research and curriculum development activities. Faculty also have been recognized with several awards, including the prestigious Fulbright Fellowship, Alumni Faculty Appreciation Award, Outstanding Registered Student Organization (RSO) Advisor and faculty fellowships from the International Radio and Television Society and the National Association of Television Program Executives.

Career Opportunities
Students who have graduated from the Communication Arts Department have gone on to careers in:
- Radio, Television and Film
- Journalism
- Public Relations
- Law, Business and Education
- Health Care Management
- Human Resources
- Event Planning and Management

FACULTY
Chair
- Associate Professor
- Lori Dewitt, Ph.D.
- North Dakota State University

Professors
- Christine Egan, Ph.D.
- Florida State University
- Andrew Sharma, Ph.D.
- Syracuse University

Associate Professors
- Vinita Agarwal, Ph.D.
- Purdue University
- David Burns, Ph.D.
- University of Maryland
- James Burton, Ph.D.
- University of Nottingham, U.K.
- Jennifer Cox, Ph.D.
- University of Florida
- Bryan Horikami, Ph.D.
- Pennsylvania State University
- Darrell G. Mullins, Ph.D.
- Bowling Green State University
- Haven Simmons, Ph.D.
- University of Iowa

Assistant Professors
- Aaron W. Gurfly, Ph.D.
- University of California San Diego
- Eun-Jeong Han, Ph.D.
- Washington University
- Michael D. Moeder, Ph.D.
- Washington State University
- Paul E. Scovell, M.S.
- Murray State University
- Kellie Stanfield, Ph.D.
- University of Missouri

Lecturers
- Melany Trenary, M.A.
- East Carolina University
- Amanda Welch-Hamill, M.F.A.
- The Catholic University of America

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Contact Information
For information on the Communication Arts Department:
410-543-6229

SU is one of The Princeton Review’s “Great Schools for Communications Majors”

www.salisbury.edu/commarts