*New Major—
International Communication

Department of
Communications and Languages
Walla Walla University
Unlock Your Potential

The Department of Communications and Languages embodies the mission of WWU – serving students at the intersection of clear thought, strong written skills, concern for others, and a deep and grounded faith. It is our vision to help students become strong, successful communicators in a variety of settings. From this vision, the department has added a new major in International Communication.

In a global environment, strong communication and language skills are vital. New and exciting opportunities are opening up for students and graduates in international venues. Employers are increasingly seeking graduates with bilingual skills. With a core of communication study, a language specialization, a minor in a supporting area, and an international internship, International Communication can be your portal to the world.

Your undergraduate education will primarily be shaped by two forces — your commitment and the commitment of the faculty with whom you study. We are proud to say that the Department of Communications and Languages at WWU has the faculty, curriculum and resources to help you reach your goals and unlock your potential.

Nancy Semotiuk, Chair
Department of Communications and Languages
Experience a Full Spectrum of Fun

Do the words “free coffee” make your ears perk up? How about open mic nights in downtown Walla Walla, or “Tie-dye Fridays?” Sound fun? The Visual Communication Club, or VCC, just might be for you.

It is, after all, one of the newest and hippest clubs to join the wide array on the Walla Walla University campus, and it has lots to offer.

In the 2009-2010 school year alone, the VCC hosted a well-attended art show, an ugly sweater Christmas party, and paid for their members to participate in swing dancing nights and Walla Walla’s annual corn maze. They’re not stingy on the treats either. Members frequently enjoy free beverages at local coffee shops and other weekday treats.

The VCC may be aimed at communications students (the coolest kids on campus—just ask anyone around), but it’s open to students from any department and quarterly dues are considerably low considering the wide range of events available to members. Besides, with free coffee, how could you go wrong?

By Jacqueline Erwin
What's in a Comm/Lang Student's Bag?

**Reporter's Notebook**
A necessity for quite a few classes, and preparation for your first journalism job.

**Dayplanner**
Warning: you may find yourself developing a dependant relationship with your planner.

**A Plentitude of Pens**
So you won’t have to be the person asking your neighbor if you can borrow a pen on the first day of class.

**The Writer's Handbook**
No communications student should ever be without this helpful textbook nearby.

**A Durable Highlighter**
The college student's studying standby.

**Bilingual Dictionary**
Practice your Spanish at lunch.

**Keycard to the Studio**
How else are you going to get into the editing bays to finish a project at midnight?

**An iPod**
Not for class, of course...
Students Put Skills to Work

What better way is there to add to your education than by putting the communications tools you have acquired to use with real world job experience.

At WWU, communications majors have plenty of interesting and fun internship opportunities. Professor David Bullock requires students in his Writing for PR class to spend 24 volunteer hours throughout the quarter working with organizations. He says, “You haven’t completed your last step until you have been in real work settings.”

WWU students have had internships with CNN, the U.S. Olympic Committee and political campaigns.

There are also some great local opportunities right in town such as the Corps of Engineers, Blue Mountain Television and Coffey Communications. Students can either receive credit for their internship or do it for no credit and still have it appear on their transcript.

No matter what aspect of the communications field you’re interested in, there’s an internship for you.

By Tiffany Alaverti

Internships

WWU students have held internships with these companies over the past several years.

KHQ—Spokane
King 5—Seattle
KNDU—Tri-Cities
KGW—Portland
Publishing Houses
State Legislature
Corps of Engineers
Union-Bulletin
Puyallup Fair
Adventist Health
WWU Church
Children’s Home Society
Blue Mt Humane Society
WW Valley Academy
WW General Hospital
WW Chamber of Commerce
WW Corps of Engineers
Whitman College
Blue Mt Television
Coffey Communications
Hospice of WW
Drama Celebrates 50 Years of Productions

The women’s club needed entertainment for its banquet. They called on a young speech teacher to pull together a play. The year was 1961, and the play was a musical version of “Heidi.”

From those beginnings, Donnie Rigby set in motion a tradition of drama excellence that continues at Walla Walla University—a tradition that now extends 50 years.

Early plays were staged in a gymnasium without budgets or academic credit for students or the director. After the Village Church moved to a new location in the mid-1960s, Village Hall became available as a performance space. Rigby also oversaw development of the first academic program in drama to be offered at an SDA college or university. The drama minor continues to be a popular choice among students.

