Exploring the World of Organizational Communication

- Learn how to communicate tailored organizational messages effectively through oral, written, and mediated channels.
- Acquire the ability to craft messages for diverse organizational constituencies, including coworkers, managers, and multiple stakeholders.
- Develop interaction skills that increase effective team and group functioning.
- Communicate messages tailored to different organizational cultures, situations, and settings.
- Use communication as a catalyst for and response to organizational change.

The organizational communication major provides students the opportunity to study organizational culture and the ways in which communication occurs in organizations. An organizational communication major examines such issues as communication and effective training, development and consulting, presentational and interviewing skills, organizational leadership, and small group and team interaction skills. Major coursework also explores the latest technological developments in organizational communication, including teleconferencing, telecommuting, and social networking.

This is an excellent major for students interested in nonprofit organizations, business management, organizational leadership, sales, marketing, human resources, event planning, and organizational training and development.

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, ranked Kent State as one of the top 200 universities in the world in for two consecutive years in 2010 and 2011.

Kent State was also noted in the first-tier list of Best National Universities in the 2012 edition of Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report, and was recently ranked among the top 500 universities according to the 2011 Academic Ranking of World Universities.
Organizational Communication Major

Degree Requirements:

**Communication Studies Core**
- 15000 Intro. to Human Communication
- 20000 Foundations of Communication
- 25902 Communication Theory
- 30000 Communication Research Methods
- 46091 Senior Seminar

**Complete these College of Communication and Information (CCI) Courses**
- 14001 Visual Design Literacy
- 20001 Media, Power and Culture OR
- 20003 Introduction to Mass Communication
- 30010 Information Fluency in the Workplace
- 35600 Communication in Small Groups and Teams
- 45865 Organizational Communication Training and Development

**Complete One Comm. Diversity Course**
- 26000 Criticism of Public Discourse
- 35852 Intercultural Communication
- 35912 Gender and Communication

**Complete the Following Required Organizational Communication Courses:**
- 25863, 35600, 35864, and 45865.

**Complete any 15 Credits of Comm. Electives.**

Organizational Communication Classes

**25863 Business and Professional Communication**
Explores the fundamentals of public and conference speaking, conducting meetings, electronic presentations, interviewing, and interpersonal relations as applied to business and organizational settings.

**35600 Communication in Small Groups and Teams**
Focuses on application and practice of group communication skills and techniques applied to goal-oriented small group situations. The course explores communication theory and research about small groups and teams, relating in groups and teams, managing conflict in groups and teams, leadership in groups and teams, and problem-solving skills in groups and teams.

**35864 Organizational Communication**
Examines the application of communication theory to organizational settings. Exploration of communication structures, processes, and methods in organizations. Explores organizational writing, including business letters, memos, and brochures.

**45865 Organizational Communication Training and Development**
Exploration of the theory and application of diagnosing communication problems in an organization and the intervention process. Students will conduct a one-hour training session in an organization.

Sample Communication Electives (15 Credits)
- Interviewing
- Argumentation
- Communication & Conflict
- Communication Technologies and Human Interaction
- High Impact Professional Speaking
- Family Communication
- Relational Communication
- Communication Across the Life Span
- Communication in Health Care
- Health Communication and Media
- Freedom of Speech

Why Study Organizational Communication?

Almost every college graduate will go to work for an organization. Thus, knowledge of and training in effective organizational communication skills and practices are relevant to a variety of careers and an excellent major.

Organizational communication students learn both practical skills, such as creating effective memos, newsletters, brochures, and organizational presentations, as well as developing a deeper understanding of organizational theory and research. An organizational communication degree trains students in how to adapt interaction to evolving organizational interests, needs, desires, and concerns.

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.

A degree in organizational communication prepares students to work more effectively in a wide range of contexts and to meet industry demands with more advanced communication training.

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

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

The Organizational Communication Major is a 121-credit degree with a minimum 2.25 GPA required in the major and a 2.0 cumulative GPA required for graduation.