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# THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

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## ADVISORY FORM Master of Art Program in COMMUNICATION STUDIES *Revised Spring 2016*

Name:  
Local  
Address:  
CWID

E-mail:  
Date of entry into program:  
  
Local Phone #:

### Statement of Individual Goals for Graduate Study in the Department:

#### **General rules regarding course work:**

1. Minimum of 24 graduate credit hours in Communication Studies Department
2. Minimum of 15-18 graduate credit hours of core course work
3. Maximum of 12 graduate credit hours transferable
4. Minimum elective requirements:
  - Plan 1 (thesis) requires a minimum of 9 graduate hours as electives**
  - Plan 2 (non-thesis) requires a minimum of 12-15 graduate credit hours as electives, plus the successful completion of either**
    - the comprehensive examination, written and oral components, or
    - an internship or a project and a Capstone Portfolio
5. Allowable research credit hours
  - Plan 1 allows 6 hours of graduate thesis research credit (COM 599) to count in 30-hour minimum**
  - Plan 2 does not count research credit in the 30-hour minimum**

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### **CORE REQUIREMENTS (15-18 hrs.)**

#### **Theory Requirements – 12 hours**

- 3 hrs in Rhetoric and Political Discourse, COM 541, COM 545, CIS 605, or approved equivalent
- 3 hrs in Interpersonal and Organizational Communication, COM 561, COM 571 or approved equivalent
- 3 hrs in Communication and Culture, COM 513, 515, 565, 569, or approved equivalent
- 3 hrs in an additional course approved from one of the three areas

#### **Methods Requirement: Plan I or Plan II: Comps/Doctoral Program Track – 3 hours**

- 3 hrs Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism COM 548 or
- Approved Research Methods course, such as COM 550, MC 550, BER 631, or LS 502

#### **Methods Requirements: Plan II: Professional Option – 6 hours**

- 3 hrs Seminar in Rhetorical Criticism COM 548 or approved methods course
- 3 hrs Applied Research: either COM 590 (internship) or COM 598 (project)

**ELECTIVE OPTIONS** (12-15 hrs. minimum)

Note: A request form must be submitted and approved for permission to count COM 536 Independent Study as an elective in Plan II. No more than one Independent Study, for a total of 3.0 hours, may count toward the minimal requirements.

<b>PLAN 1 -- Thesis Option</b>	<b><i>Requires approval to pursue</i></b>
15 hour minimum of electives:	Prospectus approval by committee
6 hrs -- COM (two departmental courses)	
3 hrs -- Advisor approved elective	
6 hrs -- COM 599 Thesis Research	

<b>PLAN 2 -- Non-thesis Option:</b>	<b><i>Academic Option</i></b>
15 hour minimum of electives (five courses):	Comprehensive Examination
9 hrs -- COM (two departmental courses)	
6 hrs -- Advisor approved electives (or taken in the doctoral program)	

<b>PLAN 2 -- Non-thesis Option:</b>	<b><i>Professional Option</i></b>
15 hour minimum of electives:	Professional Proposal, advisor approved
6 hrs -- COM (two departmental courses)	The Capstone Portfolio
6 hrs -- Advisor approved electives	
3 hrs -- Applied Research, either COM 590 (internship) or COM 598 (project)	

**TOTAL MINIMUM HOURS REQUIRED FOR COMPLETING THE DEGREE --30 hours**

**Academic Faculty Advisor:**

<b>PROGRESS CHECK-SHEET</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plan of Study Approved and Filed</li> <li>2. Plan Permission Approved                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For Plan 1: <i>Thesis</i> Prospectus Approved by Committee</li> <li>▪ For Plan 2: <i>Professional</i> Proposal Accepted by Advisor</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Final Completion                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For Plan 1: <i>Thesis</i> Defended Successfully</li> <li>▪ For Plan 2: <i>Comprehensive Examination</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written Portion Accepted by Committee</li> <li>Oral Defense Accepted by Committee</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ For Plan 2: <i>Professional Option</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capstone Portfolio Accepted by Advisor</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Final Graduate Presentation Completed</li> </ol>	

*Revised M.A. Program Spring 2016*