**Accelerated B.S. in Mass Communication and M.S. in Communication Management**

**Overview**

The Department of Mass Communication offers an accelerated bachelor's to master's program. The accelerated program allows students to earn both a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication and a master's degree in Communication Management in less time than it would take to pursue each degree separately. The program is designed to strengthen students' preparation for a career in strategic communication.

Students admitted to the accelerated program may substitute up to nine units in their undergraduate degree requirement in the Mass Communication major with nine units of graduate courses in the Communication Management program through an individualized plan.

Admission to the accelerated program does not guarantee an admission to the master's program in Communication Management. Students who are enrolled in the accelerated program and are admitted to the master's program may use the nine units towards their master's degree in Communication Management. Prospective applicants should contact the program director of the M.S. in Communication Management for detail.

**Requirements**

Undergraduate students who want to participate in the accelerated program in a bachelor's degree in Mass Communication and a master's degree in Communication Management must meet all of the following requirements:

1. Be a Mass Communication major.
2. Have a GPA of 3.25 or higher.
3. Have a minimum of 60 completed undergraduate credits (junior status). Transfer students must have completed at least 12 of the credits at TU.

Students who meet the above requirements may apply for the accelerated program by contacting the program director, Dr. Christopher Vardeman at cvardeman@towson.edu.

During the last semester of undergraduate study, students must complete an online graduate application with the University Admissions Office. Admission to the graduate program in Communication Management is based on meeting the program overall screening criteria and earning a "B" or higher in each graduate course taken as part of the accelerated program.

https://www.towson.edu/academics/undergraduate/majors/accelerated-programs/

**Plan of Study**

The individualized plan gives you the opportunity to pair your undergraduate program in Mass Communication with the graduate program in Communication Management. Approval is required from your undergraduate adviser, the department chair, and the graduate program director.

- Continuance in the master's program is contingent upon maintaining a minimum overall GPA of 3.00; students who do not maintain the minimum GPA will be ineligible to continue graduate work.

- Students must receive a grade of B or better in the double-counted undergraduate/graduate-level courses.

- Students who do not successfully complete the bachelor's portion of this program, or whose GPAs do not meet the requirements for this program, may not proceed to the graduate-level unless such deficiencies are resolved.

- Students who complete the bachelor's but decide not to continue with the master's program will terminate their program with the fulfillment of all requirements for the Bachelor's degree.

- The student will be allowed to use the graduate courses to complete the bachelor's degree.

- Students may withdraw from the accelerated bachelor's – master's degree program in Communication Management at any time by informing the department chair and the graduate program director in writing.

- A student who does not follow the approved plan of graduate work may become ineligible to participate in this accelerated degree program.

- If a student becomes ineligible to participate in the accelerated program, the Communication Management program director shall inform the student in writing.

- A student who is ineligible to continue participation in or who withdraws from the accelerated degree program cannot double-count any courses for both the bachelor's and master's degrees.