

School of

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

MAJORS



- Communication Studies BA
- Communication Studies BS
- Digital Journalism BA
- Film Studies BA
- Media and Entertainment Arts (Media and Entertainment Arts Management) BS
- Media and Entertainment Arts (Sound and Recording Arts) BS
- Media and Entertainment Arts (Video Arts) BS
- Strategic Communication - Digital Media Sales BA
- Strategic Communication - Digital Advertising BA
- Strategic Communication - Organizational Communication BA
- Strategic Communication - Public Relations BA

* Available fully online


MINORS

- Communication Studies Minor*
- Digital Innovation Minor
- Digital Journalism Minor
- Mass Communication Minor
- Media and Entertainment Arts (Film) Minor
- Media and Entertainment Arts (Video Arts) Minor
- Media and Entertainment Arts (Media and Entertainment Arts Management) Minor
- Media and Entertainment Arts (Sound and Recording Arts) Minor
- Strategic Communication Minor

CONTACT US

 6601.266.4258  communication@usm.edu

 usm.edu/media-communication

 [@usmartsandsciences](https://www.instagram.com/usmartsandsciences)





Post-secondary students in the State of Mississippi often choose to attend a Mississippi community college (MS CC) and earn an associate degree before transferring to The University of Southern Mississippi to complete their bachelor's degree. To make this transition as smooth as possible and to ensure no credits are lost, we have created this transfer guide. In most, but not all, cases, students may complete a bachelor's degree in what we refer to as a '2+2' format:

2 years at a MS CC for an associate degree, which includes general education coursework
 +
 2 years at USM to complete the bachelor's degree

Please use the key below to determine which courses you must, should, or could take at a Mississippi community college before transferring to Southern Miss.

KEY



 MUST	Students who do not complete these requirements at a MS CC cannot complete their bachelor's degree in the 2+2 format.
 SHOULD	Students should complete these requirements at a MS CC in order to have the smoothest transition to Southern Miss. It may still be possible to complete a bachelor's degree in the 2+2 format without taking these courses, but it will be challenging.
 COULD	Students could complete these requirements at a MS CC if they desire. Not taking these courses prior to transferring will not affect a student's ability to complete their bachelor's degree in the 2+2 format.
 CALCULUS READINESS	Calculus is required on this degree plan. Students should arrive at Southern Miss ready to take Calculus I, which means they must have completed Trigonometry or have a Math ACT subscore ≥ 26 . Students may complete Calculus I prior to transferring if they desire.



NOTE: *This document is intended as a guide; it does not guarantee graduation in the 2+2 format. Degree requirements are subject to change. Please consult the school of your desired major for up-to-date requirements.*

Additional majors are available from the other Southern Miss colleges.

College of Education & Human Sciences

Hattiesburg 601.266.4568

Gulf Park 228.214.3340

College of Nursing & Health Professions

Hattiesburg 601.266.5445

AskCNHP@usm.edu

College of Business & Economic Development

Hattiesburg 601.266.4659

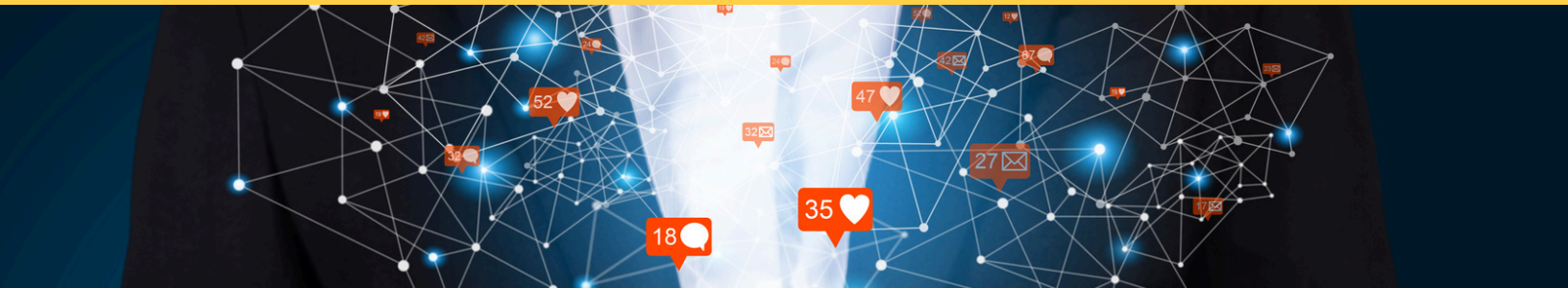
Gulf Park 228.214.3447

business@usm.edu



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI

COMMUNICATION STUDIES



PROGRAM INFO

Communication fosters success in personal relationships, business, and society. The Communication Studies program focuses on the soft skills of human interactions, how people make meaning of the words and symbols that bombard them all day, and get to the core ideals of what moves society forward. Communications majors study gender issues, social movements, political campaigns, race relations, and interpersonal conflict, among other topics.

