Non-major Graduate Courses

The following academic units do not offer graduate major programs. However, they offer graduate courses which are designed to broaden a student's knowledge and are appropriate for use as electives for those pursuing the Master of Education degree in a specific discipline. Interested students should consult directly with the academic unit involved.

Center for Geographic Information Science

Dr. Steven Frysinger, Director
Phone: (540) 568-2710
E-mail: frysinsp@jmu.edu

Course Offering

GEOG 501. Topics in Geography.
1-3 credits.
A course providing study of specific topics in geography or workshop experiences relating to recent developments in the teaching of geography. May be repeated for credit as course content changes.

Center for Economic Education

Dr. William C. Wood, Director
Phone: (540) 568-3243
E-mail: woodwc@jmu.edu

Course Offering

ECON 501. Workshop in Economics.
3 credits. Normally offered in summer session. See e-campus.
Provides detailed study of economics topics. Designed primarily for elementary and secondary teachers. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. May be repeated for credit when content is different.
Communication Studies

Dr. William Kimsey, Interim Director
Phone: (540) 568-6496
E-mail: kimseywd@jmu.edu

Course Offering

SCOM 500. Introduction to Advocacy Studies.
3 credits.
A survey of advocacy inquiry as a practice of communication by a number of professional and academic fields and disciplines. Students will examine and debate important theoretical, ideological, ethical and moral implications of advocacy practiced in politically, socially and culturally diverse societies. Emphasis will be placed on a multi-disciplinary approach to advocacy studies.

3 credits.
This course overviews health and environmental communication. It surveys health/risk communication perspectives, as well as environmental quality and public health issues. Students will develop an in-depth knowledge of these perspectives to grasp how extant theory informs health and environmental communication research and advocacy practices. Students will evaluate this body of research, with far-reaching implications for quality of life levels, especially among disenfranchised individuals.

SCOM 502. Introduction to Teaching Fundamental Human Communication.
3 credits.
This course introduces students to the issues, methods and materials for teaching communication in the setting of higher education. Students will examine pedagogical and communication theory, analyze research in communication education/instructional communication, study learning theories and styles, and work to develop a competency in teaching communication skills and concepts to others. This course is required only of all those awarded Assistantships.

SCOM 520. Interpersonal Communication as Advocacy.
3 credits.
This course explores theoretical approaches to interpersonal communication as advocacy. After reviewing theory and research related to interpersonal message strategies and designs, students will examine how interpersonal communication functions as advocacy in environmental, health and relational contexts. Students will also discuss the ethics of interpersonal advocacy.

SCOM 540. Seminar in Communication Theory.
3 credits.
A survey of major communication theories. Historicizes the major theoretical perspectives and debates in Communication Studies. Focuses on application of communication theory toward advocacy.

SCOM 541. Seminar in Rhetorical Theory and Advocacy.
3 credits.
A survey of classical, modern and contemporary theories of rhetoric. The course examines the historical circumstances, situated practices of advocacy, and mediums of delivery that have influenced differing iterations of rhetorical theory; its influence upon historical and contemporary practices of advocacy; and the invention, arrangement and styles of theoretical disputes related to rhetorical theory.
3 credits.  
Examines organizational communication theory and research in applied organizational contexts using a case study approach. Attends to analysis of small group and organizational decision making processes, team functioning, and strategic communication among diverse stakeholders. Focus on organizational communication practice in non-profit advocacy groups.

3 credits.  
This course traces the history of environmental communication. It examines the symbolic and cultural dimensions of conceptions of nature and environment; surveys topics, theories and methods associated with the study of environmental communication; and explores relationships between environmental and health communication. Students will understand and appreciate how extant theory informs health and environmental communication research, community-based interventions, and advocacy practices.

SCOM 610. Strategic Communication.  
3 credits.  
An advanced seminar focusing on persuasion theory and communication methodology relevant to strategic communication in diverse cultural settings. Emphasis upon message analysis in cross-cultural contexts at various communication levels including interpersonal, small group, organizational, and public. Consideration of communication strategies and tactics embedded in adversarial belief systems. This seminar will use lecture-discussion, case studies, guest speakers, and team projects.

SCOM 620. Advocacy Communication Management.  
3 credits.  
This seminar examines principles, methods, theory, practices, and cases central to the development and strategic management of communication advocacy campaigns. Focus is on designing, planning, implementing, and evaluating ethical persuasive communication programs, with emphasis on behavioral change as well as mutual understanding and support. Best professional practices, including case studies, will be utilized to extract and articulate pragmatic lessons.

SCOM 630. Culture and Conflict Resolution.  
3 credits.  
The course explores the relations between culture and conflict that emerge when competing worldviews become conflicted regarding power, control, and influence. Emphasis is on communication and conflict resolution theory with application to skill competencies required for facilitation, negotiation, and mediation. Integration of cross-cultural reconstruction teams into distress communities considered.

SCOM 680. Reading and Research.  
3 credits.  
Opportunity for directed reading and research in areas of professional interest and goals. Must be done in a declared field of study. Investigation research and reporting.  
Prerequisite: Permission of director.

