

SPEECH COMMUNICATION



"Millersville University gave me the knowledge to set me up for success for my professional career through an engaging curriculum, leadership opportunities and exposure to real-world experiences."

– Emily Lupi, SPCM PR '21
Recruiting Specialist at JFC Staffing



The Communication and Theatre department delivers a high-quality, forward-thinking education providing innovative, academically challenging and professionally relevant learning opportunities. Our graduates are prepared to be lifelong learners and contributing local and global citizens.

DEGREES/CONCENTRATIONS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.) IN SPEECH COMMUNICATION

Learn how to produce and analyze human and mediated communication, and apply that knowledge to real-world communication challenges in one of these four concentrations:

- **Digital Communication and Cultural Studies** – This option provides opportunities to learn how processes of communication create and sustain society and culture. Students learn to critically analyze the social structures, cultural practices, organizations and institutions that result from our patterns of communication.
- **Public Relations** – Public relations professionals help organizations build relationships with customers, investors, donors, influencers and other key publics. Based upon Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) guidelines, courses engage students in social media and crisis communication scenarios. Upper-level students work with local nonprofit organizations to research situations and develop messages to fulfill strategic campaign objectives.
- **Theatre** – Students receive academic preparation and training in theatre fundamentals of performance and production work: acting, directing, scenic design, costume, makeup, and lighting and sound, spanning a variety of styles for a broad background in theatre. Main stage shows are held each year, and our student theatre organizations, Citamard and ACMO, offer several theatre involvement opportunities.
- **Journalism** – This concentration prepares students with the foundations and skills of journalism, including information gathering, analysis, writing, editing and reporting in a diverse world. Students learn the standards for journalism and how it defends and maintains the freedom of communication for a better informed public.

MINORS IN COMMUNICATION/THEATRE

Theatre | Strategic Public Relations | Media Arts Production | Journalism

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Communication and Theatre takes great pride in the opportunities students have to pursue educational activities beyond the classroom in business, political, nonprofit and professional organizations. Students have worked with employers, such as:

- The Fulton Opera House (a historic theatre in downtown Lancaster)
- WGAL, CBS 21, FOX 43, and other local and regional radio and television stations
- Lancaster Barnstormers
- Turkey Hill
- QVC
- Hershey
- Rock Litz
- PR and advertising agencies

Students praise these experiences for successfully preparing them to enter the workforce.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We have numerous successful graduates working as:

- Account executives
- Writers and editors
- Actors
- Producers
- Special event planners
- Content creators
- Small-business owners
- Reporters and news directors
- Sales representatives
- Social media specialists
- Radio DJs
- Fundraising/development specialists

Graduates have also entered some of the top communication graduate programs in the country.



CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

- **Citamard** – Students can be involved in theatre at Millersville through the student theatre organization called Citamard (that's "dramatic" spelled backward), which organizes activities to expand performance opportunities through one-act plays, staged readings and playwriting opportunities, among others.
- **The Snapper** – Millersville University's student-run weekly newspaper reports for the student body as the campus's independent watchdog and champion of student rights.
- **Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)** – A preprofessional national organization which expands students' knowledge of the public relations field through guest speakers, events, conferences and networking.
- **WIXQ** – Millersville University's college radio station, broadcasting at 91.7 on the Lancaster FM band and WIXQ.com on the internet.
- **National Electronic Media Association (NEMA)** – A preprofessional organization designed to aid aspiring students in the electronic media field. Students in NEMA network with professional broadcasters and participate in district, regional and national conferences and meetings.
- **All Campus Musical Organization (ACMO)** – This student-run musical theatre group provides a great opportunity for theatre enthusiasts to participate in theatre throughout college in all aspects (performance, directing, stage managing, set design, etc.). The ACMO has been entertaining audiences at Millersville for over 40 years.



FACULTY

Millersville's Department of Communication and Theatre faculty includes award-winning educators, documentary filmmakers and published scholars who also have a wide variety of real-world experience in their disciplines.

FACILITIES

- **Dutcher Hall** – Dutcher Hall is home to Rafters Theatre, a 100-seat "black box" flexible theatre, and a 50-seat studio theatre. University Theatre produces main stage shows annually, rotating to represent all major historical periods: Shakespeare, American classics, contemporary plays and musicals. More advanced students will have the opportunity to direct or design for major productions or as a special project. Guest directors and designers regularly offer their talents in the production of plays.
- **Winter Visual and Performing Arts Center** – This building includes the Clair Performance Hall, Biemesderfer Concert Hall, Murley Recital Hall, the Eckert Art Gallery, the Steinman Foundation Recording Suite, the Isaacson Dance Studio, a state-of-the-art Yamaha Clavinova piano lab and a fully equipped scene shop. This on-campus center is a creative hub for students, faculty and the surrounding community in music, art and theatre. Local, regional, national and international artists connect with students in residencies, master classes and workshops.
- **Costume Shop** – A collection that includes over 10,000 was a gift to the University from Mrs. Jean Loeb of Lancaster, a veteran costumer of local productions. The Loeb Costume Collection is largely derived from the inventory of Wass & Son costumers of Philadelphia. Today, the collection has grown to over 25,000 costumes through additional acquisitions, constructions and donations.
- **Bassler Hall** – Includes a fully equipped television studio, a smaller studio for individual student and faculty projects, digital video and audio-editing suites, two computer labs with current media-editing software, and up-to-date cameras, lights, sound equipment, and on-location production gear.

CONTACT

For further information or inquiries, please contact:

Dr. Theresa Russell-Loretz, Department Chair
theresa.russell-loretz@millersville.edu
 (717) 871-7283