CAREER OUTLOOK

Government, non-profit, corporate, and small business organizations are all consistent when asked what they need to succeed: leaders and organizers who communicate effectively. Common career paths for communication studies graduates include sales, management, human relations, politics, and nonprofit work in health, legal, political, organizational, and social settings.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Focusing on oral, face-to-face interaction, students learn how to:

- Persuade
- Debate
- Speak publicly
- Manage conflicts
- Lead groups
- Interview
- Interpret nonverbal messages

RESEARCH AT USM

All communications faculty are research active, and undergraduates have the opportunity to work with them. Students have aided in collecting data in the field, coding data, collecting texts for analysis, and writing literature reviews. Additionally, faculty work with students on honors theses, McNair Scholar projects, and student papers for conferences.

OPPORTUNITIES



SCHOLARSHIPS

There are several scholarships for majors. The Siltanen-Hosman scholarship and the Elliott and Bonnie Pood Communication Studies Scholarship are awarded to students who are outstanding and involved in leadership activities.



INTERNSHIPS

Students are encouraged to pursue an internship. Recent graduates have interned in D.C., on political staffs, with Amnesty International, with Mississippi nonprofit organizations, in on-campus university offices, and many other situations.

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🌐 usm.edu/media-communication

📷 [@usmartsandsciences](https://www.instagram.com/usmartsandsciences)

COMMUNICATION STUDIES BA AND BS

2+2



Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...






COULD

Take these major-specific courses.
Complete the fourth semester a world language. (BA only)

CHECKLIST

COURSES

Updated August 2025

	Courses at Community College	Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss
<input type="checkbox"/>	 COM 1113 or SPT 1113	CMS 111 Public Speaking
<input type="checkbox"/>	 COM 2173 or SPT 2173	CMS 305 Interpersonal Communication
<input type="checkbox"/>	 WORLD LANGUAGE (BA only) through fourth semester	FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH Regularly offered at USM



NOTE: This document is intended as a guide. Please contact the School of Media and Communication at 601.266.4258 or soc@usm.edu to check on current degree requirements.

DIGITAL JOURNALISM



PROGRAM INFO

Digital journalists are truth-tellers and storytellers, portraying society as it is and could be. The program covers core skills in storytelling, information gathering, and production.

Students then specialize in one of two tracks: broadcast, for careers in TV, radio, and NextGen TV; or multimedia, for roles in digital news outlets, magazines, newspapers, podcasting, and more.

CAREER OUTLOOK

Our program is designed to prepare students for a variety of career positions in industries associated with news, digital media production, website management, social media creation and management, news reporting and editing, sports reporting, television producing, writing across platforms, and photojournalism.

For several years the demand for our graduates has exceeded the number of graduates available.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

We emphasize fundamentals in reporting, writing, editing, design, photography, and multimedia like video across platforms. Professional preparation also includes understanding journalism's history, ethics, and social responsibility. Our courses integrate both practice and theory.

OPPORTUNITIES



SCHOLARSHIPS

There are 15 program-specific scholarships geared toward students in the School of Media and Communication.



STUDY ABROAD

In British Studies, London becomes the classroom as students experience the subject firsthand and conduct professor-supervised research. Acting as mobile journalists, they create an online portfolio while developing practical, academic, and tech skills in one of Europe's most exciting cities. Over four intensive summer weeks, students analyze Britain's print and broadcast news, public relations, advertising, and their advantages and challenges.



INTERNSHIPS

All students are strongly encouraged to complete at least one internship, a key factor in successful job placement after graduation.

Students often secure internships with regional and national news outlets, production houses, and various agencies and institutions needing content for web and social media.

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DIGITAL JOURNALISM BA **2+2**

Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...



