

Transition Plan for New Communications Studies Curriculum

Beginning in September 2009, a number of courses will be renamed and/or renumbered, and a few will disappear completely. A number of new option courses will become available.

If you are already in the COMS program, you will be grandfathered under the old regulations, although you can opt for the new regulations if they are more advantageous. If you start your program in Fall 2009, you will be under the new regulations.

If you start the new program, you may already have some courses from the old program. **All of these courses will continue to count** in the new program.

If you are following the old regulations because of the grandfather provisions, some of the courses required by the old program will have disappeared. Degree Navigator will automatically move the new version into their spots.

Here is a quick table of equivalencies:

Old course	New course
COMS 335: :Mass Communications and Canadian Society	COMS 435: Mass Communications and Canadian Society
COMS 361: Spoken and Written Discourse	COMS 369: Rhetorical Communication
COMS 367: Visual Culture COMS 441: Cultural Studies in Communication	COMS 371: Critical Media Studies See note below
COMS 451: Research in Communication	GNST 313: Interdisciplinary Research Methodologies
COMS 461: Theory and Applications of Rhetoric	COMS 469: Rhetorical History and Criticism
COMS 483: Introduction to Public Relations	COMS 383: Introduction to Public Relations

In all cases the course substitutions will be automatic.

COMS 367/441: This is the only slightly complicated part because two courses have been collapsed into one (COMS 371).

If you are following the old program, you can use 371 in lieu of either 367 or 441.

If you are following the new program, you can use either 367 or 441 in lieu of 371,

New Communications Studies Curriculum Highlights

The 300-level core has been reconfigured and new 400-level options (with 300-level prerequisites) added. More theoretical rigour has been added, especially in rhetoric courses. COMS 361 will be replaced by COMS 369 for majors and COMS 363 will become the course of choice for students outside the faculty.

Old Curriculum	New Curriculum
Core Requirements:	
COMS 201: Introduction to Communications Studies	Same with new description
COMS 361: Spoken and Written Discourse	COMS 369: Rhetorical Communication Redescribed to emphasise more theoretical underpinnings and aimed at majors
COMS 367: Visual Culture	COMS 371: Critical Media Studies COMS 367 and 441 are combined to make one foundational course.
COMS 381: History of Communication	COMS 381: Communications History. Redescribed.
COMS 451: Research in Communication	GNST 313: Interdisciplinary Research Methodologies. Same course used for both divisions, resulting in more choice of sections for students.
COMS 591: Senior Seminar in Communication	Unchanged
List A Options (2 FCE required)	
COMS 335: Mass Communications and Canadian Society	COMS 435 Unchanged except moved up to 400 level
COMS 363: Professional and Technical Communication	Unchanged but moved to B list
COM 441: Cultural Studies in Communication	Cancelled, amalgamated with 367 to form 371. Students with credit in either 367 or 441 will get credit for 371. Students with credit in both will get 371 plus an A option
COMS 461: History and Applications of Rhetoric	COMS 469: Rhetorical History and Criticism. Similar course redescribed
COMS 463: Advanced Professional and Technical Communication	Redescribed
	COMS 471: Audience and Reception. New Course
	COMS 473: Popular Culture. New Course
	COMS 475: Media and Cultural Industries. Now course
	COMS 481: Advanced Topics in New Media and Society. New course
COMS 483: Introduction to Public Relations	COMS 383. Essentially the same course but moved down a notch, moved to List B
DEST 485: International and Intercultural Communication	Moved to List B
STAS 341: Information Technology and Society	STAS 341: New Media, Technology and Society. Redescribed
	STAS 421: Publics and Science. New Course
WMST 339: Gender and Popular Culture	Moved to List B
List B (1 FCE required)	
Courses from other faculties trimmed somewhat. COMS 363, 483, DEST 485, WMST 339 moved from List A to List B. Extra List A courses may still be used. Now includes all courses labelled FILM or STAS.	