

Department of Communication Science, UFS
Applications for Master's and PhD degrees for 2018

1. Master's and PhD degrees

The Department of Communication Science offers three Master's degrees*:

- 1.1 MA (Communication Science)
- 1.2 MA (Communication Science) with specialisation in **Media Studies and Journalism**
- 1.3 MA (Communication Science) with specialisation in **Corporate and Marketing Communication**

The Department of Communication Science offers the following doctoral qualification*:

- 1.4 PhD

*For complete curriculum information and duration of study for each degree, see point 6 below.

2. Course structure

- 2.1 The Master's and PhD degrees are **research-based** and students are required to attend regular meetings with their supervisor on the Bloemfontein Campus of the University of the Free State.
- 2.2 The Master's degrees are NOT available as structured or course-work degrees.
- 2.3 Master's degree students are expected to complete a **comprehensive dissertation**.
- 2.4 PhD students are expected to complete a **comprehensive thesis**.

3. Selection requirements

The minimum selection requirements for the Master's degrees:

- 3.1 The minimum requirement for possible selection for a Master's degree is a **minimum average of 65% in an applicable honours degree** with a **minimum of 70% in a thesis/research project/mini-dissertation** at honours level that comprises at least 25% of the total credits of the honours degree.
- 3.2 Due to the research-based nature of the Master's degrees applicants who have not completed an applicable thesis/research project/mini-dissertation at honours level cannot be taken into consideration for possible selection.

- 3.3 Applicants are required to complete the Test of Academic Literacy for Postgraduate Students (TALPS) as part of the selection process. Details about the TALPS is set out in a separate document. Applicants have to obtain a minimum score of 60% (category 4) in the TALPS. Applicants who qualify for selection in terms of 3.1 but who scored less than 60% in the TALPS may write the TALPS one more time after a three-month period (see TALPS document).
- 3.4 The Programme Committee of the Department of Communication Science retains the right to set additional requirements for possible selection, which could include, but is not limited to, a research proposal or oral examination.
- 3.5 Admission to the Master's degrees is subject to permission from the Programme Committee of the Department of Communication Science.

The minimum selection requirements for the PhD:

- 3.6 The minimum requirement of possible selection for the PhD programme is a **minimum average of 65% in an applicable, research-based Master's degree.**
- 3.7 Applicants must include a **research proposal of 1000 words** with their application.
- 3.8 Applicants are required to complete the Test of Academic Literacy for Postgraduate Students (TALPS) as part of the selection process. Details about the TALPS is set out in a separate document. Applicants have to obtain a minimum score of 60% (category 4) in the TALPS. Applicants who qualify for selection in terms of 3.1 but who scored less than 60% in the TALPS may write the TALPS one more time after a three-month period (stipulated in the TALPS document).
- 3.9 The Programme Committee of the Department of Communication Science retains the right to set additional requirements for possible selection, which could include, but is not limited to, an oral examination or proof of publication of an article in an accredited academic journal in the field of Communication Science.
- 3.10 Admission to the PhD is subject to permission from the Programme Committee of the Department of Communication Science.
- 3.11 Admission to the PhD is subject to availability and competency of a qualified member of staff in the field/discipline of choice of the student.

4. Application procedure

- 4.1 There is no deadline for applications for the Master's and PhD degrees and applicants may apply at any time during the academic year. Application forms are available from the Programme Director.

- 4.2 For information regarding fees, please contact the Administration Department via the switchboard at [051-401 9111](tel:051-401 9111) or visit www.ufs.ac.za > Students > Tuition Fees

5. International applicants

- 5.1 If you are interested in postgraduate studies at the UFS, and hold a non-South African first degree, honours degree or Master's degree your qualification must be evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) and **submitted together with your application form** to the UFS.
- 5.2 Please note that all foreign qualifications must be evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority **before** an application form is forwarded to the University. **It is the responsibility of the prospective student to forward his/her documentation to SAQA.** Please visit www.ufs.ac.za for more information.

6. Module information and duration

- 6.1 Duration (applicable to all three Master's degrees): The minimum registration period is one year. Full-time students complete the degree over two consecutive semesters (one academic year) and part-time students complete the degree over four consecutive semesters (two academic years). Only under exceptional circumstances and with comprehensive motivation will students (full-time and part-time) be allowed extension of one year (UFS Rule A72.3(d)).
- 6.2 MA (Communication Science)

MA (Communication Science)
(programme code B1817; degree code 18171; academic plan code BC181717)

CURRICULUM

The course requires the following compulsory module:

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
COMD8900	Dissertation (Communication Science)	180 credits

- 6.3 MA (Communication Science) with specialisation in Media Studies and Journalism

**MA (Communication Science) with specialisation in
MEDIA STUDIES AND JOURNALISM**
(programme code B1817; degree code 18171; academic plan code BC181743)

CURRICULUM

The course requires the following compulsory module:

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
JCOD8900	Dissertation (Media Studies and Journalism)	180 credits

6.4 MA (Communication Science) with specialisation in Corporate and Marketing Communication

MA (Communication Science) with specialisation in CORPORATE AND MARKETING COMMUNICATION
(programme code B1817; degree code 18171; academic plan code BC181738)

CURRICULUM

The course requires the following compulsory module:

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
ICOD8900	Dissertation (Corporate and Marketing Communication)	180 credits

6.5 Duration (PhD): The minimum registration period is two years. Full-time students complete the degree over four consecutive semesters (two academic years) and part-time students complete the degree over six consecutive semesters (three academic years). Only under exceptional circumstances and with comprehensive motivation will extensions be allowed (full-time and part-time) (UFS Rule 102.3).

6.6 PhD

PhD
(programme code B1906; degree code 19061; academic plan code BC190617)

CURRICULUM

The course requires the following compulsory module:

CODE	NAME OF MODULE	CREDITS
COMT9100	Thesis	360 credits

7. Contact details

For further academic enquiries regarding the Master's and PhD degrees of the Department of Communication Science, please contact:

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