Meld logic, analysis, and reason with creativity, expression, and design

Choose from a concentration in human communication, journalism, public relations, or graphic design

Delve into problem-based coursework that prepares you for on-the-job tasks

why you belong here
Are you interested in everything from web design to event management to staff writing for an online or print publication? Are you a strong writer who is motivated to develop your written and oral argumentation skills? Are you aware that graphic design is just as essential a tool for persuasion? If so, then you belong here.

Whether you want to design digital and print media or write, investigate, and report the news, there’s a place for you in the communication program at Chatham University. You will have access to the tools and technology that professionals use, but just as important, you will learn to communicate clearly in whichever medium you choose.

If you understand that the workplace is transforming dramatically, and that media technologies, design, communication, and public relations are overlapping and are needed by all companies, big and small, then you are an ideal student for this program.

what you can expect
A common set of core courses will prepare you for new opportunities in an industry undergoing dynamic change as a result of our increasingly media-savvy world.

You will follow a narrower focus of study after choosing a concentration in human communication, journalism, public relations, or graphic design. Your Chatham education then culminates in a capstone seminar. This seminar does two things: It integrates the knowledge that you’ve accumulated, and it allows you to channel that knowledge into a discipline-specific project under close faculty guidance.

The University's principles of global understanding, gender and identity, and sustainability are woven into communication studies with regard to how media shape relations with the sciences, technology, and culture. You will explore the rhetorical and communicative strategies used in discourse and policy in the U.S. and examine how the University's principles are framed and represented by various media, interest, and advocacy groups.
what you will learn

At Chatham, you will learn to appreciate and interpret the complexities of modern society as you study everything from grassroots to corporate communication systems. If you choose a concentration in journalism, you will learn the practice of investigating, reporting, and writing for events and issues in newspapers, magazines, journals and online publications. If your concentration is in public relations, you will learn “big picture” promotion, advertising, and branding strategies as well as technical-artistic skills, such as print and web design. If you choose a graphic design concentration, you will learn to use design foundations, communication methodologies, design praxis, and problem solving techniques, from print and video to the web.

where it will take you

Your applied communication skills, combined with an understanding of history, theory, and context, will give you a strong foundation for your professional career. While still at Chatham, you will want to gain hands-on working experience at organizations, such as Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, KDKA-TV, WPXI-TV, WQED-TV, WTAE-TV, WYEP-FM, Women in Film and Media, Pittsburgh City Paper, Ad Impressions, Carnegie Museum, Carnegie Science Center, Dance Alloy, Ticket Master, and the Pittsburgh Zoo.

learn more

Watch videos, read faculty bios, and learn about internship and employment opportunities at chatham.edu/communications.

“My job as a communication professor is to help students develop a critical understanding of their media world – books, blogs, television shows, websites – as the first step in becoming future producers of that content.”

— Katherine Cruger, assistant professor

trending now

- As a communication student, you are encouraged to participate in the publishing of the Communique, Chatham University’s twice-monthly newspaper, which is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press. The reporting, writing, photography, design, and layout for the Communique is handled entirely by Chatham students, giving them the opportunity to create dynamic portfolios and preparing them for internships and jobs.

- In preparation for today’s media-savvy world, Chatham University’s communication program provides you with opportunities to work extensively with the latest audio-visual and digital equipment, including brand new Apple computers, broadcast and lighting studios, broadcast quality camcorders, tripods, dollies, lighting equipment, audio mixers, audio field recorders, microphones, digital cameras, digital and analog photography labs, digital editing and sound labs, and a graphics production lab.

chatham UNIVERSITY

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