Change
noun

Describes the convergence of the communications and languages departments at Walla Walla University.

Expand Your World

Mission: Suriname

Student Media Moguls

In the Footsteps of a Grad
2008 marks a new era for the communications department. It is one that promises both rewards and challenges as we move forward with significant changes. We and modern languages have merged, and we are now the department of communications and languages. It is a most exciting change for us, one that strengthens two flourishing departments. We are seven faculty strong, and our expertise ranges from mass media history and influence, to journalism, to speech, to language and literature, to sociolinguistics, to digital video, and to drama.

Students with talent and passion come to WWU seeking a degree from our department because they know that we give our students the most up-to-date training possible. Our graduates are finding work in amazing places, ranging from hometown agencies to jobs overseas. We see new horizons opening up for our students in international venues, and we know that strong communication and language skills, taught by Christian professors, will provide our graduates with a powerful advantage they can’t get elsewhere.

“Our graduates are finding work in amazing places.”
Each year, the department’s Publication Production class works together to create an issue of Westword, the communications and languages magazine. After a quarter of hard work, here is our finished product.
Public relations practitioners work with big and small organizations to promote their vision to their publics. With strong writing and communication skills, public relations practitioners possess the ability to work well with others, and often have a strong background in design. They coordinate meetings, plan events and manage crises, with each day different from the last.

Journalism is writing based, and journalists are experts in language. Each day journalists work with sources, gather news leads and edit information for deadlines. Some work as broadcasters or magazine publishers. Journalists often meet interesting people, interview key decision makers, learn about people with fascinating stories and discover different cultures and ways of living.

Speech is offered through the communications and languages department as a complete major. Speech communication prepares students for leadership, discussion facilitation, and articulation of values and goals for organizations. Speech professionals provide knowledge in multiple areas, and have the big picture of opportunities in mind. Many jobs can be found in human resources, sales, marketing, mission work, ministry and education. Walla Walla University is the only Adventist institution in North America to offer this major.
**Photojournalism** is a fast-paced career where action is the norm. Individuals working in this field are often broadminded, enjoy traveling and like meeting new people. This major provides the education you need to visually document events, stories, people and places. Photojournalism is a visual narrative of the world around us. Job possibilities include working for magazines, documentary work, art and commercial projects, local newspapers, news stations, and event photography.

**Drama** is offered at Walla Walla University as a minor. It was the first drama program offered at Adventist universities. Drama is a fun way for students to connect with one another through different acting opportunities. The thrill of being on stage and remembering lines builds confidence, poise, leadership, and teamwork skills. Plus the challenge of assuming a character role is a lot of fun.

**Media** is about being creative, and a media concentration provides a behind-the-scenes look at what goes on in radio, broadcasting, television, film and sound. Media professionals find careers in producing, directing, animation, graphic design, and as independent business owners.
Learning a language gives students the confidence to work effectively in other cultures.

Spanish is the second most spoken language in the U.S. and has many applications here and worldwide. Many professions, including education, social work and medicine, prefer and even require bilingual speakers. The ability to speak Spanish will open many doors and greatly increase your effectiveness in your career. Spend a year abroad at Sagunto, Spain, or at Universidad del Plata in Argentina.

French is one of two official languages for the International Olympic Committee. It is spoken not only in Europe, but also in numerous African countries and the Caribbean Islands. The English language borrowed heavily from French, making it easy to learn. By studying French, you also gain a better understanding of English and the other Romance languages. Study in Collonges, France to improve your fluency. While you are there, ski the Alps, visit Paris and travel throughout Europe.

German ancestry can be traced to 19 percent of Americans. According to recent census reports, this is more than any other country. By learning German, you gain a clearer insight into the culture that made major contributions to the American melting pot. German is a key business language in the European Union and rapidly growing markets of Central and Eastern Europe. Complete your German minor by studying abroad.
Expand Your World

The ACA program gives students the opportunity to develop language skills while living abroad.

