The mission of the College of Communication and Fine Arts is to provide excellence in instruction in selected communication, foreign language, and fine arts disciplines along with practical experiences in journalism, mass communication, music, speech communication, classics, modern languages, theatre, visual arts and design.

The college assumes that the richest experiences of human beings arise from their abilities to analyze and interpret intelligently and imaginatively works of art and performances as well as the rhetoric and actions of past and present leaders; to communicate effectively within a variety of contexts using the multiple languages and tools of the communication and fine arts disciplines; to make intelligent decisions in an increasingly complex and diverse, media-driven society; and to work together harmoniously in groups to accomplish established goals.

The mission of the college includes the creation of a climate within and beyond its institutional boundaries that encourages responsible, ethical, and informed expression within the disciplines of which it is composed.

Troy University's College of Communication and Fine Arts is a primary provider of cultural events benefiting the citizens of Troy, Alabama and the region. Accordingly, the college offers such fine arts events as art exhibits; symphony band, jazz band, and choral concerts; and theatrical performances (including musical and children's theatre). In addition, the college offers a variety of symposia and workshops and an annual fine arts season subscription.

As part of ongoing planning and evaluation, the College of Communication and Fine Arts regularly evaluates student learning outcomes for each degree program.

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

The Master of Science Degree in Strategic Communication, offered by the Hall School of Journalism and Communication in Troy University's College of Communication and Fine Arts, is modeled on a futuristic perspective and detours from traditional graduate programs. This is a program that focuses on the leading-edges of communication issues and positions graduates for immediate responses to the new realities facing today's communication industries.

The on-line delivery system of the Strategic Communication program appeals to professionals across various disciplines seeking to add the skills of effective communication and leadership recognized as valued and critical to professional success in all major professions. Prior to completion of the program, the student will successfully complete a capstone strategic communication course.

Upon completion of the degree program, the student will have a thorough knowledge of critical thinking regarding strategic communication through a myriad of courses ranging from communication research to theories of strategic communication, ethics and legal issues in communication to advertising and public relations and online media communication systems. The student will succeed in a theoretically grounded, multifaceted media learning environment.

The following outlines the additional expected program learning outcomes of participants enrolled in the Master of Science Degree in Strategic Communication:

- Knowledge of digital media and multi-media platforms as they pertain to communication and leadership;
- Academic research skills in strategic communication and related scholarly fields;
- Critical thinking;
- Written professional communication skills;
- Professional network formation;
- Knowledge of and the skills to study the emerging communication trends and how online media impact the public and communication industries;
- Develop a framework on how to use the evolving communication models to better serve the public with information;

### Admission Requirements

#### Unconditional Admission

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum overall undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 (4.0 scale) or a 3.0 grade point average on the last 30 semester hours. All hours attempted in the term in which the 30 semester hours were reached will be used to calculate the grade point average.

   AND

2. Have an acceptable score on the appropriate entrance exam [GRE 286 (850 on the old exam) (verbal plus quantitative), MAT 385 or GMAT 380]. Official test score required.

   AND

### Troy Campus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Program</th>
<th>Troy Campus</th>
<th>Phenix City Campus</th>
<th>Dothan Campus</th>
<th>Montgomery Campus</th>
<th>eTROY</th>
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* Please refer to [http://admissions.troy.edu/graduate/academicPrograms](http://admissions.troy.edu/graduate/academicPrograms) for specific program availability by location.
3. Provide an official Troy University Letter of Recommendation that addresses the individual’s potential for success in the Master of Science in Strategic Communication.

AND

4. Provide an official baccalaureate transcript from a regionally accredited college or university.

**Conditional Admission**

Conditional admission may be granted under certain circumstances to applicants who cannot satisfy all unconditional admission requirements.

Students admitted conditionally only because of a low undergraduate grade point average will be cleared of their conditional status if, at the completion of nine semester hours, they have achieved a 3.0 grade point average or greater on all graduate work attempted. Students must clear the conditional admission requirement of a 3.0 average at the completion of nine semester hours, or they will be dropped from the graduate program for one calendar year after which they may petition the Dean of the Graduate School to re-enter.

**Baccalaureate Degree Holders**

Students who have earned a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university, but lack the required grade point average and/or acceptable test score (official test score required) to be admitted unconditionally, may be granted conditional admission for a maximum number of nine semester hours. Students admitted under conditional status may, with the consent of their academic adviser, enroll in as many as nine semester hours during their first semester.

**Transfer Credit**

A maximum of 12 semester hours taken at another regionally accredited college or university, with a grade of “B” or better, can be applied toward the degree. These courses must be comparable to Troy University’s courses and must be approved by the Hall School of Journalism and Communication’s graduate faculty.

**Requirements for Admission to Candidacy**

To be admitted to candidacy, students must have a 3.0 GPA on all work attempted. Unconditionally admitted graduate students must apply for admission to candidacy after completing nine semester hours of requirements as outlined for the degree program. The Admission to Candidacy form must be completed with the first 18 semester hours of the program. If the Admission to Candidacy form is not completed by the conclusion of 18 semester hours, a hold will be placed on the student’s registration until the Admission to Candidacy process is completed. A student will be admitted to candidacy the term following completion of 12 semester hours.

**Degree Requirements**

Successful completion of the courses listed below with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or better and successful completion of the required comprehensive examination is necessary to fulfill requirements for the degree. If a student makes a “D” or “F” in a core or concentration course, the course must be retaken. If the student earns a “D” or “F” in an elective course, the course may be retaken, or another elective course taken in its place. A “B” or better must be earned in the capstone course, COM 6699, and the research course, COM 6691.

**Coursework: (30 Semester Hours)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>COM 6600</td>
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<td>Communication and Influence</td>
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<td>Strategic Communication Theories</td>
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TROY UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION
Graduate Degree Plan and Progress Record
30 Semester-Hour Program

Name: ____________________________  Student ID#: ____________________________  Campus: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________  Email: ____________________________

Copy of transcript must be attached. May not use "Student Academic Credits" or "Academic Evaluation" report.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:
1. GRE, or equivalent exam, test scores admitted
2. Official transcript of all academic work
3. Unconditional Admission
4. 30 Semester hours of credit
5. Meet residency requirements
6. No more than two grades below "B"
7. Overall GPA of 3.0
8. Completion of research requirement with a "B" or better
9. All credit earned within 8 years of graduation
10. Degree plan filed
11. Completion of Capstone course with a "B" or better
12. Intent to Graduate filed

REQUIRED CORE COURSES (30 Semester Hours)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>COURSE NO.</th>
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ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:
☐ 1. One-term limit to have transcript(s) and test scores on file
☐ 2. Temporary, Conditional, and Unconditional Admission
☐ 3. Availability of faculty for academic advising
☐ 4. Petition for transfer credit once unconditionally admitted
☐ 5. Class attendance
☐ 6. Drop and Withdrawal procedures; deadlines and consequences
☐ 7. Petition for an incomplete grade
☐ 8. Student participation in course and program evaluation
☐ 9. Other ____________________________

ADMISSION STATUS:

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<tr>
<td>Test Scores</td>
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</table>

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: I have read the current year's Graduate Catalog and acknowledge the contents and requirements of the above degree. I have received academic advising for my Faculty Adviser, and I file my degree plan.

Student’s Signature: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________

Approved: ____________________________  Chair/Associate Dean or Dean  Date: ____________________________

Faculty Adviser: ____________________________  Date: ____________________________

Approved: ____________________________  Associate Dean or Dean, Graduate School  Date: ____________________________