2015-2016 Admission Requirements

Master of Arts in Communication Studies

Following are the simple steps to apply for graduate study in Communication Studies at the University of Denver. If you have any questions about the process, please contact the Office of Graduate Studies.

Apply Online / Application Deadlines

- Applications for graduate study at the University of Denver must be submitted online. 
  Apply online
- All online materials must be received, and all supplemental materials including transcripts must be on file in the Office of Graduate Studies, by the program’s stated deadline: December 15, for admission and financial aid consideration for fall quarter; March 15, for the following winter quarter; June 15, for the following spring quarter. After the priority deadlines, applications may be considered on a rolling basis.
- A $65 non-refundable application fee is required for an application to be processed. Application fee waivers are available for McNair Scholars.

Course and Degree Prerequisites and Requirements

- For the MA program, applicants must have a bachelor’s degree in communication or a related field. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in the highest earned degree at the time of matriculation is required. Applicants must earn and submit proof of earning the equivalent of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution prior to beginning graduate coursework at DU.

Transcripts

- Applicants are required to submit an official transcript from each post-secondary institution they have attended, or are presently attending, where two quarter hours (or one semester hour) or more were completed including study abroad and college coursework completed in high school.
- The applicant is responsible for obtaining all transcripts. Applicants who have earned a degree outside the U.S. must submit transcripts accompanied by certified English translations, if not normally issued in English. DU students and alumni do not need to provide DU transcripts.
- Official study abroad transcripts are required unless the course titles, grades and credit earned abroad appear on another transcript. Transcripts from outside of the U.S. are evaluated by the Office of International Student Admission. This process can take three to four weeks and must be complete by the program’s stated deadline. Therefore, applicants
with a degree from outside of the U.S. are encouraged to apply early. Applicants educated outside the U.S. are encouraged to contact the Office of Graduate Studies for assistance regarding transcript-related materials.

- The University of Denver will consider electronic transcripts official from a domestic institution provided by the following approved agencies: Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS); Docufide/Parchment; National Student Clearinghouse; Naviance; Royall and Company; and, Scrip-Safe.
- Paper transcripts should be sent to the following address:
  University of Denver
  Office of Graduate Studies
  Mary Reed Building, Room 5
  2199 S. University Blvd.
  Denver, CO 80208-4802

Electronic transcripts should be sent to gradinfo@du.edu.

Language Proficiency

- Official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) are required of all graduate applicants, regardless of citizenship status, whose native language is not English or who have been educated in countries where English is not the native language. Applications will not be processed until the required TOEFL or IELTS score is received. The TOEFL and IELTS scores are valid for two years from the test date. The minimum TOEFL score accepted by the Communications Studies programs is 88 (iBT) or 570 (paper-based). The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842. Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) must demonstrate fluency in spoken English by scoring a 26 on the TOEFL speaking section or 8.0 on the IELTS speaking section. Please see the Graduate Policy Manual for complete English language proficiency requirements.
- Applicants may be exempted from English proficiency test requirements if by the time of matriculation they have earned a post-secondary degree from a formally-recognized/accredited university where the language of instruction and examination is English. Such applicants may be exempt from the TOEFL/IELTS requirement but not from other standardized graduate entrance examinations. There are no exemptions for graduate teaching assistants.
- Students whose native language is not English and who are required to submit TOEFL/IELTS scores will be assessed by the University of Denver English Language Center (ELC) prior to matriculation.
Test Scores
- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required. The minimum combined score required by the Communication Studies program is 286/800 on the verbal and quantitative sections. Scores must be received directly from the appropriate testing agency by the program’s stated deadline. DU’s ETS Institution Code is 4842.

Essay
- Applicants must submit a two- to four-page essay indicating area of emphasis(s), motivation for applying, professional and personal goals, and any additional information that will inform the faculty of your capability to pursue graduate-level work. The essay should be submitted via upload through the online application process.

Resume / C.V.
- A resume or C.V. is required. This should include work experience, research, and/or volunteer work. The resume or C.V. should be submitted via upload through the online application process.

Recommendation Letters
- Three letters of recommendation are required. Letters should be solicited and uploaded by recommenders through the online application system. Requests for letters should be sent to recommenders well in advance so the letters are on file by the application deadline.

Financial Support
- To be considered for financial support, domestic applicants should apply early and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority deadline; February 15. Information about financial aid can be found on the Office of Financial Aid website Office of Financial Aid website. International students are not eligible for federal financial aid. Some programs provide competitive awards in the form of fellowships and/or assistantships. All applicants are automatically considered for these awards / applicants that indicate an interest will be considered for these awards. Contact your academic program for more information.

Application Status
- We encourage you to be actively engaged in the admission process. You can check your application status online at PioneerWeb. Applicants will receive login information post application submission.
Contact Information
Mail official transcripts and any supplemental admission materials not submitted with the online application to:

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For more information call (303) 871-2706 or chat with us via Live Counselor.

International Applicants
• For complete international applicant information, please visit the Office of Graduate Studies International Student Application Information. International applicants are strongly encouraged to have their applications complete, with all materials on file in the admission office, at least eight weeks prior to the program’s application deadline.

The Graduate Policies and Procedures provides complete details regarding admission requirements.
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- A $65 non-refundable application fee is required for an application to be processed. Application fee waivers are available for McNair Scholars.

Course and Degree Prerequisites and Requirements

- For the PhD program, a bachelor’s or master’s degree in communication or a related field is required. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in the highest earned degree at the time of matriculation is required. Applicants must earn and submit proof of earning the equivalent of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution prior to beginning graduate coursework at DU.

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