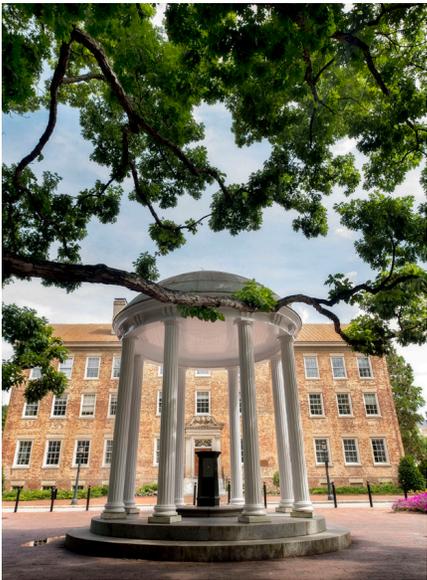




SCHOOL OF MEDIA AND JOURNALISM

Doctor of Philosophy in Media and Communication



Program Handbook

2019 ENTERING COHORT

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Welcome to the UNC School of Media and Journalism's doctoral program! We are delighted to have you in the program and look forward to working with you during the next several years.

This information and resource guide is designed to provide you with the basic information about how the program works, what resources are available to you and what your responsibilities are. ***As questions arise, please refer to this document FIRST before contacting your advisor, the graduate program coordinator or the Ph.D. program director.*** All necessary forms related to the program and other pertinent information can be found on the J-School Grad Programs Sakai site at <http://sakai.unc.edu/portal/site/mjgp>. Your Onyen and password are required to log in.

All students are added to our **graduate student listserv**, which is very active and contains important announcements about curriculum, teaching opportunities, funding opportunities, colloquium announcements and job announcements.

Philosophy of the Program

The Ph.D. in Media and Communication is designed for outstanding graduate students preparing for academic faculty positions or research jobs in communication-related industries or positions. Our Ph.D. program is interdisciplinary and is tailored to the needs of each student.

Students are expected to attain a high degree of competence in research methodology and develop expertise in at least one substantive area of study, as well as a broad range of knowledge in communication science. The specific content of your program will be determined by you and your dissertation committee and will vary with your background, interests and goals.

The Ph.D. degree constitutes demonstration of (1) general knowledge of the field by passing courses that reflect the breadth of the discipline, (2) specific knowledge in a substantive area of the field by passing appropriate courses and comprehensive exams at the end of coursework, (3) ability to conduct independent research and (4) completion of all degree requirements.

As in most doctoral programs, much of the learning of subject matter and academic norms occurs outside the classroom. Students benefit from working closely with their advisors and other student and faculty colleagues while in the program. To this end, it is incumbent upon you to seek out these relationships. Spend time with your temporary advisor by having regular meetings outside of class. With her/his assistance, identify the person you would like to be your permanent advisor early in the program and develop a relationship with that person soon. Research collaboration with students and faculty within and outside this school is also strongly encouraged.

Progress toward the degree will be measured by classroom performance, as well as your developing mastery of scholarship. As part of this mastery, Ph.D. students are expected to actively practice their research skills inside and outside of classroom requirements. Students are also expected to participate fully in the school's academic activities. This includes attending colloquia and participating in practice research presentation sessions, all of which are integral in becoming a good scholar and academic colleague.

Advising and Registration

Upon entering the Ph.D. program, you were assigned a temporary advisor to help acquaint you with our program, culture and faculty. We encourage you to decide, by the end of your first year, whom you want as your permanent advisor. This person might or might not be your temporary advisor. The decision should be based on compatibility of academic interests and the faculty member's ability to guide your work.

Changing advisors late in the program is only acceptable if your dissertation direction does not match the expertise of your current advisor and your coursework provides a basis for the dissertation.

It is important to maintain a good relationship with your advisor. Your advisor has been through the rigors of building an academic career and knows about course selection, viable research proposals, job hunting and the like. Ask this person questions, and ask often. He or she will likely give considered advice to you about all facets of life as a scholar.

Registration takes place twice a year: October for the spring semester and March or April for the summer and fall terms.

- Academic course **worksheets** are available on our J-School Grad Programs site on Sakai. Use the worksheet to ensure you are meeting all degree requirements. Revisit this worksheet with your advisor each semester prior to registration.
- The graduate program coordinator will enter your course registration for your first semester. In subsequent semesters, you will register yourself in ConnectCarolina. To access ConnectCarolina, go to the portal (<http://cc.unc.edu>) and click the Student Center link.