Universidad Adventista del Plata, one of 10 Adventist Colleges Abroad, is located in Villa Libertador San Martín, Argentina. Natasha Ham, Spanish and religion double major, 24, ventured to Argentina in 2005.

Why did you decide to study in Argentina?
I had always wanted to go to a Spanish-speaking country, but I didn’t know which one. I talked to two friends who just returned from Argentina and they made me mate and showed me pictures.

What is maté?
It is a tea, very much a cultural thing, which your friends make for you. You drink it from a vase with a straw.

What was the most amazing adventure you had while there?
There are too many! Getting lost in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, camping and climbing in Patagonia, meeting people from all over the world, taking care of an orphan girl in Peru, going to church and being able to sing and understand songs, living with two Spanish speaking people and the friendships that formed [with my roommates].

What did you learn by going to Argentina?
I learned a lot about myself—that I could deal with a lot of situations in another language and it developed me into a stronger person. I didn’t feel like an adult when I left [for Argentina]. I also learned a lot about the value of friendship, and learned to appreciate other cultures more, especially the pace of life, which is slower.

Tell me your fondest memory of being at Universidad Adventista del Plata?
Visiting local churches outside the University with my roommates and singing with the kids. One kid drew me a butterfly picture after having been with me for an hour. I still have it.

What would you tell someone who is thinking about going abroad?
Come with an open heart and open mind. Push yourself to learn the language, but don’t cut yourself off from your English speaking support and friends. Go for it, it will be the best year despite the challenges. Yes, it will be challenging, but the reward will be worth it.

By: Crissy Kinney
# FAST FACTS

## 5 ways to get involved on campus:

**The Collegian:** A campus-wide newspaper that gives many opportunities to writers, graphic designers, and photographers.

**Positive Life Radio:** Local Christian radio station that broadcasts across the Pacific Northwest. Aspiring radio announcers should apply.

**Blue Mountain Television:** Be a news anchor. If you don’t want to be on camera, you can operate the studio cameras or write the news script.

**Lambda Pi Eta:** The national communications honor society. Officers plan events ranging from faculty/student dinners to the annual induction ceremony.

**Drama Club:** Members receive special information and discounted ticket prices for upcoming productions.

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### April 6, 1961

Curtains opened for “Heidi” the first play at WWU.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>174</th>
<th>The number of hats in the drama department costume room.</th>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>The average number of students who enroll in the ACA program each year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>The approximate number of students taught by Loren Dickinson, speech professor, since 1962.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>The average number of Speech and Mass Communication graduates each year.</td>
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“Indigenous Suriname” is a film created by Jerry Hartman, instructor in communications, to document the plight of the indigenous people of South America.

Hartman, who worked on the project as the thesis for his masters in fine arts, traveled to Suriname for three weeks during February 2008. The complete, 25-minute film focuses on indigenous rights, development and health, and mercury dumping in nearby soil.

A former Peace Corps volunteer, Hartman likes to use his projects for “giving communities a global voice.” The film, given to the Organization for Indigenous People of Suriname, aired in August, the first time on television within the country. The film has sparked discussion within the local government, but whether or not the film will bring significant change has yet to be seen. Upon completing his project, Hartman earned his MFA from National University in October 2008.

Hartman is pleased with his final project and hopes that it will create action to stop mercury poisoning from affecting future generations of indigenous peoples. He hopes to travel back to Suriname and document the stories of surrounding villages. To view Hartman’s work, visit youtube.com and search for “first people of Suriname.”

By: Ashley Coetzee
Dreams are becoming reality for four Walla Walla University students who started a video production company called “Mechan Media.”

The new production company’s lineup includes (from left to right): Brandon Lehman, 23, new media imaging; Ryan Sturges, 23, mass communication media; Alex English, 24, mass communication media; and Jason Daub, 22, mass communication media.

“The word ‘mechan’ is Greek for machine. It was the idea that we are the mechanism, the engine that runs your production,” Daub said.

Daub is confident that there is enough media work for them in the valley. Mechan Media’s first job was to film the Miss Washington USA and the Miss Washington Teen USA pageants. The pageant video was produced into a DVD that includes behind-the-scenes footage and biographies of the contestants.

