

COMMUNICATION & THEATRE



"This is a major that requires you to branch out of your major, into other people's lives."

– John Coleman '15
Broadcasting Option

The Communication & Theatre program is committed to delivering a high-quality, forward-thinking educational experience providing innovative, academically challenging and professionally relevant learning opportunities. Students leave the program well prepared to be lifelong learners and contributing citizens to both the local and global community.

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 four option-specific areas:

- **Broadcasting**—Students write, direct and produce video and audio programs. MUTV, our campus television station, and WIXQ, our campus radio station, provide opportunities for students to enhance their skills both in the studio and out in the field in our control room trailer. Academic study examines the postmodern cultural context and the interrelationship of media, its institutions, government policies and culture in digital and international environments.

- **Communication Studies**—This option provides breadth and depth of knowledge in 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 and maintain relationships with key publics: customers, investors, donors, community members and influencers. Our curriculum follows Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) guidelines and engages students in social media and prepares them to anticipate crisis communication situations. Students in our upper-level courses work with local nonprofits to research problems and opportunities, and develop messages that fulfill their campaign objectives.

- **Theatre**—Students receive academic preparation and training in theatre fundamentals, such as performance and production work—acting, directing, scenic design, costume, makeup, lighting and sound—in a variety of styles, for a broad background in theatre. Three main stage shows each year, as well as our student theatre organizations, Citamard and ACMO, offer plenty of opportunities to be involved in theatre.

MINORS IN COMMUNICATION

- Theatre

OTHER MINORS OF INTEREST TO SPEECH COMMUNICATION MAJORS

- Entrepreneurship
- General Business: Marketing or Management
- Graphic Communication Technology
- Psychology
- Government & Political Affairs
- Women's Studies
- Environmental Health and Emergency Management

FACULTY

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

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We have many successful graduates who work as television news anchors, reporters, writers, editors, videographers, directors and producers, radio DJs, tech-support specialists, sales representatives, account executives, social media specialists, fundraising/development specialists, special event planners, actors and small-business owners in local, regional and national companies and organizations. Other graduates have entered some of the top graduate programs in communication in the country.



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 three main stage shows annually, rotating to represent all major historical periods; Shakespeare, American classics, contemporary plays and musicals. Advanced students 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 during the University theatre season.
- **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 and a state-of-the-art Yamaha Clavinova piano lab. The on-campus center is a creative hub for students, faculty and the surrounding community in music, art and theatre to share a vibrant place for local, regional, national and international artists to connect with students in residencies, master classes and workshops.
- **Costume Shop**—This collection of well over 10,000 costumes 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 well over 25,000 costumes through additional acquisitions, construction and donations.
- **MUTV**—MUTV is the on-campus cable station of Millersville University. Students can get involved with television production, both behind the scenes and in front of the camera, in the studio and on multicamera field shoots.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to student organizations, the Department of Communication and Theatre takes special pride in the opportunities students have to pursue educational activities beyond the classroom. Many students participate in internship or cooperative education programs through the University, in practical work situations in business, political, nonprofit and professional organizations locally, around the country and even internationally. Our students have worked with area community theatres; the Fulton Opera House (a historic theatre in downtown Lancaster); local and regional radio, television and cable stations; nonprofit organizations, and large corporations. Students report that these experiences have helped them to successfully enter the workforce after graduation.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

- **Citamard**—In addition to the main stage season, students involved in theatre at Millersville, through the student theatre organization called Citamard (that’s “dramatic” spelled backward), organize activities to expand performance opportunities through one-act plays, staged readings and playwriting opportunities.
- **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. The Snapper provides every student an opportunity to gain experience in a professional journalism setting.
- **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**—WIXQ-FM is Millersville University’s college radio station, broadcasting at 91.7 on the Lancaster FM band and WIXQ.com on the internet. Students, faculty and staff are all eligible to become a WIXQ DJ.
- **National Broadcasting Society (NBS)**—a preprofessional organization designed to aid aspiring students in the electronic media field. The purpose of the NBS is to establish meaningful communication between student and professional broadcasters, and foster integrity in the use of the powerful instruments of radio, television, film, cable and its many associated businesses and industries. NBS participates in district, regional and national conferences and meetings.
- **All Campus Musical Organization (ACMO)**—This student-run musical theatre group is comprised primarily of non-theatre and nonmusic majors, and provides a great opportunity for theatre enthusiasts to continue participating in theatre throughout college. Our members are able to explore all aspects of theatre, whether it is performance, directing, stage managing, set design, etc. The ACMO has been entertaining audiences at Millersville for well over 40 years.