Dissertation committee: Your advisor chairs your dissertation committee and helps you choose the other committee members. Your advisor is the primary person who will work closely with you on dissertation design, drafts and related materials.

- The committee consists of **three** members from within the School of Media and Journalism and **two** members from other disciplines on campus or at other universities.
- You may petition to have four committee members from within the school and one outside member.
- Committee configuration must be approved by your committee chair and the senior associate dean for graduate studies.

All members of your committee will ask you questions during your comprehensive (written and oral) examinations, review your dissertation proposal and read your dissertation.

Program administration: Administrators of the Ph.D. program are available to answer questions as they arise:

Ph.D. Program Director

Daniel Kreiss, Ph.D.
dkreiss@email.unc.edu
415-238-6924
Carroll 377

Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Studies (SADGS)

Heidi Hennink-Kaminski, Ph.D.
h2kamins@unc.edu
919-962-2555
Carroll 361

Graduate Program Coordinator

Ann Schmitt, M.A.
amschmit@email.unc.edu
919-834-8307
Carroll 363

Planning your Program of Study

Coursework

Our doctoral program is designed to be flexible and interdisciplinary, while ensuring that students are equipped to (a) conduct rigorous research and (b) teach or practice in at least one substantive area.

A full course load is 12 credit hours per semester. Students must complete at least 48 credit hours of coursework while in the Ph.D. program (not counting the 6 credits for the dissertation).

The 54-credit-hour program

- 9 credit hours (three courses) comprise the three-course core listed below
- 39 credit hours of coursework remain
 - At least 12 credit hours (four courses) must be research methods.
 - At least 15 credit hours (five courses) must be in a substantive area (see below).
 - The remaining 12 hours (four courses) are selected in consultation with your advisor.
 - 6 credit hours of dissertation credit are split between semesters in the third year
 - 3 hours of dissertation credit in the fall semester
 - 3 hours of dissertation credit in the spring semester

Other coursework requirements (16 courses total)

- At least 24 credits (eight courses) of the 48 credits of coursework must be 700- or 800-level courses within our school
 - One 3-credit 900-level course may be counted in this 24-credit requirement (not recommended in the first year of study).
- Up to 24 credits (eight courses) may be graduate-level courses taken outside our school throughout UNC-Chapel Hill or at a partner institution.
 - 400- through 600-level courses may be taken upon consulting with your advisor.
 - One additional 3-credit 900-level MEJO course from within our school may be counted in this body of coursework (not recommended in the first year of study).

Three-course core*

Our core courses (9 credit hours) ensure that you have a sufficiently broad base of understanding of the key areas of our field and are introduced to the academy. You will be able to talk intelligently with colleagues in various specialties, make connections between different areas of research, inform your teaching of undergraduates and develop strong relationships with your fellow doctoral students.

- MEJO 703: Mass Communication Research Methods
- MEJO 705: Theories of Communication
- MEJO 801: Professional Seminar in Mass Communication

* Request a **waiver** from the SADGS for any of the above core courses **by Aug. 1** of the summer prior to entering the Ph.D. program based on recommendation of temporary advisor and Ph.D. program director.

Although statistics is not a required course, **it is recommended that most students take a statistics course** early on to become literate in this type of analysis and thus able to interpret and judge the quality of the quantitative research encountered in academic journals and books. The school now offers a two-course statistics sequence (fall, spring) to equip students.

Substantive areas of study

We support the below substantive areas in our school with faculty and curricula. See <http://mj.unc.edu/phd/curriculum> for detailed descriptions of each. You are expected to be competent to teach and/or practice in the substantive area you choose, in addition to conducting scholarly research in this area. Ask your advisor, other faculty and current graduate students for advice on selecting appropriate courses to develop expertise in an area.

- Health communication
- Legal and regulatory issues in communication
- Media uses and effects
- Media processes and production
- Political, social and strategic communication

Four-course research methods requirement (beyond the core)

You and your advisor identify research methods courses that align with your area of study and/or dissertation. In order to be counted as one of your four required research methods courses, the seminar or upper-level course must:

- Be specifically labeled as a research methods course.
- Teach a recognized method, such as content analysis, survey research, ethnography, cultural studies, textual analysis, legal research, historiography or experimental design.
- Provide significant instruction in appropriate methodology for students conducting primary research, which should lead to the production of actual research and a paper appropriate for convention presentation or publication—may count as a methods course.
- Include instruction in both a substantive area and methodology—may count toward both the methods and substantive area.

