



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

Substantive Program Modification Form

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:	M.A.
CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:	Communication and Media Studies
CURRENT SPECIALIZATION:	N/A
CIP CODE:	09.0199
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	School of Communication & Journalism
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	SCJR
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:	Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
BANNER COLLEGE CODE:	3S

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.

Dennis D. Hedge	3/28/2024
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 type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification requiring Board of Regents approval
<i>Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee</i> | |

2. Effective date of change: 2024-2025 Academic Year

3. Program Degree Level:

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category:

Certificate Specialization 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:

6. Is the program being modified associated with a current articulation agreement?

Yes No

a. If yes, will the articulation agreement need to be updated with the partner

institution following the approve of the program change? Please explain: N/A

7. Primary Aspects of the Modification:

Existing Curriculum				Proposed Curriculum (Highlight Changes)			
Pref	Num	Title	Cr Hrs	Pref	Num	Title	Cr Hrs
		Core Requirements	12-15			Core Requirements	12-15
CMST	700	Instructional Communication <i>(Required only for Graduate Teaching Assistants)</i>	3	CMST	700	Instructional Communication <i>(Required only for Graduate Teaching Assistants)</i>	3
CMST	702	Theories of Communication and Media	3	CMST	702	Theories of Communication and Media	3
CMST OR MCOM	720	Professional Communication	3	CMST OR MCOM	720	Professional Communication	3
MCOM	730	Media Law Case Studies		MCOM	730	Media Law Case Studies	
CMST	787	Research in Communication and Media	3	CMST	787	Research in Communication and Media	3
MCOM	710	Cross-Platform Storytelling	3	MCOM	710	Cross-Platform Storytelling	3
OR MCOM	746	Cross-Platform Campaigns		OR MCOM	746	Cross-Platform Campaigns	
		Select one of the following:				Select one of the following:	
		<i>Option A: Thesis</i>				<i>Thesis</i>	
CMST OR MCOM	798	Thesis	6	CMST OR MCOM	798	Thesis	6
		Electives as approved by advisor	9-12			Electives as approved by advisor	9-12
		<i>Option B: Research/Design Paper</i>				<i>Non-Thesis</i>	
CMST OR MCOM	788	Research Problems/Projects	2	CMST OR MCOM	788	Research Problems/Projects	3
		Electives as approved by advisor	15-18			Electives as approved by advisor	12-15
Total number of hours required the major				Total number of hours required the major			
		Option A	30			Thesis	30
		Option B	32			Non-Thesis	30

8. Explanation of the Change:

The SDSU Graduate School has revised SDSU Policy 2:17 Credit Requirements for Graduate Credential Programs. The Graduate School adjusted the language to no longer refer to master’s programs using Option A (Thesis Option), B (Research/Design Paper Option), C (Coursework Only), and D (Coursework Only – Professional Program) but to move forward with Thesis and Non-Thesis options that will require a minimum of 30 credits. The School of Communication and Journalism has requested to change the non-thesis option from 32 credits (Option B) to 30 credits to make the requirements more equitable, whether a student pursues the thesis or non-thesis option. The graduate faculty have also requested to slightly increase the number of required credits for CMST 788 and MCOM 788 from 2 credits to 3 credits to account for the number of hours required of a project associated with the non-thesis option.