SHOULD

Pick one of the two options below:

- Option 1: Take these 3 major-specific courses.
- Option 2: Take 1 humanities and 1 social science elective in addition to your general education courses and complete the fourth semester of a world language.









COULD

Do both option 1 and option 2.

CHECKLIST

COURSES

Updated August 2025

	Courses at Community College	Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss
<input type="checkbox"/>	OPTION 1	
<input type="checkbox"/>	 COM 2483	MCJ 101 Media Literacy
<input type="checkbox"/>	 COM 2463 or JOU 1313	MCJ 102 Media Writing
	 JOU 1323	MCJ 203 News Writing and Reporting
<input type="checkbox"/>	OPTION 2	
<input type="checkbox"/>	 HUMANITIES ELECTIVE (Select 1 in addition to general education courses)	English, History, Film, Women and Gender Studies, Philosophy, Religion, Humanities
<input type="checkbox"/>	 SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVE (Select 1 in addition to general education courses)	Anthropology, Geography, Political Science, Sociology
	 WORLD LANGUAGE through fourth semester	FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH Regularly offered at USM



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MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT ARTS

VIDEO ARTS, SOUND & RECORDING ARTS, MANAGEMENT



PROGRAM INFO

We prepare students for the multibillion-dollar media and entertainment arts industries. The program features a set of core courses in media production and industry essentials shared by three majors:

- Management, for students interested in the business side of entertainment
- Video Arts, for students desiring the commercial and visual side of entertainment
- Sound & Recording, for students interested in music and live productions

The film program is housed on USM's beautiful Gulf Park campus and prepares students to contribute to the growing fields of cinematic writing, producing, and promoting. Film faculty ask students to engage both in the artistic elements of film and its applications across fields that value visual story telling.

CAREER OUTLOOK

The media and entertainment industry is constantly evolving and new job opportunities are emerging all the time. As technology continues to advance, individuals with strong digital and creative skills are likely to be in high demand across all industries.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Media and entertainment arts students learn:

- Pre-production, production, and post-production processes, including scriptwriting, casting, filming, editing, and sound design
- Creativity and storytelling
- Analysis of media messages and their impact on society
- Identification of bias, propaganda, and manipulation in content
- Industry-standard software and equipment
- Collaboration
- The business side of the media and entertainment industry, including marketing, distribution, and finance.
- A deeper understanding of diverse cultures and how they are represented

OPPORTUNITIES



SCHOLARSHIPS

There are 15 program-specific scholarships geared toward students in the School of Media and Communication.



INTERNSHIPS

Internships are among the best indicators of successful placement after graduation. Recent internships have included a variety of television and live production positions, as well as social media and content creation jobs.

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MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT ARTS BS

(All Emphases)

2+2

Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...



COULD

Take 3 major-specific courses.

Sound & Recording Arts emphasis only. Select 1 music course.

CHECKLIST





COURSES

Updated August 2025

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Courses at Community College

Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss

 COM 2483	MCJ 101 Media Literacy
 MUS 1313	MEA 201 Media and Entertainment Arts Business and Industry
 MUS 1433	MEA 230 Introduction to Audio Production
 MUSIC (Select 1) (Sound & Recording Arts only)	
MUS 1213	MUS 101 Music Theory I
MUS 1223	MUS 102 Music Theory II
MUS 1113	MUS 165 Enjoyment of Music



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FILM STUDIES



PROGRAM INFO

Film Studies prepares students to take part in the growing fields associated with cinema, promotional video, scriptwriting, pre- and post-production, and promotion of final products across media platforms.

The program is housed on our beautiful Southern Miss Gulf Park campus, featuring new, state-of-the-art design and production facilities.

Film faculty ask students to engage both in the artistic elements of film and its applications across the exciting fields of visual story telling.

CAREER OUTLOOK

Students who graduate from Film Studies go into a wide variety of industry positions, from television programs to film production companies to local television creative divisions to a number of promotional and social media positions associated with cinematic companies and venues.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that jobs for producers and directors will grow 8 percent over the next 10 years.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Film Studies students learn:

- Pre-production planning and techniques
- Post-production methods and processes
- Film and video editing
- Scriptwriting
- History of film and its global impact
- Team building and collaboration
- Critical thinking and problem-solving in a variety of situations

OPPORTUNITIES



SCHOLARSHIPS

There are 17 program-specific scholarships geared toward students in the School of Media and Communication.



