Admission Requirements

For applicants seeking a graduate assistantship:

- An undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0/4.0 is required (a 3.3/4.0 GPA is recommended).
- Applicants must submit GRE. A combined verbal score (500) and quantitative score (500) of at least 1000 is recommended.
- An undergraduate major or minor in communication is preferred. Students with related majors are also considered.
- Applicants should have academic and professional goals compatible with the program.
- Writing sample (academic writing preferred)
- International students should achieve a minimum score of 580 (paper-based)-237 (Computer-based)-92 (Internet-based) on the TOEFL exam.
- Three letters of recommendation from those in a position to evaluate academic performance and graduate potential are required. Two letters must be from current or former professors
- Current CV or resume

For applicants not seeking an assistantship:

- An undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0/4.0 is required (a 3.3/4.0 GPA is recommended).
- Taking the GRE is preferred but not required.
- An undergraduate major or minor in communication is preferred. Students with related majors are also considered.
- Applicants should have academic goals and professional goals compatible with the program.
- Writing sample
- International Students should achieve a minimum score of 580 (paper-based)-237 (Computer-based)-92 (Internet-based) on the TOEFL exam.
- Three letters of recommendation from those in a position to evaluate academic performance and graduate potential are required. At least one must be from a current or former professor.
- Current CV or resume

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1910, today Kent State University's eight-campus system is among the largest regional systems in the country and serves both the development of a true living/learning approach at the Kent Campus and the regional needs on seven other campuses throughout Northeast Ohio.

Kent State has become an engine for economic, cultural and workforce development locally and internationally as one of the premiere Ohio universities. Kent State is ranked among the nation's 77 public research universities demonstrating high-research activity by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Times Higher Education, a London-based higher education magazine, ranked Kent State as one of the top 200 universities in the world in 2010. Kent State was the only public research university in Northeast Ohio to be awarded the honor and one of only four in the state of Ohio to make the list.

Review of assistantship applications begins January 15 for Fall semester and November 15 for Spring semester.

The School of Communication Studies also participates in an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program housed within the College of Communication and Information which consists of four schools: Communication Studies, Journalism and Mass Communication Visual Communication Design, and Library and Information Science.

Scan for more information about the Masters program.

School of Communication Studies — February 2011
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Master of Arts in INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

Concentration offered by the School of Communication Studies

Communicating and Growing as a School at Kent State University since 1932

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Master of Arts
Interpersonal Communication Concentration

The Master of Arts in the School of Communication Studies is a 32-credit degree with four options for graduation: thesis, coursework only, project, or an internship. Full-time students normally take 2 to 2.5 years to complete their degree.

Why Interpersonal Communication?

Interpersonal Communication is one of the longest-standing concentrations in the School of Communication Studies, with students choosing to study interpersonal dynamics for over 30 years at Kent State University.

Regardless of the career, a valuable skill is the ability to listen and communicate effectively with others. Interpersonal communication majors will develop refined abilities to assess verbal and nonverbal messages, evaluate intended and unintended effects of messages, interpret diverse meaning, and produce culturally sensitive messages. Interpersonal Communication majors will also develop an enhanced capability to make use of new communication technologies available for interaction.

The most recent job outlook statistics from the National Association for Colleges and Employers rank effective communication skills as the most important job characteristic employers consider when making hiring decisions, ranking above even technical skills.

Design a program of study to fit your career goals in Interpersonal Communication

65670 Interpersonal Communication
Survey of recent theoretical developments and research in interpersonal communication, including relationship development, interaction, interpersonal traits, compliance, conversational analysis, and research methods.

65673 Family Communication
Examines theory and research about the interactions among individuals in families, between families and extern entities, and work-life balance issues from a family communication perspective.

65675 Communication, Uncertainty, & Privacy Management
Examines theory and research about disclosure and uncertainty issues in communication in health contexts, organizational contexts, and contexts involving human interaction occurring through technology.

65677 Relational Communication
Examines theory and research about the interactions among individuals in personal relationships. Subtopics of the course include communication and the development, maintenance, and dissolution of personal relationships, relationships across the life span, individual differences in relationships, and relational processes, qualities, and outcomes.

65679 Comm. Across the Lifespan
Examines research about communication across the lifespan, including issues related to communication and cognition, communicative uses of language, communication in close relationships, and differences in media uses and effects.

65683 Intergroup Communication
Examines theory and research of communication between groups of individuals, including issues of discrimination, language, identity, social status, religion, and demographics.

65685 Communication & Cognition
Explores theory and research findings related to message production, interpersonal communication, individual differences in adaptive ability, persuasion, political communication, media processing, and media effects.

66501 Interpersonal Comm & Health
Studies the interpersonal communication processes that influence and/or are influenced by health and health contexts.

65665 Personal & Mediated Commm.
Explores the interface of interpersonal and mediated communication in everyday life. Includes topics such as parasocial interaction, TV co-viewing, cell phones and texting, and computer-mediated relationships.

Interpersonal Faculty Research Interests & Experience

Jeffrey T. Child, Ph.D., North Dakota State University (jchild@kent.edu). Privacy management; Family/Relational Communication; New communication technologies; Computer-Mediated communication; Quantitative research methods; Communication Education

Rebecca J. Cline, Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University (rcline14@kent.edu). Social support and stigma; Communication in environmental disasters, Rx drug advertising, Parent-child communication during pediatric cancer treatment.

Nichole Egbert, Ph.D., University of Georgia (negbert@kent.edu). Caregiving and social support; Health literacy; Religion and spirituality in health; Relational communication.

Mei-Chen Lin, Ph.D., University of Kansas (mlin@kent.edu). Communication and aging; Intercultural communication; Intergenerational communication across cultures; Communication across life-span; Group dynamics.

Janet Meyer, Ph.D., University of Michigan (jrmeyer@kent.edu). Communication and cognition; Message production; Persuasion; Regretted messages; Communication theory

Want to Know More? Contact or Visit Us
E-mail: comm@kent.edu Phone: (330) 672-2659 Taylor Hall Room 135
Kent State University Kent, Ohio 44242-0001

Learn more about the Communication Studies faculty, student organizations, and other degree programs available through the School of Communication Studies at:
www.kent.edu/comm