The Master of Arts in Communication with a Concentration in Communication Studies program is designed for students with a general interest in the study of human communication. It is intended primarily for students preparing for doctoral study in communication, or desiring in-depth study of research and analytical skills (a highly desired skill set by employers). The degree requires minimum 30 credits.

**Two required courses: (6 cr)**

- COM 7000: Introduction to M.A. Studies in Communication (3 cr) _________
- COM 7410: Communication Theory (3 cr) _________

**Three research methods courses (9 cr):**

- **Two required methods courses:**
  - COM 7260: Quantitative Research Methods for Communication (3 cr) _________
  - COM 7360: Qualitative Research Methods for Communication (3 cr) _________

- **One additional methods course:**
  - COM 6530: Audience Measurement and Survey Techniques (3 cr) _________
  - COM 7250: Rhetorical Criticism (3 cr) _________
  - COM 7340: Interviewing (3 cr) _________
  - COM 7365: Ethnographic Methods for Communication Research (3 cr) _________
  - COM 7580: Content Analysis (3 cr) _________

**One of the following capstone plan options:**

- **Plan A: Thesis**
  - COM 8999: Master’s Thesis Research and Direction (6 cr)
    - *Thesis credits are distributed across two or three semesters.*
  - Any three courses from the department as electives. (9 cr)

- **Plan B: Essay**
  - COM 7999: Master’s Essay Direction (3 cr)
    - *Thesis credits are distributed across two or three semesters.*
  - Any four courses from the department as electives (12 cr)

- **Plan C: Coursework Only**
  - Any five courses from the department as electives (15 cr)

**Minimum total credits: 30**