



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Substantive Program Modification Form

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
CURRENT PROGRAM TITLE:	Communication Studies and Journalism (M.S.) [S.MS.CSJRN] – Communication Studies Specialization [S.MS.CSJRN-COMS] – Journalism Specialization [S.MS.CSJRN-JOUR]
CIP CODE:	09.0499
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Journalism & Mass Communication (SGRJR)
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Arts & Sciences (SGRAD)

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

<u>Dennis D. Hedge</u>	<u>3/28/2018</u>
Vice President of Academic Affairs or President of the University	Date

1. This modification addresses a change in:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program name | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below) |
| | - Add Option B |
| | - Change from M.S. to M.A. Degree |

2. Effective date of change: 2018-2019 Academic Year

3. Program Degree Level:

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category:

Certificate Specializations Minor Major

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur:

- On the effective date for all students
- On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name:

Reminder: Name changes may require updating related articulation agreements, site approvals, etc.

6. Primary Aspects of the Modification:

Existing Curriculum				Proposed Curriculum (Highlight Changes)			
Pref	Num	Title	Cr Hrs	Pref	Num	Title	Cr Hrs
Core Requirements				Core Requirements			
				SPCM/MCOM	787	Research Methods in Communication	3
Communication Studies Specialization Requirements				Communication Studies Specialization			
SPCM	700	Instructional Methods in Communication (Required only for Graduate Assistants)	3	SPCM	700	Instructional Methods in Communication (Required only for Graduate Assistants)	3
SPCM	701	Introduction: Graduate Studies	3	SPCM	701	Introduction: Graduate Studies	3
SPCM	702	Communication Theory	3	SPCM	702	Communication Theory	3
SPCM	787	Research Methods in Speech Communications	3	SPCM	787	Research Methods in Speech Communications	3
<i>Select one of the following:</i>				<i>Select one of the following:</i>			
<i>Option A: Thesis</i>				<i>Option A: Thesis</i>			
SPCM	798	Thesis	5-7	SPCM	798	Thesis	5-7
Electives as approved by advisor			11-13	Electives as approved by advisor			13-16
				<i>Option B: Research/Design Paper</i>			
				SPCM	788	Master's Research Problems/Projects	3-5
				Electives as approved by advisor			17-20
Journalism Specialization Requirements				Journalism Specialization Requirements			
MCOM OR MCOM	704	Introduction to Graduate Studies	3	MCOM OR MCOM	704	Introduction to Graduate Studies	3
MCOM OR MCOM	705	Introduction to Master of Mass Communication		MCOM OR MCOM	705	Introduction to Master of Mass Communication	
MCOM OR MCOM	710	Cross-Platform Storytelling	3	MCOM OR MCOM	710	Cross-Platform Storytelling	3
MCOM OR MCOM	785	Health Journalism		MCOM OR MCOM	785	Health Journalism	
MCOM OR MCOM	615	Opinion Writing		MCOM OR MCOM	615	Opinion Writing	
MCOM OR MCOM	730	Media Law Case Studies	3	MCOM OR MCOM	730	Media Law Case Studies	3
MCOM OR MCOM	530	Media Law		MCOM OR MCOM	530	Media Law	
MCOM OR MCOM	786	Conducting Professional Research	3	MCOM OR MCOM	786	Conducting Professional Research	3
MCOM	787	Research Methods in Communication		MCOM	787	Research Methods in Communication	
<i>Select one of the following:</i>				<i>Select one of the following:</i>			
<i>Option A: Thesis</i>				<i>Option A: Thesis</i>			
MCOM	798	Thesis	1-6	MCOM	798	Thesis	5-6
Electives			12-17	Electives as approved by advisor			12-13
				<i>Option B: Research/Design Paper</i>			
MCOM	788	Master's Research Problems/Projects	2-6	MCOM	788	Master's Research Problems/Projects	2-3
Electives			14-18	Electives as approved by advisor			17-18
Total number of hours required for Communication Studies Specialization Option A			30	Total number of hours required for Communication Studies Specialization Option A			30
				Option B			32
Total number of hours required for Journalism Specialization Option A			30	Total number of hours required for Journalism Specialization Option A			30
				Option B			32

7. Explanation of the Change:

As of July 1, 2017, the Departments of Communication Studies and Journalism & Mass Communication are in one Division of Communication and Journalism (COJO), which will become a School of COJO effective July 1, 2018. To maintain consistency and to better integrate the shared, on-campus graduate degree, three changes have been requested:

1. Add a joint core requirement of SPCM/MCOM 787 Research Methods in Communication (3 cr.). Until a few years ago, this was a course shared between the departments. Given the shift to a more integrated School, this course should be included as a shared requirement, regardless of specialization.
2. Add an Option B: Research/Design Paper (32 credits) and corresponding SPCM 788 Master's Research Problems/Projects for the Communication Studies specialization. Given the shift to a more integrated School, this change will help to maintain consistency across both on-campus, Master's specializations. Furthermore, this shift provides an additional program option, which may be a better fit for some students.
3. Revise the graduate degree from the Master of Science (M.S.) to the Master of Arts (M.A.) for both specializations. This change will align the program with peer institutions in communication and journalism programs across the United States. It is highly unusual for graduate programs in communication to offer the M.S. degree. A change of degree type will be more reflective of the work that completed in the division. This change should also improve recruitment to the programs as undergraduate students seeking advanced study in the area are searching for M.A. programs rather than M.S. programs.