“We enjoy doing jobs like the pageant,” Daub said. “Eventually we want to get into independent film-making, and we’d really enjoy a big project, a feature-length project.”

If you are interested in having Mechan Media produce a media project, visit: www.MechanMedia.com

By: Mindy Vixie
A must have. The knowledge of AP style is used in almost every communication concentration.

Oh the places you’ll go! It’s always handy to have a language dictionary around.

Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign...a knowledge of the newest technology will always be beneficial.

Note cards are convenient when studying for finals or giving a speech.

The reporters notepad: great for jotting down quotes and details for news articles.

Whether it’s Intro to Photojournalism or studying abroad, photography is a part of every communication and language major’s life at WWU.
In the Footsteps of a Grad

I moved into the client services department after about a year and a half, where I became the director. It was interesting as Coffey developed style guides for its clients. I had to learn that orthopedic is spelled two different ways depending on where you are regionally. It’s really detailed.

What prompted you to make the switch to WWU’s Marketing and Enrollment Services office?

I enjoyed my job at Coffey because it involved marketing, public relations and journalism. When I was approached about this job, I could see an opportunity to do the things I loved for a place I care about deeply. WWU is inspiring and life-changing. I couldn’t stress more how different my life is today because of my time here as a student.

What advice would you give prospective communications students?

Communications isn’t about writing the newspaper and building websites. Students tend to assume it’s about the tangible things you see. Communications is about knowledge, research, and the nature of people. It’s deeper than just newspapers.

Know what you like about being the yearbook editor. What is it that you love? Is it the pictures, the writing, being in charge, getting the finished copy? Know who you are at your core.

By: Crissy Kinney

In 2008, Walla Walla University hired Jodeene (Jodi) Wagner as the vice president for Marketing and Enrollment Services. Wagner graduated from WWU in 1992 with a journalism concentration in mass communications and minors in English and business.

What did you do after graduating?

I worked at Coffey Communications, Inc. as a copy editor. Coffey creates print and web communications for hospitals and health plans nationwide.
Tuesday

7 am Wake-up
8 am Publication Production

Reporting Methods @ 9

Lunch at Roger’s Bakery

Work from 2-3

3 pm Communication Theory

Work on design project in the Mac Lab

5 pm Broadcasting Techniques and Announcing

5:30 Anchor for Blue Mountain Television

6 pm Lambda Pi Eta Dinner @ Nancy’s house

Stability Ball Exercising Class @ 7:30

8:30 pm French study group at Starbucks

Homework

Don’t forget to reschedule dentist appointment!
David Bullock presented a paper to the National Communication Association about his research on congressional campaign coverage.

Lynelle Ellis is producing a short film with her 4-year-old son, Garrett, called “Adventures in Africa and the Jungle.”

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David Bullock
Journalism/Public Relations

Nancy Semotiuk
Chair, Journalism

Semotiuk is a published author and the managing editor for a vegetarian Christmas cookbook to be published in 2009.

Crawford is directing the Wwu Drama, “A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley.” He is also beginning graduate studies.

David Crawford
Drama

Alma Alfaro
Spanish

Alfaro recently published a book review and is currently writing an article on trans-nationalism.
Loren Dickinson
Adjunct professor

Dickinson has been teaching at Walla Walla University since 1962.

Jerry Hartman
Media

Hartman and his wife, Machelle, recently adopted Mica Acai, a 15-month-old from the Phillipines.

Jean-Paul Grimaud
French

Grimaud is studying the linguistics of the North West Indian dialects from the perspective of the first missionaries to this area.

Brigitte Davis
German

Davis is a licensed speech language pathologist, and enjoys being active in her church’s Pathfinder program.

Deborah Silva
Speech

Silva has been working on a recruiting plan for the communications and languages department.
## Translations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Español</th>
<th>Deutsch</th>
<th>Français</th>
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<td><strong>Medien</strong></td>
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