

Knowledge and Skill

The Communication Department prepares students for a career in journalism, public relations, corporate communications or graduate school studies. Students graduating from this program develop a variety of skills and knowledge.

Students will:

- Develop writing and speaking skills
- Become well-informed citizens
- Learn to think outside of the box
- Develop an interest and appreciation for the importance of the media
- Learn to respect the First Amendment and its implications in a democratic society
- Become flexible and creative
- Experience the real world of the media, corporate public relations, and nonprofit communication

Choose UST

For information on admission to the University of St. Thomas, contact the Office of Admissions at 713-525-3500 or visit our Web site at www.stthom.edu/admissions.

If you are interested in learning more about the Communication Department, contact:

Dr. Robin Williamson robinw@stthom.edu 713-525-2167

The University

The University of St. Thomas is truly a Shining Star in the heart of Houston. At UST 85% of our students say they would choose us again if they could start their college career over.*

- Range of choices: Degree programs focused on business, sciences, liberal arts and education at the undergraduate and graduate levels
- Specialty areas: High acceptance rate in medical and dental schools for Pre-med and Pre-dental students
- Personal instruction: Average class size of 18
- Personal approach: Faculty know students by name
- Nationally ranked: Ranked 27th among universities offering master's degrees in the Western region by the *U.S.News & World Report* 2011 edition of "America's Best Colleges"
- Nationally ranked: Ranked by The Princeton Review as Best in the West in its 2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region online profile found at www.princetonreview.com
- The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College: Named as one of 21 top Catholic universities by the Cardinal Newman Society for the second time
- Study abroad: Ranked for the third year in a row as one of the top 20 master's schools in the U.S. for Study Abroad programs according to a report by the Institute of International Educational Exchange
- Catholic tradition: Houston's only Catholic university, founded by the Basilian Fathers in 1947

^{*} According to the 2009 National Survey of Student Engagement: www.nsse.iub.edu.



Educating Leaders of Faith and Character

3800 Montrose Blvd. Houston, TX 77006 www.stthom.edu

The University of St. Thomas is a private institution committed to the liberal arts and to the religious, ethical and intellectual tradition of Catholic higher education.

Communication



UNIVERSITY ST. THOMAS

Educating Leaders of Faith and Character



College Initiative Begins Here

Communication

The Communication Department at the University of St. Thomas prepares students for careers in journalism, public relations, broadcasting, or further studies in graduate school. UST's approach is both theoretical and professional, combining the theories of communication with practical application through coursework, internships and extracurricular activities.

"I feel prepared for a career in television production after my education at UST. My classes were small and my professors could work with me individually. They know my strengths and weaknesses and that helped me to become a better writer and communicator."

Laura Avila, 2008 Graduate

Degree Plans

Students may complete either an academic major or minor in Communication. The major requires 36 credit hours of Communication coursework to receive a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. Students majoring in Communication may pursue one of three concentrations:

- Journalism/Public Relations
- Radio/TV
- Communication Studies

Students may also pursue a minor in Communication, requiring completion of 18 credit hours of coursework in the Communication Department. In addition, there are opportunities for joint majors as follows:

Joint Majors with Communication

- Drama
- English
- Environmental Studies
- International Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Spanish

A complete list of coursework requirements for Communication can be found at the UST web site: www.stthom.edu/communication.

Service Learning

Students have opportunities for community service as well as internships that provide practical work experience. The purpose of service learning is to advocate the importance

of civic responsibility. Similar to internships, service learning provides the student with a real world experience where they can apply their theoretical learning and classroom experience to daily work life situations.

Innocence Investigations:

This course provides a hands-on opportunity to learn about investigative journalism. UST is affiliated with a nonprofit organization dedicated to overturning convictions of men and women wrongfully imprisoned in the state of Texas.

Students receive exposure to the legal system through interviewing witnesses, searching public records, reviewing case files and public

information requests, and reading court transcripts. The course offers students meaningful work and trains them in skills they will need as journalists. It is taught by a professor who is also an attorney.

Business

TV broadcasting:

Courses in television production, video editing, and broadcast programming provide students with studio practice as well as theoretical background needed in the broadcast field. Studio practice is provided in the producing and directing of programs for television. Coursework is taught by a professor who is a television broadcaster in Houston.

Persuasion & Argumentation:

Students work with a nonprofit organization such as Catholic Charities using persuasive techniques learned in the classroom. These techniques are used to assist the organization in promoting awareness of social issues. As an example, one group of students worked with a public elementary school and created a special program entitled "Project Awareness: The Arab World." The objective was to dispel myths about the Middle East while promoting cultural awareness.

Internships

Students are required to participate in internships while pursuing a Communication degree. Many media, nonprofit and corporate organizations in Houston have participated in this program, including:

- Fox 26
- Univision
- Telemundo
- Television stations 2, 11 and 13
- · Clear Channel radio stations
- Intuit
- Houston Astros
- Houston Dynamo
- Shell Oil
- Children's Museum



Arts & Sciences • Education •

Theology

Centers for Excellence