Political Communication

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Website: http://www.jmu.edu/commstudies/pc_minor.shtml

The program in political communication is designed for those students wishing to supplement their major programs with an emphasis on communication skills, knowledge and abilities specifically relevant to participation in political environments. Students must complete a core set of courses, an internship in the field of political communication and a selection of electives.

All political communication minors are required to take a PCOM internship in the Department of Political Science or the Department of Communication Studies. Before enrolling for a PCOM internship, students should have attained junior status, completed the PCOM core requirements and taken at least one upper level PCOM course. Some academic units may have additional prerequisites for their internship course. All SCOM majors with a minor in PCOM are required to take SCOM 495 for their PCOM internship requirement (and to have met the prerequisites for this course). POSC, INTA and PPA majors minoring in PCOM must complete POSC 493 to fulfill the internship requirement. All other majors may take either POSC 493 or SCOM 318 as a means of satisfying their internship. Before pursuing any internship, students must consult with the PCOM coordinator to ensure that the internship is suitable for the minor.

For majors in SCOM who minor in PCOM, a maximum of six credits of course work from the minor can be counted toward the requirements for the major. For SMAD majors, only three credits from the minor may be counted toward the major.

There is no limit on double counting between the POSC major and the PCOM minor. All students must complete 25-26 credit hours for the minor.

Required Courses Credit Hours
POSC 225. U.S. Government 4
POSC/SCOM/SMAD 472. Media and Politics \(^1\) 3
SCOM 353. American Political Culture and Communication 3
Choose one of the following: 3–4
- POSC, PPA and INTA majors:
  - POSC 493. Internship (4 credits)
  - SCOM majors:
    - SCOM 495. Internship (3 credits)
  - Non-POSC and Non-SCOM majors:
    - POSC 493. Internship (4 credits)
    - SCOM 318. Practicum in Communication Studies (4 credits)

Choose one of the following: \(^2\)
- POSC 365. American Political Campaigning
- POSC 368. Parties and Elections
- SCOM 352. Communication and Social Movements
- SCOM 453. Political Campaign Communication

1 Course has one or more prerequisites.
2 A course to be determined in consultation with the nonprofit studies adviser.

Elective 2 3

Choose two of the following: 6
- POSC 300. Film and Politics
- POSC 362. Political Behavior
- POSC 368. Interest Groups and Public Policy
- POSC 382. The Role of Religion in American Politics
- POSC 383. Women and Politics
- POSC 384. Minority Group Politics
- POSC 385. The U.S. Congress
- SCOM 342. Argument and Advocacy
- SCOM 346. Free Speech in America
- SCOM 354. Communication, Environment and Environmentalism
- SCOM/WRIT/WGS 420. Feminist Rhetoric
- SCOM 431. Legal Communication

Robotics

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The cross disciplinary minor in robotics is intended to offer STEM majors and students with an interest in science and technology a fundamental understanding of scientific and technical issues involved in the design, construction and application of robots.

Educational Goals
- Students will have a basic understanding of robot control systems, sensors, motion, circuits and the overall design of robots.
- Students will be able to design and develop autonomous robots and robot control software.
- Students will develop an understanding of how advances in robotics technology can be used in diverse real-life applications.
- Students will learn to work on a cross disciplinary team developing a technical product.

Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Preparation 1</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose one of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>CS 139. Programming Fundamentals</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 149. Programming Fundamentals (Accelerated)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISAT 252. Programming and Problem Solving 1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose one of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 232 or 235. Calculus I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISAT 151. Topics in Applied Calculus in ISAT</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose one of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISCI 101 and 104. Physics, Chemistry and the Human Experience 3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHYS 240 + Lab. University Physics I (with any Physics Lab)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISAT 152. Topics in Applied Physics in ISAT</td>
<td>3</td>
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Core Course

Choose one of the following: 3
- CS 394. Introduction to Autonomous Robotics
- PHYS 386. Robots: Structure and Theory

Electives 4
Choose at least six credits from the following: 6-8
- CS/ISAT 344. Intelligent Systems
- CS 444. Artificial Intelligence
- ISAT 331. Automation in Manufacturing
- MATH 238. Linear Algebra with Differential Equations
- MATH 248. Numerical Methods
- MATH 341. Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos
- PHYS 371. Introduction to Digital Electronics
- PHYS 372. Microcontrollers and Their Applications

1 472L will not count toward this requirement.
2 If both POSC 365 and POSC 368 are taken, one may be counted as an elective.
3 If both SCOM 352 and SCOM 453 are taken, one may be counted as an elective.