

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION, PHD

REQUIREMENTS

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MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirements	Detail
Minimum Credit Requirement	65 Credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	33 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.50 GPA required
Other Grade Requirements	Grades below B do not satisfy degree requirements but do count in the cumulative GPA.

Assessments and Examinations	Doctoral students must pass preliminary exams once coursework is completed. Students must defend their dissertations in front of their doctoral committees to graduate from the program. They are also encouraged to publish in peer-reviewed journals before graduation.
Language Requirements	No language requirements
Graduate School Breadth Requirement	Breadth is provided via interdisciplinary training. Students are not required to earn a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate.

REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
Colloquium Requirement		
Students must complete at least 1 credit of the following course. Up to three colloquia (including one semester of LSC 700) may satisfy minimum degree requirements.		
LSC 700	Colloquium in Life Sciences Communication	1
Science Communication Theory Requirement		
Students must complete one of the following courses.		
LSC 720	Introduction to Communication Theory and Research	3
or LSC 902	Public Opinion of Life Science Issues	
Research Methods Requirement		
Students must complete one of the following courses. Consult with your advisor to discuss alternative courses to satisfy this requirement.		
COM ARTS 762	Communication Research Methods	
ED PSYCH/ COUN PSY/ CURRIC/ ED POL/ELPA/ RP & SE 719	Introduction to Qualitative Research	
ED PSYCH 762	Introduction to the Design of Educational Experiments	
ED PSYCH/ COUN PSY/ CURRIC/ ED POL/ELPA/ RP & SE 788	Qualitative Research Methods in Education: Field Methods I	
ED PSYCH/ ELPA 827	Surveys and Other Quantitative Data Collection Strategies	
ED PSYCH 963	Design & Analysis of Quasi-Experiments for Causal Inference	
JOURN 812	Qualitative Communication Research Methods	
LSC/JOURN 811	Conceptualization and Design of Mass Communication Research	
C&E SOC/ SOC 750	Research Methods in Sociology	
SOC 751	Survey Methods for Social Research	
SOC 752	Measurement and Questionnaires for Survey Research	
Graduate Level Statistics Requirement		

Students must complete one of the following courses. 3
Consult with your advisor to discuss alternative courses to satisfy this requirement.

ED PSYCH 760	Statistical Methods Applied to Education I
ED PSYCH 761	Statistical Methods Applied to Education II
ED PSYCH 763	Regression Models in Education
ED PSYCH 773	Factor Analysis, Multidimensional Scaling and Cluster Analysis
ED PSYCH 960	Structural Equation Modeling
ED PSYCH 964	Hierarchical Linear Modeling
ED PSYCH 965	Applied Bayesian Statistics for Education Research
LSC 660	Data Analysis in Communications Research
POLI SCI 812	Introduction to Statistical Methods in Political Science
POLI SCI 813	Multivariable Statistical Inference for Political Research

Elective Requirement

Students must complete additional coursework to meet 55
minimum degree requirements. These courses will be selected to meet the student's specific educational needs as determined through consultation with their advisor and members of their doctoral committee. Common courses students complete to satisfy the elective requirement are listed below.

LSC 560	Scientific Writing
LSC 561	Writing Science for the Public
LSC/COM ARTS/ JOURN 617	Health Communication in the Information Age
LSC 625	Risk Communication
LSC 660	Data Analysis in Communications Research
LSC/JOURN 811	Conceptualization and Design of Mass Communication Research
LSC/ENVIR ST/ JOURN 823	Science and Environment Communication
LSC 835	Strategic Science Communication
LSC 850	Visual Science Communication
LSC 912	Public Understanding of Politicized Science

Total Credits 65