**COMMUNICATIONS, CONCENTRATION—MASS COMMUNICATION-LEADERSHIP AND PERFORMANCE: ACADEMIC MAP: DEGREE BA/BS (120 CREDIT HOURS)**

This degree map is a semester-by-semester course schedule for students majoring in **Communications with a concentration in Mass Communication-Leadership and Performance**. The milestones listed to the right of each semester are designed to keep a student on track to graduate in four years. The schedule serves as a general guideline to help build a full schedule each semester. Milestones are courses and special requirements necessary for timely progress to complete a major. When one or more milestones are missed, students should consult with an academic advisor to determine if another degree path would be more suitable.

In the Communications major with a concentration in Mass Communication – Media Leadership and Performance, students will be given extensive hands on experience in the various fields of media. Students must pass all required Communications courses with a minimum ‘C’ grade. Individuals will be most successful if they consult with an advisor each semester to continually work toward graduation. Because the program is very active with a multitude of required video, audio and writing projects for various classes, as well as opportunities for extensive co-curricular experience, strategic planning for each semester will increase students’ chances for success.

Before taking the upper level (3000 – 4000) courses, students must complete the core classes for writing, along with the introduction to technology and production courses (COMM 1040, 1050, 1060), with a minimum ‘C’ grades. Students who are having difficulty with writing are strongly encouraged to seek additional instruction through the Write Center on campus. Writing ability is critical to success as a Communication major, as well as professional success after graduation. Students are also encouraged to be active in the Departmental media outlets, such as WTST campus radio, TV98, PAC House Productions~~, the~~ *~~Meter~~* ~~student newspaper,~~ and Departmental on-line publications, to gain experience that enhances course work. Projects from classes and media outlets are added to the student’s online portfolio, which is evaluated during senior year. Students can further strengthen professional skills and portfolios by taking advantage of a variety of internship opportunities during the junior and senior years.

Tennessee State University recognizes that students have diverse learning, life, and professional experiences. The University provides opportunities for students to earn college credit toward the degree through a number of assessment options that evaluate their learning experiences. These paths are grouped under the category “Prior Learning Assessment” (PLA). Various means of earning PLA credit at TSU are the following: Advanced Placement Program, American Council of Education (ACE) Military Credit, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), DSST Credit by Examination Program (includes DANTES Examination), Institutional Course Challenge Exams (Departmental Exams), International Baccalaureate Credit, Other Military Service, Portfolio Assessment. To learn more about PLA contact your academic advisor or the Office of Student Support Services for Adult and Distance Learners at (615) 963-7001 or [adultstudentsupport@tnstate.edu](mailto:adultstudentsupport@tnstate.edu).

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**Department Web Address:** [**http://www.tnstate.edu/Communications**](http://www.tnstate.edu/Communications)

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| **Fall Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 1** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 1** |
| UNIV 1000\* | 1 |  |
| ENGL 1010 | 3 | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before ENGL 1020, and HIST 2010, HIST 2020, HIST 2030, HIST 2060, HIST 2070, or HIST 2700; Minimum grade “C” required |
| Natural Science I w/Lab\*\* | 4 |  |
| COMM 1040 | 3 | Minimum grade of “C” required |
| Foreign Language I\*\*\* or Elective | 3 | Foreign language is not required but is highly recommended. |
| **Total hours** | **14** |  |

\*An Orientation course taken at another University does **NOT** meet this requirement. Students with less than 60 transfer   
 credit hours must take UNIV 1000 at TSU.

\*\*Natural Science-Must have 8 semester hours which includes the appropriate labs. Recommended courses are:   
 BIOL 1010/1011, CHEM 1030/1031, PHYS 2030/2031 or ASTR 1010. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree.

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| **Spring Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 2** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 2** |
| ENGL 1020 | 3 | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before taking HIST 2010, HIST 2020, HIST 2030, HIST 2060, HIST 2070, or HIST 2700; Minimum grade “C” required |
| Natural Science II w/Lab\* | 4 |  |
| MATH 1013 or 1110 or 1710 | 3 |  |
| COMM 1050 | 2 | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 2640; Minimum grade of “C” required |
| COMM 1060 | 1 | Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before COMM 2360, COMM 2400, COMM 2500 ; Minimum grade of “C” required |
| Foreign Language II\*\* or Elective | 3 | Foreign language is not required but is highly recommended. |
| **Total hours** | **16** |  |

\*Natural Science-Must have 8 semester hours which includes the appropriate labs. Recommended courses are   
 BIOL 1020/1021, CHEM 1040/1041, PHYS 2040/2041 or ASTR 1020. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree

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| **Fall Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 3** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 3** |
| History 2010 | 3 |  |
| Social/ Behavior Science I\* | 3 |  |
| Foreign Language III\*\* or Elective | 3 | Foreign language is not required but is highly recommended. |
| COMM 2360, COMM 2400 or COMM 2500 | 3 | Pre-requisite course: Must be taken before COMM 3000—4000 courses; Minimum grade of “C” required |
| COMM 2640 | 3 | Pre-requisite course: Must be taken before COMM 3000—4000 courses; Minimum grade of “C” required |
| COMM 2200 | 3 | Minimum grade of “C” required |
| **Total hours** | **18** |  |

\* AFAS 2010, ANTH2300, ECON2010-2020, GEOG 1010, 1020, HPSS1510, POLI 1010-2010, PSYC 2010, SOCI 2010, ~~HIST 1210, HIST 1220~~, WMST 2000, URBS 2010 will meet this requirement. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree.

