

Telecommunications

Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Arts in Communication Department of Telecommunications School of Communication Studies College of Arts and Sciences

Electronic media, such as radio, television and the Internet, are playing an increasingly important role in today's world. News and information are relayed with greater speed than ever before, allowing for closer contact between nations and people. In fact electronic media have become the major sources of public information and entertainment today. A central mission of the Department of Telecommunications is to produce well-rounded graduates to be future decision-makers in the electronic media and allied professions.

Career Opportunities

Graduates obtain such positions as television producer, radio or television programmer, scriptwriter, radio announcer, audio and video editor, web page designer, and media researcher. Career opportunities are available in public and commercial radio and television, cable television, telephony, multimedia, advertising and education. While the job market in the electronic media industry is competitive, there is an increasing demand for graduates skilled in specific areas.

BGSU's major has produced graduates who have been successful despite strong competition. Many are well known to television and radio audiences in Ohio and other parts of the country. In addition to those working in front of the cameras, there are many other graduates employed behind the scenes in television and radio production, advertising, sales, research and management. Some graduates have found the training excellent preparation for graduate study.

Curriculum

Students build a strong but highly flexible foundation through appropriate general studies courses coupled with a specialized program in telecommunications.

Each student, with the aid of an

academic advisor, plans a general education program that provides the necessary background in the social and behavioral sciences, language and culture, science and mathematics, and the arts and humanities. Because there are many courses to choose from, each student can develop a general education background that provides a solid basis for personal specialization.

Focus Areas

Students create their own focus area within the department. A minor or support field is incorporated into the focus area program consisting of courses that add breadth and perspective.

The four focus areas offered are (1) Interactive Media-Students learn to produce interactive media content online and understand social and policy issues regarding media technologies; (2) Media Business-Students learn all business aspects of media such as management, audience research, sales and promotion, event planning, and media industry economics combining classroom and actual sales experience in campus commercial radio station, WFAL and underwriting for college media; (3) Television/Video-Students are exposed to concepts and practice in the technical, electronic, artistic and logistical aspects of television and video production. Classes are divided into two parts: the theoretical basis through lectures and demonstrations, and laboratory sessions including hands-on experience in a modern, state-of-the-art production facility; (4) Radio-Organized in a similar fashion to the Television/video production focus area, there is a beginning course and an advanced course for individual and small-group endeavors. Students in the advanced course use the University-licensed station, WBGU-FM, as a workshop.

Special Features

Students interested in broadcasting have excellent opportunities for combining actual station experience with academic training. Students fill major behind-the-scenes and on-air positions at WBGU-

FM, WFAL, BG Radio Sports, BG Radio News, BG24 News, Video Bank and WBGU-TV.

WBGU-FM broadcasts progressive, jazz, folk and rock music in addition to news, sports and public affairs features to the city of Bowling Green and Wood County. WFAL-AM, a low power station carried on cable and the internet, features contemporary music, news and special programs. The national award-winning WFAL also offers opportunities for those interested in advertising and sales. BG Radio Sports, the largest organization of its kind in the United States, broadcasts BGSU football, men's and women's basketball, hockey, baseball and softball. BG Radio News provides daily news updates on WBGU-FM and WFAL. BG Radio Sports and BG Radio News offer opportunities for announcing, reporting, producing and sales. WBGU-TV is a public television station that provides students with the opportunity to work with professionals producing a variety of programs for audiences both in northwest Ohio and throughout the country.

BG24 News is a daily, live newscast prepared and delivered by volunteer students. Under the supervision of faculty from the telecommunication and journalism departments, students gain valuable experience writing, reporting, editing and presenting television news.

No other program in the state of Ohio offers as many extracurricular opportunities or encourages more early participation as BGSU.

The department is further distinguished by its multimedia labs which contain state-of-the-art Final Cut Pro digital video editing stations, making it an exceptionally well-equipped program.

An internship is required on either a full- or part-time basis. Typically, the internship is completed toward the end of the student's junior year. In addition to jobs at campus and local stations, work can be arranged at advertising agencies, corporate and hospital television facilities, cable television and telephone companies, and stations located throughout the country.

Preparation for College

Completing the requirements for high school graduation is necessary for admission to BGSU, but finishing the minimum coursework will leave you unprepared for college. Consider taking four years of mathematics instead of the three that are required. Two, three or even four years of the same foreign language is excellent preparation for college. You will also benefit from competency in computer use. Courses that provide exposure to or training in the visual and performing arts are excellent choices.

NOTE: Information in this guide is subject to change without notice. To learn more about the official program of study for Telecommunications, please check the undergraduate catalog online at www.bgsu.edu/catalog/A_S/A_S80.html.

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Requirements for Transfer Students

Students transferring into the telecommunications program can transfer up to 12 semester hours of coursework in telecommunications from junior colleges. No more than 15 semester hours of coursework in telecommunications will be accepted for transfer from any four-year institution.

For Further Information

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Department Web Page:

<http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/tcom/>

Internet Access

BGSU's Web site for future students contains University highlights, admissions procedures, financial aid information and many department profiles. It can be accessed at www.bgsu.edu.

The University

Bowling Green State University is dedicated to providing quality programs in a learning environment that promotes academic and personal excellence in students, as well as appreciation of intellectual, ethical and aesthetic values. A state-assisted mid-size residential university, BGSU has an enrollment of more than 21,000 and a full-time faculty of more than 900 on its main campus. More than 200 undergraduate majors and programs are offered as well as master's and doctoral level programs.