SCOM 720. Practicum in Influence Campaigns.  
6 credits.  
This capstone practicum provides opportunity for the integration and pragmatic application of relevant theory, research and methods in diverse settings. Prior experiential learning may be considered. A research paper synthesizing knowledge from both prior studies and field experience along with a formal presentation developed under faculty direction are required. Prerequisites: Recommendation of the instructor and 15 hours of relevant courses.
Continued Enrollment and Continuing Education

The Graduate School

Course Offering

GRAD 597. Continuance.
1 credit.
To remain in good standing in their program, all graduate students must maintain continuous enrollment each semester in their program from entry until graduation. This course allows those students who are not intending to register for any other courses during the current semester to continue in their program in good standing. Course may be repeated as needed.

CE 650. Graduate Internship.
1-5 credits.
Master's level part-time or full-time internship (as indicated through the variable credit option) with primary supervision provided by clinical faculty/employers in the field. Prerequisites: Completion of all course work and/or permission of the instructor.

CE 850. Professional Internship.
1-5 credits.
Doctoral level part-time or full-time internship (as indicated through variable credit option) with primary supervision provided by clinical faculty/employers in the field.

Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services

Emily Akerson, Associate Director
Phone: (540) 568-6120
E-mail: akersoek@jmu.edu

Course Offering

HHS 590. Special Topics in Health and Human Services.
0-4 credits.
This course involves topics of special interest in the area of health and human services but is open to all students. The focus of specific courses is identified for specific offerings. Courses are offered based on faculty and student interests.
Mathematics

Dr. David Carothers, Head
Phone: (540) 568-6184
E-mail: carothdc@jmu.edu

Course Offering

MATH 501. Workshop in Mathematics.
1-3 credits.
Topics in modern elementary mathematics which are of interest primarily to intermediate and secondary mathematics teachers. May not be used to satisfy minor requirements in mathematics. May be repeated for credit when course content changes.

MATH 522. Statistics for Researchers.
3 credits.
Introduction to statistics and statistical methods, including descriptive techniques, normal distribution, tests of hypotheses, confidence intervals, regression and analysis of variance. Does not satisfy requirements for the minor in mathematics of the Master of Education degree.

MATH 585. Selected Topics I.
3 credits.
Study of selected topics not otherwise covered in the regular offerings of the department. May be repeated for credit when course content changes.

Physics

Dr. C. Steven Whisnant, Head
Phone: (540) 568-6338
E-mail: whisnacs@jmu.edu

Course Offering

PHYS 501. Workshop in Physics.
1-3 credits.
Concentrated study in particular areas of physics.

PHYS 510. Topics in Theoretical Physics.
3 credits.
Study at an advanced level of a specific area of theoretical physics (such as advanced mechanics, electromodynamics, quantum mechanics or mathematical physics). Topics will be selected according to student needs and interests, and staff availability. May be repeated for up to nine credits.

PHYS 515. Topics in Experimental Physics.
3 credits.
Study at an advanced level of a specific area of experimental physics (such as optics, electronics or nuclear physics). Topics will be selected according to student needs and interests and staff availability. May be repeated for up to nine credits.
Science

Course Offering

3 credits.
A course providing workshop experiences relating to recent developments in the teaching of science in the schools. Course title will vary with discipline. Course may be repeated when content changes and may only be used by departments which do not have graduate-level science offerings. This course may not be used as transfer credit.

Sociology and Anthropology

Dr. Timothy Carter, Department Head
Phone: (540) 568-6213
E-mail: cartertj@jmu.edu

Course Offering

ANTH 500. Anthropological Research.
3 credits.
This course studies techniques and procedures of anthropological field research and data interpretation. Each student participates in research in progress under direct professional supervision.

ANTH 544. Graduate Work in Field Archaeology.
3-8 credits.
This course is directed at providing graduate level students with the opportunity to apply advanced procedures of archaeology in a field situation. Efforts will be on the development and implementation of archaeological research designs. Historic and prehistoric interests are accommodated.

4 credits.
This course is a survey of the factors affecting the preservation of archaeological sites and artifacts before, during and after excavation. Field and laboratory situations will offer students immediate practical experience.

SOCI 680. Reading and Research.
3 credits.
Opportunity is offered for reading and research in the areas of sociology which are of special interest to the student. Prerequisite: Approval of department head.
Theatre

William J. Buck, Director
Phone: (540) 568-6342
E-mail: buckwj@jmu.edu

Course Offering

THEA 501. Teachers' Workshop in Theatre.
3 credits. Offered summer.
An intensive study of the teaching and practice of theatre, specifically in intermediate and secondary schools. Opportunities for practical work within summer productions offered in the school.

3 credits.
Studies of topics in academic and professional theatre. Emphasis on research methods unique to theatre studies. Consideration of topics in both theoretical and practical aspects of theatre.

3 credits.
Study and analysis of the American theatre experience as presented in the dramatic literature of the country. Emphasis on basic American themes. Consideration of playwrights and performers significant to the development of American theatre.

THEA 588. Experimental Theatre.
3 credits.
Study of avant-garde theatre. Emphasis on motivating and guiding advanced students to a higher degree of aesthetic appreciation. Consideration of the relationship of experimental theatre to the traditional theatre. 
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.