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| **Spring Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 4** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 4** |
| THTR 1020 | 3 |  |
| Humanities/Fine Arts Elective\* | 3 |  |
| HIST 2020 | 3 |  |
| Social Behavior Science II\*\* | 3 |  |
| ENGL Literature \*\*\* | 3 | 2000-level literature course |
| Foreign Language IV\*\*\* or Elective | 3 | Foreign language is not required but is highly recommended. |
| **Total hours** | **18** |  |

\*ART1010, MUSC 1010, PHIL 1030, RELS 2010, HIST 1000, AREN 2310 will meet this requirement. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*AFAS 2010, ANTH2300, ECON2010-2020, GEOG 1010, 1020, HPSS1510, POLI 1010-2010, PSYC 2010, SOCI 2010, ~~HIST 1210, HIST 1220~~, WMST 2000, URBS 2010 will meet this requirement. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*\*ENGL 2012-2322 literature courses will meet this requirement. See Catalog for complete list of qualifying courses.

\*\*\*\*Four semesters of a single foreign language are required for the BA degree.

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| **Fall Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 5** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 5** |
| COMM 3150 | 3 | Pre-requisite course: Must be taken before COMM 4500 or COMM 4510; Minimum grade of “C” required |
| COMM 2800 | 3 |  |
| COMM 3520 | 3 | Prerequisite: COMM 1040: Minimum grade of “C” required. |
| Leadership Track Elective\* | 3 |  |
| Mass COMM Elective\*\* | 3 |  |
| **Total hours** | **15** |  |

\*Choose from COMM 2600, 2620, 3335, 3370, 3620, 4230, 4255, 4260, THTR 2630, 3720. See advisor for most current list.  
\*\*COMM 2620, 3000, 3335, 3350, 3610, 3620, 3700, 3910, 4050, 4060, 4080, 3300, 4090, 4100, 4380, 4400, 4415, 4450,   
 4600, 4610, 4615, 4800. See advisor for most current list.

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| **Spring Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 6** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 6** |
| COMM 4380 | 3 |  |
| Leadership Track Elective\* 3000-4000 Level | 3 |  |
| Mass COMM Elective 3000-4000 Level\*\* | 3 |  |
| COMM Elective 3000-4000 Level | 3 |  |
| COMM 3950\*\*\* | 3 | Student must have place of intern employment approved by the Instructor or Department Chair. |
| **Total hours** | **15** |  |

\*Choose from COMM ~~2600, 2620~~, 3335, 3370, 3620, 4230, 4255, 4260, THTR ~~2630~~, 3720. See advisor for most current list.

\*\*COMM 3000, 3335, 3350, 3610, 3620, 3700, 3910, 4050, 4060, 4080, 3300, 4090, 4100, 4380, 4400, 4415, 4450,   
 4600, 4610, 4615, 4800. See advisor for most current list.

\*\*\*3 hours of COMM 3910, at 1 hour per semester, may be taken in place of COMM 3950

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| **Fall Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 7** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 7** |
| COMM 4400 | 3 |  |
| COMM 3950 or 3000-4000 Elective | 3 | For 3950, student must have place of intern employment approved by the Instructor or Department Chair. |
| Mass COMM Elective\* | 6 |  |
| 3000 – 4000 Elective | 3 |  |
| **Total hours** | **12** |  |

\*COMM 2620, 3000, 3335, 3350, 3610, 3620, 3700, 3910, 4050, 4060, 4080, 3300, 4090, 4100, 4380, 4400, 4415, 4450, 4530, 4600, 4610, 4615, 4800

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| **Spring Schedule** |  | **Milestones** |
| **Semester 8** | **Hrs.** | **Semester 8** |
|  |  | Take Senior Exit Exam and Apply for Graduation |
| COMM 4510 or COMM 4500 | 3 | Research or creative project, plus portfolio; Permission required to take 4510. Take major field exam (in COMM 4500 or 4510). |
| COMM ~~4400~~ 4480 | 3 |  |
| 3000 – 4000 Electives | 6 |  |
| **Total hours** | **12** |  |

**Employment Information:**

Many career options are available with a degree in Mass Communication. These include announcing, on-air performance and show hosting, advertising, marketing, business, sales, informational and corporate video and social media, film, Journalism, publishing, radio and live events production. Students who choose the Media Leadership and Performance emphasis within Mass Communication will have employment opportunities in many areas of information and entertainment businesses as well as various type of performance.. They will be prepared with the business knowledge required to create, produce, perform in, market and distribute all sorts of information and entertainment, particularly in the mass media.

**Representative Job Titles Related to this Major:**

Anchor, show host, announcer, voice-over talent, producer, writer, show runner, programmer, distributor, event manager, production manager, syndicator, artist.

**Representative Employers:**

Independent Production Companies, Hollywood Production Companies, Post-production Houses, Networks, Radio Stations, Television Stations, YouTube,, Live Event Production groups, Local Television stations, Music Labels, Large companies with Internal Communications/Corporate Video divisions, Advertising Agencies, Freelancer

**International study is available for all TSU students and may include opportunities for internships or taking course work towards various minors.** Internationalstudy may have an impact on the MAP; therefore, it is important to consult with the academic advisor for this major before participating in an international Program opportunity. Students interested in study abroad opportunities should contact the Office of International Programs and consult with their academic advisor.

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This map is not intended to be a contract; either expressed or implied, between the University and the students, but represents a flexible program of the current curriculum which may be altered from time to time to carry out the academic objectives of the University. TSU specifically reserves the right to change, delete or add to any MAP at any time within the student’s period of study at the University.