“Every production is a group endeavor, and that’s a good training experience for all of us. It builds self-confidence, it forces us to work with people and it forces us to understand the literature,” Rigby says.

Following in Rigby’s footsteps, new directors have brought unique perspectives. Rodney Vance provided depth in playwriting with the premiere of his play, “The Closing Wood” in 1995.

Three years later, the drama program staged the world premiere of a play based on the life of Narcissa Whitman titled “A Melting Season,” directed by Kimberly Howard. Another first for the program was drama student Bradley Nelson’s adaptation of “The Great Divorce.” The play premiered under the direction of drama professors Marilynn Loveless and Luann Venden Herrell.

David Crawford directs wwudrama into the next half century. “For the 50th anniversary we hope to honor the architects of this program and remind them of the powerful legacy they left for the students and audiences alike,” Crawford says.

By David Bullock
Student Teams Create Films in a Hurry

At the end of the 10 days, the films are shown to the student body. A panel of judges, each with a background in film, choose the winners for each category: Best Film, Best Cinematography, Best Screen Play, Best Actor and Best Actress. The attendees vote on the Audience Choice Award. Cash prizes ranging from $50 to $125 are given to the winning entries.

The festival began five years ago as a senior project by Nicole Reedy Ferguson. It started out as Guerilla Film Fest, but due to image copyright issues, the name was changed to Fast Film Fest.

Jeremy Reed, junior mass communications major, took home the Best Film prize this year for his film, *A Test of Faith*.

The plot is about the Grim Reaper who is unhappy with his daily routine of reaping the soul of every person the Angel of Death kills. So God gives him a test to kill his next target as well as reap his soul. Grim sends himself on an inner journey as he attempts to fulfill God’s command.

Fast Film Fest has been a great experience for Reed. He says, “You learn so much every time you do it. And of course the result is an awesome film to put in your portfolio, so really what’s not to like about it?”

By Michelle Paulsen

If you’re an aspiring filmmaker and looking for an adrenaline rush, then checkout Fast Film Fest!

Fast Film Fest is held each year during Winter quarter, and students are given 10 days to shoot and edit a short film.

Each team of at least four people is given a set of rules and a mandatory element to include in their film.

Bjorn Smars and Kelsey Harrison portray the Grim Reaper and the Angel of Death.
The Department of Communications and Languages has exciting new options for you as you choose your field of study. The recently established partnership between the two departments opened the door to an exciting new endeavor. By combining courses from both areas, we are excited to bring you the international communication major.

You can literally have the best of both worlds with a degree in international communication. In today’s world, globalization is the new rage, and one that won’t disappear anytime soon. Now, you can prepare yourself for that with this new major right here at WWU.

As an international communication student, you will take courses in writing, speech, and production just as our mass communications students do but with an additional bonus: a language specialization in French or Spanish.

New classes have been added to enhance the degree. As a freshman, you will take an introductory course to international communications, which will help you to better understand
your future college career and plan for your overseas travels and internship. Understanding another culture is crucial to communicating effectively on a global scale. A multi-cultural communication class has been added to enable students to learn and experience a culture other than their own and prepare them for their travels and careers.

Want to travel the world? Then grab your passport and pack your bags! All international communications majors will have the opportunity to travel to Argentina, France, or Spain and study with Adventist Colleges Abroad. In addition to studying and mastering the language, you will also add “real-world” experience to your resume while you work as an international intern putting your newly developed skills into action.

Come and discover a whole new world with international communication!

By Ashley Akachich
Get on Board With ACA

As a language student, you have the opportunity to be immersed in the culture and absorb the language to the fullest. “You are in essence getting an education in a foreign language in addition to an education in your own,” says French professor, Jean-Paul Grimaud.

“By speaking another language, you become another self,” says Grimaud.

Even at a small university, you have the opportunity to explore the world. The Department of Communications and Languages can take you there.

With Adventist Colleges Abroad, our language and international communication majors will tour the Eiffel tower and Arc de Triomphe, explore the rich culture of Spain and Argentina, and get college credit while doing so!

By Ashley Akacich
Photojournalists Capture The World

With new classes and campus-wide implementation, photojournalism is moving forward. Photojournalists and their photos are in high demand for student publications such as The Mask, Collegian, and the Mountain Ash.

