



## MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION

### Program Overview

Fairfield University's MA in Communication program emphasizes theory, research, practice, and application to examine the ways humans communicate both verbally and nonverbally across a variety of levels and contexts. Students gain a complete understanding of the role of communication in personal relationships, large organizations, and society as a whole.

Although we communicate with others every day, it is less common to think about how we communicate, why we communicate, and the effects of our communication. Exploring the how, the why, and the effects of messages will be the main theme of students' graduate coursework.

### Coursework

To earn an MA in Communication, students are required to complete 36 credits of coursework and select from one of two academic tracks:

#### Thesis/Project Track

Students take three required communication courses, seven electives, and two thesis/project courses. The track culminates in an independent research exploration completed under the supervision of faculty. The research typically results in a thesis, but proposals for more individualized and creative projects are welcome.

#### Non-Thesis Track

Students take three required communication courses plus nine additional electives.

In either track, students consult with a faculty advisor to tailor their curriculum to their personal, professional, and academic goals. Possible paths that students can pursue include organizational communication, health communication, public relations, media studies, communication in the nonprofit sector, educational communication, and preparation for PhD-level work.

Examples of exciting course offerings include:

- Ethics and Communication
- Negotiation and Conflict Management
- Risk Communication
- Media Theory and Criticism
- Intercultural Communication
- Nonprofit Media
- Work/Life Intersections
- Healthcare Organizational Communication
- Crisis Communication
- Conflict Communication

For detailed course descriptions and requirements, please visit [www.fairfield.edu/catalogs](http://www.fairfield.edu/catalogs).

# MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION

## Graduate Program Director

Sean Horan, PhD  
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## Admission/Eligibility

Applicants for a master's degree must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and give a promise of meeting the standards set by the school.

**Application Deadline: Rolling for fall, spring, and summer admission**

To be considered for admission, candidates must submit the following at [www.fairfield.edu/applynow](http://www.fairfield.edu/applynow):

- Completed graduate application
- Non-refundable \$60 application fee
- Professional resume
- Personal statement
- Official transcripts from all universities and colleges attended
- Two letters of recommendation

For detailed admission requirements, please visit [www.fairfield.edu/grad](http://www.fairfield.edu/grad).

## Tuition/Financial Aid

Discover the many ways to finance a graduate education and explore tuition and fees at [www.fairfield.edu/gradfa](http://www.fairfield.edu/gradfa). To reach the Office of Financial Aid, please contact 203-254-4125 or email [finaid@fairfield.edu](mailto:finaid@fairfield.edu).

## Contact the Office of Graduate Admission

Phone: 203-254-4184  
Email: [gradadmis@fairfield.edu](mailto:gradadmis@fairfield.edu)

Communication website: [www.fairfield.edu/gradcomm](http://www.fairfield.edu/gradcomm)

## COMMUNICATION FAST FACTS

(U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

### Projected Job Growth:

(Over the next 10 years)

**Communication: 4%**  
**Public Relations: 8%**

### Median Salaries:

**Communication Director: \$122,420**  
**Communication Manager: \$97,180**  
**Public Relations Manager: \$100,901**

### Number of Jobs:

**45,000**



Fairfield University

College of Arts and Sciences