Welcome
The Department of Communication and Dramatic Arts offers a graduate degree in communication: the Master of Arts in Communication. This program is particularly relevant for:

- students pursuing a doctoral degree and/or a career in higher education/academic administration.
- secondary speech teachers interested in building upon their knowledge about communication processes.
- individuals seeking an enhanced understanding and application of communication theory and research.
- professionals interested in improving their comprehension of organizational and interpersonal communication.

Classes are small, and faculty members are committed to maintaining supportive and personal interaction with graduate students.

Graduate courses are offered primarily in the evening, allowing part-time as well as full-time students to enroll.

Master of Arts
In this 33-credit-hour program in communication, students take core courses in communication theory and methods. A thesis or comprehensive exam is required. Students choosing the thesis option may choose to complete a theoretical or an applied thesis.

This program offers many opportunities for students to develop their communication scholarship. They can:

- participate in one of the finest communication teacher-training programs in the country.
- gain practical experience in coaching the competitive, nationally-acclaimed debate and forensics program.
- assist in ongoing faculty research projects.
- conduct their own research with faculty assistance.

Course Work
The Department of Communication and Dramatic Arts offers a wide range of courses to ensure that all students acquire an awareness of the depth and breadth of the field.

Graduate classes offered by the Department of Communication and Dramatic Arts include:

- Communication and Change
- Communication and Conflict Management
- Communication in the Classroom
- Communication Training in Organizations
- Contemporary Communication Theory
- Family Communication
- Interpersonal Communication
- Organizational Communication
- Quantitative, Qualitative, and Rhetorical Methods
- The Dark Side of Communication

Admission
To be admitted to this graduate program, applicants must have GPAs of 3.0 or higher in the last 60 hours of undergraduate study and at least 3.0 in the last 15 hours of communication courses or other courses approved by the department.

Students who do not meet the above requirements may be admitted to graduate study on a conditional basis.

International students must have a TOEFL score of at least 600 PBT (250 CBT, 100 iBT) to be admitted to the program. Students with TOEFL scores of at least 575 PBT (232 CBT, 98 iBT) may be admitted to the program on a conditional basis if all other program requirements are met.

Applications are due by March 15 for fall enrollment and October 15 for spring enrollment.
Financial Assistance

CMU offers competitive stipends to graduate teaching assistants and debate/forensics assistants. Graduate fellowships also are available for the most highly qualified candidates.

Assistantships provide waiver of tuition for up to 20 hours of on-campus classes per academic year and payment of some required university fees. Graduate assistants in good academic standing may be offered up to four semesters of support and a total of 33 hours of tuition waiver. Teaching assistants teach two introductory communication classes per semester. Debate/forensics assistants work with the debate team or individual event participants, travel with the team to area and national tournaments, and may teach one introductory communication course.

All new assistantships begin in Fall, and the assistantship application, academic transcripts, and two letters of recommendation are due by March 15 to be considered for the next academic year. Apply for a graduate assistantship at: www.cda.cmich.edu/gradfinancialaid

Faculty

Courses in the Communication and Dramatic Arts M.A. program are taught by full-time faculty who specialize in areas including family communication, instructional development, conflict management, intercultural communication, interpersonal communication, organizational communication, political communication, and communication and social change.

Communication faculty members are active in international, national, regional, and state associations. Many also publish books and professional journal articles.

Faculty members hold doctorate degrees from respected programs at institutions such as Michigan State University, Northwestern University, Ohio University, The Pennsylvania State University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Southern Illinois University (Carbondale), University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, University of Connecticut, University of Kansas.

Core Graduate Faculty Strengths

William Dailey: communication and meaning, conflict, negotiation
Elizabeth Carlson: organizational communication, small group communication, virtual teams, professional and group identification
Edward Hinck: political debate, argumentation, forensics
Shelly Hinck: interpersonal communication, service-learning, political debate
Michael Papa: organizational communication, innovation diffusion, social change
Wendy Papa: pedagogy, public speaking, organizing for social change
Lesley Withers: interpersonal/nonverbal communication, the “dark side” of communication, collaboration in virtual environments
Diane Krider: public relations, communication training in organizations
Alysa Lucas: interpersonal and relational communication, communication in friendships
Joseph Packer: debate, argumentation, social movements, history of cosmological rhetoric
Kirsten Weber: interpersonal communication, health communication

Career Options

Graduates of the Master of Arts program in Communication and Dramatic Arts are well-prepared for success in academic and other professional careers.

Academic Careers

Graduates of our program teach at the community college level or have completed Ph.D.s in Communication at some of the top doctoral programs in the nation, including:

• Bowling Green State University
• Southern Illinois University
• University of Nebraska
• University of South Florida
• Wayne State University
• Ohio University
• Purdue University
• University of Denver
• University of Texas-Austin
• many others

Professional Careers

A graduate degree in Communication gives graduates a competitive edge in the workplace. Graduates of our program have found success in fields such as:

• Academic Administration: Director of University Admissions, Residential Life Coordinator, Coordinator for Student Programming & Outreach
• Communication Training: Training Coordinator, Director of Training and Development, Senior Recruiter
• Sales, Marketing, and Public Relations: Director of Sales and Marketing, Director of Public Relations, Marketing Executive, Marketing Specialist
• Human Services: Human Resource Manager, Executive Personnel Coordinator, Director of Fund-raising, Career Development Specialist
• Event Planning: Conference Planner, Executive Promoter, Activities Director, Corporate Events Planner
• Non-Profit Organizations: Account Executive, Program Manager
• Business: Organization Director, Account Manager, Private Business Owner

Apply Online

http://apply.cmich.edu

For More Information
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Visit our website at:
www.cda.cmich.edu