Instead of students spending hours in a dark room learning the outdated process of developing film, they are immersed in digital photography classes for both the novice and advanced. Nancy Semotiuk, Department of Communications and Languages chair, said, “[Our department] works cooperatively with the technology department to ensure that our students have access to the required equipment and the latest software, so that when they enter the workforce they’re well versed in the tools of their trade.”

Communications students take a variety of photo classes, including photojournalism, a specialized class that teaches the legal aspects of the trade and master story telling, by capturing the moment, in the moment.

Many students leave WWU to build strong photography careers. Among these students is Ben Blood, an accomplished wedding photographer who is published in Seattle Metropolitan Bride & Groom.

Semotiuk emphasizes the value of photography, “Photojournalism is important because so much of what our majors do is visual,” she said. “Whether you’re a print or media emphasis, you use platforms that require an understanding of photography.”

By Ashley Ward
BMT Opens Doors To Future

Taking classes to prepare for a career is one thing, but actually participating in that career is another. WWU’s Communications and Languages Department understands this. That’s why WWU works with broadcasting station Blue Mountain Television to create Blue Mountain Evening News.

The show was originally set up as a student senior project in 1992 and has continued to gain credibility as a news source in the Walla Walla Valley.

At the station, students can anchor, produce, write and report local news. They also have the opportunity to handle the technical aspects of broadcasting, including creating and running graphics, operating cameras and audio or technical directing.

Recently, BMT expanded their broadcast to reach 43,000 homes in the Wenatchee, Yakima and Tri-Cities areas. That means even more of an opportunity for potential employers to see what students can do.

So whether your future goals are to be a television producer, big-time news anchor, or in-depth reporter, you can dive in head first.

By Nikeitha Goodridge
Going Beyond The Diploma

Traveling is often an integral part of WWU student life. Students flock to programs like Student Missions, Adventist Colleges Abroad and now, the new International Communication program. Many students have a wayfaring story or two to tell, and our traveling communications and languages graduates are developing their own by working and living throughout the world.

Two graduates, Ashley Coetzee, 2010, and Chelsea Patten, 2011, worked in Tanzania for six months as public relations and volunteer directors for ADRA Tanzania. Coetzee described her daily routine as, “writing articles, editing pictures, making phone calls and copies.” Coetzee says, “By far my favorite part of the job was interacting with the people whose lives we were changing. There are no words to describe an African smile.”

Although the job is a joy, frustration is inevitable in another country. “Africa is about 100 years behind as far as efficiency, and there isn’t an attitude to improve,” Patten said. “I enjoy exploring a new country. I love all the ins and outs of a new culture.”

Both Patten and Coetzee have had their work published in ADRA newsletters and have written to constituents, providing them with opportunities to connect and produce items to add to their portfolios.

Other graduates have also trotted the globe to film in Jordan and Europe, and others to write for organizations with international causes in the states. Whether you go abroad to avoid the recession or to feed your roving desires for adventure, it’s an exciting opportunity to reinforce your communications education.

By Ashley Ward
Walla Walla University Communications and Languages faculty bring diverse backgrounds and experiences to the classroom.

David Crawford
Born in Anchorage, AK.
He has been a commercial salmon fisherman in Alaska for 12 years.

David Bullock
Born in Portland, OR.
He took piano lessons in second grade through college, and still plays for fun.

Deborah Silva
Born in Sacramento, CA.
Her nickname in high school was “Moochie.”

Alma Alfaro
Born in El Salvador, but she grew up in Los Angeles. She is vegan and grows her own vegetables and fruits.
Nancy Semotiuk
Born in Salmon Arm, B.C. Canada. She has a German shepherd that she has nicknamed "Pupsky." One day she accidentally called her husband that.

Brigitte Davis
Born in Mainz, Germany. She grew up in Germany and came to the US when she was 21.

Jean-Paul Grimaud
Born on Reunion Island, a French island in the Indian Ocean, west of Madagascar.

Jerry Hartman
Born in Kingston, Jamaica. He was a peace corps volunteer and lived in thePhilippines for two and half years.
*FAST FACTS*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS & LANGUAGES
AT WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY

- **21** Students who are involved in internships this year
- **125** Students involved in WWU plays
- **26** Grads last year
- **60** The average # of hours to produce film for Fast Film Fest
- **3** Spanish—third most spoken language on the globe
- **121** Comm/lang majors
- **370 - 1,700** Average # of photos snapped at one event

For More Information Contact Us at wallawalla.edu or (509) 527-2832