INTERNSHIPS

In addition to campus opportunities to work in the Student Media Center and the Roy Howard Community Journalism Center, students are coached to apply for a wide variety of internships, local, regionally and nationally. Film faculty have close ties, for instance, to the Mississippi Film Office, which supports a rising number of productions across the state

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FILM STUDIES BA

2+2

(Page 1/2)



Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...



COULD

Take both World Civilizations courses and a philosophy elective.
(May duplicate general education coursework)
Complete the fourth semester of a world language.
Take 1 humanities elective and 1 social science elective in addition to your general education coursework.

CHECKLIST

COURSES

Updated August 2025

Courses at Community College

Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss

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WORLD CIVILIZATIONS

HIS 1113 or HIS 1163
Western/World Civilizations I

HIS 1123 or HIS 1173
Western/World Civilizations II

HIS 101
World Civilizations: Beginnings to 1500 C.E.

HIS 102
World Civilizations: 1500 to the present



PHILOSOPHY ELECTIVE

(Select 1)

PHI 2113
Introduction to Philosophy I

PHI 2123
Introduction to Philosophy II

PHI 2143
Introduction to Ethics

PHI 2613
Introduction to World Religions

PHI 151
Introduction to Philosophy

PHI 151
Introduction to Philosophy

PHI 171
Ethics and Good Living

REL 131
Comparative Religion



WORLD LANGUAGE
through fourth semester

FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH
Regularly offered at USM



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FILM STUDIES BA

2+2 (Page 2/2)



Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...



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(May duplicate general education coursework)
Complete the fourth semester of a world language.
Take 1 humanities elective and 1 social science elective in addition to your general education coursework.

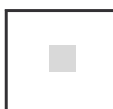
CHECKLIST

COURSES

Updated August 2025

Courses at Community College

Equivalent Courses at Southern Miss



HUMANITIES ELECTIVE

(Select 1)

HIS 2213

American (U.S.) History I

HIS 2223

American (U.S.) History II

OTHER

HIS 201

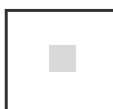
Survey of United States History to 1877

HIS 202

Survey of United States History since 1877

OTHER OPTIONS

Available at USM only



SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVE

(Select 1)

ANR or SOC 2213

Introduction to Anthropology

GEO 1113

World Regional Geography

SOC 2113

Introduction to Sociology

ANT 101

The Human Experience: A Global Perspective on Human Diversity

GHY 101

World Geography: Dynamics of a Changing Earth

SOC 101

Understanding Society: Principles of Sociology



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION



PROGRAM INFO

Strategic Communication (StratCom) is where creativity meets purpose. It's about crafting messages that move people—whether launching a product, promoting a cause, or guiding a company through change. In this program, you'll learn to think like a strategist, write like a storyteller, and communicate with impact across today's media landscape.

Students can focus their studies in one of four tracks: public relations, advertising, media sales, or organizational communication.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Students in the StratCom program gain practical, career-ready skills, including:

- Persuasive writing for media, marketing, and PR
- Visual storytelling and media design
- Campaign planning and content strategy
- Communication law and media ethics
- Crisis communication and leadership messaging
- Real-world experience through client-based projects

Whether promoting a brand or managing a crisis, communication professionals shape how the world sees organizations. With skills in strategy, storytelling, and media, you'll be ready to lead across industries.

CAREER OUTLOOK

Careers in StratCom are in high demand across business, media, nonprofits, and government.

Common job titles include: creative director, brand manager, advertising manager, media planner, account planner, digital media specialist, and social media content specialist, social media manager.

OPPORTUNITIES



SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the USM Foundation awards over \$20,000 in scholarship funds geared toward students in the School of Media and Communication.



INTERNSHIPS

All StratCom students are highly encouraged to do at least one internship during their college career. Internships are among the best indicators of successful job placement after graduation.

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION BA 2+2

Complete all requirements for a MS community college associate degree, including general education coursework, and...



SHOULD

Pick one of the two options below:

- Option 1: Take these 2 major-specific courses.
- Option 2: Take 1 humanities and 1 social science elective in addition to your general education courses and complete the fourth semester of a world language.








COULD

Do both option 1 and option 2.

CHECKLIST

COURSES

Updated August 2025

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