

2015 Update

Communication Studies

Summary of five year open-ended responses to alumni questionnaire: Responses to an open question about any thoughts the alum had on the program (**sixty-nine** alumni responding)

Strengths Noted	# of Responses
<i>General Praise for Program as a whole:</i>	34
<i>Faculty:</i>	55
Faculty (General comments of praise and appreciation) (20)	
Faculty expertise in and passion for the discipline and for teaching (17)	
Faculty caring about and taking a personal interest in the students (18)	
Variety of the faculty (2)	
<i>Material covered in the Program:</i>	44
Courses were excellent (17)	
Material is helpful and applicable to everyday life (12)	
Material is helpful for the future life and/or my career (11)	
Loved learning the material (4)	
<i>Impact on student:</i>	15
Changed the student's life positively (9)	
Increased student's skills/knowledge associated with the major (6)	
<i>Would recommend this major to others</i>	7
<i>Student community was a plus</i>	6
<i>Department Advisor</i>	6
<i>Great as a double major</i>	1
<i>Good class sizes</i>	1

Areas to Improve Noted:	
<i>Need more classes:</i>	18
Hard to get into desired classes (11)	
Need a QI class in the program (2)	
Need for research methods courses (2)	
More variety of summer courses (1)	
Like more classes on culture (1)	
Like more classes on conflict (1)	
<i>Career focus:</i>	9
More internships (2)	
More career preparation/guidance (7)	
<i>Need a Graduate program</i>	5
<i>The name "Speech" communication is hard to explain -- change it</i>	3
<i>Like a more business focus</i>	1
<i>Hard to get good grades</i>	1
<i>Like more opportunities for students to get together</i>	1
<i>Like more service learning opportunities</i>	1
<i>Would like to see the program get bigger</i>	1
<i>Would like fewer group projects</i>	1
<i>More focus on application</i>	1

Response to future plans questions:

Going directly into career or family life = 38
Going directly on to graduate school = 17
Working, but thinking of graduate school = 14

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Year-by-Year Summaries

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2015

Communication Studies

Responses to an open question about any thoughts the alumni had on the program (**Sixteen** alumni responding)

	# of Responses
Pros	
General Praise for Program as a whole:	9
Faculty:	10
Faculty (General comments of praise and appreciation) (4)	
Faculty expertise in and passion for the discipline and for teaching (3)	
Faculty caring about and taking a personal interest in the students (3)	
Material covered in the Program	6
Courses were excellent (2)	
Material is helpful and applicable to everyday life (2)	
Material is helpful for the future life and/or my career (2)	
Changed the student's life positively	2
Student community was a plus:	1
Dept. Advisor	2
 Cons	
More Career focus	1
More time to present student research or prepare for grad school	2
Hard to get into classes	6
Need a Graduate program	3

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2014

Communication Studies

Responses to an open question about any thoughts the alumni had on the program (**Seventeen** alumni responding)

	# of Responses
Pros	
General Praise for Program as a whole:	14
Faculty:	11
Faculty (General comments of praise and appreciation) (3)	
Faculty expertise in and passion for the discipline and for teaching (4)	
Faculty caring about and taking a personal interest in the students (4)	

Material covered in the Program	12
Courses were excellent (3)	
Material is helpful and applicable to everyday life (4)	
Material is helpful for the future life and/or my career (5)	
Impact on student:	5
Changed the student's life positively (1)	
Increased student's skills /knowledge associated with the major (4)	
Would recommend this major to others:	3
Student community was a plus:	2
Dept. Advisor	1
Cons	
Career focus	3
More internships (2)	
More career preparation (1)	
Need more classes	6
More variety of summer courses (1)	
Need a QI class in the program (2)	
Hard to get into classes (2)	
Need for research methods courses (1)	
Need a Graduate program	1

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2013

Communication Studies

Responses to an open question about any thoughts the alumni had on the program (**Fifteen** alumni responding)

Pros	# of Responses
General Praise for Program as a whole:	5
Faculty:	17
Faculty (General comments of praise and appreciation) (8)	
Faculty expertise in and passion for the discipline and for teaching (4)	
Faculty caring about and taking a personal interest in the students (4)	
Variety of faculty (1)	
Material covered in the Program	17
Courses were excellent (11)	
Material is helpful and applicable to everyday life (3)	
Material is helpful for the future life and/or my career (1)	
Loved learning the material (2)	
Impact on student:	6
Changed the student's life positively (4)	
Increased student's skills /knowledge associated with the major (2)	
Would recommend this major to others:	2
Student community was a plus:	2
Dept. Advisor	2

Cons

Need more career guidance	3
Hard to get into classes	2
Need a research methods course	1
Like more of a business focus	1

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2012

Communication Studies

Responses to an open question about any thoughts the alumni had on the program (**Eleven** alumni responding)

Pros **# of Responses**

General Praise for Program as a whole:	4
Faculty:	11
Faculty (General comments of praise and appreciation) (3)	
Faculty expertise in and passion for the discipline and for teaching (4)	
Faculty caring about and taking a personal interest in the students (4)	
Material covered in the Program	10
Courses were excellent (2)	
Material is helpful and applicable to everyday life (5)	
Material is helpful for the future life and/or my career (1)	
Loved learning the material (2)	
Impact on student:	5
Changed the student's life positively (3)	
Increased student's skills /knowledge associated with the major (2)	
Would recommend this major to others:	1
Sense of community in program was a plus:	2
Dept. Advisor	2

Cons

Need more career guidance	2
Hard to get good grades	1
Like more on culture than the one intercultural class	1
Like more service learning opportunities	1
Like more activities for students to get together	1

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2011

Communication Studies

Responses to an open question about any thoughts the alumni had on the program (**Ten** alumni responding)

Pros **# of Responses**

General Praise for Program as a whole:	6
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Faculty:	9
Faculty (General comments of praise and appreciation) (2)	
Faculty expertise in and passion for the discipline and for teaching (3)	
Faculty caring about and taking a personal interest in the students (3)	
Variety of faculty (1)	
Material covered in the Program:	7
Courses were excellent (2)	
Material is helpful and applicable to everyday life (3)	
Material is helpful for the future life and/or my career (1)	
Great as part of a double major (1)	
Increased student's skills /knowledge associated with the major	2
Cons	
Need more career guidance	1
The name "Speech" Communication is hard to explain	3
Would like the program to get bigger	1
Hard to get into classes	1
Like more classes on conflict	1
Would like less group projects	1