The master’s program in mass communication in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Texas State University blends scholarly research, theory and methods with professional mass communication skills and prepares students to function in today’s information-dependent, multicultural and global society.

Students learn to be effective communication leaders in the mass communication field. Courses offered in the program address a variety of cutting-edge topics such as the Internet, multimedia design and production, international communication and Latinos and media issues.

The master of arts in mass communication with concentrations in strategic communication, new media, Latinos and media, and global media is attracting some of the best and brightest students from Texas, other states in the U.S. and other countries around the globe.

Faculty members are active in international, national, regional and state professional associations, author scholarly books and texts, and publish widely in professional and scholarly journals.
Course Work
The master’s program offers the flexibility of a thesis or a non-thesis track. Students on the non-thesis track take a comprehensive written exit examination, and those on the thesis track take a comprehensive oral examination as part of the oral thesis defense.

Recent graduates and working professionals with or without a mass communication background can enroll in the program. Students can take classes on campus in the evenings, on Saturday and in different formats such as hybrid/blended and online.

Thesis Track (33 hours)
This track requires nine hours of core courses, 18 hours of mass communication electives, and six hours of thesis credit.

Non-Thesis Track (36 hours)
This track includes nine hours of core courses and 27 hours of mass communication electives.

Both thesis track and non-thesis track students have the option of taking a maximum of six hours of electives from graduate courses outside the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Admission Policy
All applicants who meet the requirements of the Texas State Graduate College will be considered for admission, but achieving the university’s minimum requirements should not be considered an assurance of admission. In addition to Graduate College admission requirements, students must meet the School of Journalism and Mass Communication’s requirements for unconditional admission, including:

- preferred score of 303 on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) with no less than 153 on the verbal section, 150 on the quantitative section, and 4.5 on the analytical writing section.
- an undergraduate GPA of at least a 3.0 for the last 60 credit hours of work leading to the bachelor’s degree
- for international students, a score of 100 on the iBT with a minimum 26 reading, 26 listening, 26 speaking, 23 writing; or an overall score of 6.5 or higher on IELTS
- two letters of recommendation from individuals competent to assess the applicant’s capacity to pursue graduate education in mass communication. If the applicant is changing the major area, at least one of the two letters must be from a professor in the student’s previous major. If the applicant is transferring from another institution, at least one of the two letters must be from a professor at the student’s previous institution.
- official results of the verbal/quantitative sections of the GRE
- a 500-word statement of purpose for pursuing graduate studies in mass communication at Texas State, including academic and professional goals
- a current résumé with information on educational background, work experience and extracurricular activities

Each applicant must submit the following to the Graduate College:
- the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
- application fee
- one official transcript from each college or university attended
- official results of the verbal/quantitative sections of the GRE
- a 500-word statement of purpose for pursuing graduate studies in mass communication at Texas State, including academic and professional goals
- two letters of recommendation from individuals competent to assess the applicant’s capacity to pursue graduate education in mass communication.

Admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College website at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply for more information.

Financial Assistance
Comprehensive graduate assistantships that include stipends and allow nonresident students to pay resident tuition rates are available to qualified applicants. To apply for an assistantship, visit www.masscomm.txstate.edu/degrees-programs/graduate/assistantship.html.

Scholarships are available to qualified students on a competitive basis through the Graduate College. For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College website at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu and click on Financing Your Graduate Education. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

Contact
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“As a new professional in the area of new media, I wholeheartedly attribute my success to the foundation provided by my graduate studies at Texas State. My newfound knowledge of new media and Internet communications has allowed me to excel in a role where I’m constantly able to bring new ideas and perspectives to my workplace and often find myself enlightening seasoned professionals to the rapidly changing practices and trends in professional communications today — all while having the opportunity to work with nonprofits and make a difference in the lives of others.”

— Jordan Viator MASS COMMUNICATION ALUMNUS

masscomm.txstate.edu/degrees-programs/graduate