Note: If you propose a dissertation project for which you have inadequate methodological training, your advisor and/or committee might require you to take additional methods courses before approving your proposal.

Course numbering

400 through 600 level: Offered to advanced undergraduates and graduate students. These courses help graduate students learn about areas not covered in their previous training. Doctoral students should take very few of these courses, and take them early in the program. The syllabus for each of these courses must clearly indicate what graduate-level work must be completed beyond the expectations for undergraduate students. Please proactively connect with the instructor to clarify this expectation for each such course in which you are enrolled.

700 level: Offered only to graduate students. These courses provide intensive study of certain specialized subjects. Often called reading courses, these classes are literature-oriented and may be lecture in format. Doctoral students will take many of these courses.

800 level: Offered only to graduate students. These seminars are designed for intensive investigation and should yield conference papers and/or publications. If the seminars change substantially under different professors or even under the same professor, you may—with permission of your advisor—be allowed to take the same numbered seminar a second time.

First days of class: Many graduate-level classes meet only one day a week. Don't be surprised, therefore, if the instructor decides to assign readings for the very first class of the semester. Check your email and course Sakai site before the first day of classes to see whether an instructor has used this option.

Example schedule

Our program requires two years of coursework and one additional year to complete a comprehensive exam and dissertation. Some students finish their dissertations in one year; others take longer. Here is one possible timetable for program completion:

Year	Fall semester	Spring semester
1	MEJO 703 (Methods) MEJO 705 (Theory) MEJO 704 (Statistics) or 4xx, 5xx, 6xx ¹ MEJO 801 (Pro-seminar)	4xx, 5xx, 6xx, 7xx or 8xx 7xx or 8xx outside MEJO
2	7xx or 8xx 7xx or 8xx outside MEJO 7xx, 8xx or 900 ²	7xx or 8xx 7xx or 8xx outside MEJO 8xx 8xx or 900
3	Written exam Preparation for dissertation proposal Oral exam Dissertation research	Dissertation research and writing Dissertation defense

¹ 400- through 600-level courses should be taken in the first year of doctoral studies to lay the groundwork necessary for later coursework. These classes may be taken in or out of the school. Generally, seminars should only be taken in the first semester if you have the research skills or background necessary to profit from the research intensity of these courses.

² One of these courses in the last year may be a MEJO 900 course if the school offers no courses particularly on target for your research interests. Remember that only one MEJO 900 course may count toward the minimum of 24 hours of 700- through 900-level MEJO courses.

Courses at other institutions (inter-institutional enrollment)

A doctoral student may register for courses at North Carolina State University, UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Charlotte, North Carolina Central University and/or Duke University for the same tuition as at UNC-Chapel Hill. The student must be registered for at least 3 credit hours on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. The student may take a maximum of **two graduate-level courses** at another institution during fall or spring semester and a maximum of one graduate-level course during a summer semester. The minimum passing grade for all above partner institutions is C. Therefore, a C earned at a partner institution will be transferred in to your transcript as an L. Any F will transfer in as an F.

A student must submit to the graduate program coordinator an **Inter-Institutional Registration form** available on Sakai (under Ph.D. coursework materials) with the signatures of his/her advisor and the SADGS, certifying:

- The course is appropriate for the student's degree program and is a graduate-level course:
 - o Duke University - 500 and above
 - o North Carolina Central University - 4000 and above
 - o North Carolina State University - 500 and above
 - o UNC-Charlotte - 5000 and above
 - o UNC-Greensboro - 500 and above
- An equivalent course is not available on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus.

- The course is not a pass/fail course. (Inter-institutional courses may not be taken pass/fail.)

To enroll, submit the form with the advisor signature to the graduate program coordinator **no later than the first day of classes of the semester in which the student will be enrolled.** The coordinator will send it on for The Graduate School dean's signature. The Graduate School will then process the registration. More information can be found at: <http://registrar.unc.edu/guide/special-enrollments/inter-institutional-programs>.

Independent studies (MEJO 900)

Ph.D. students may benefit from gaining expertise in an area in which a graduate course is not offered. Independent studies generally take two forms: 1) an advanced offering around an undergraduate course or 2) a semester-long independent study culminating in an appropriate graduate project, paper, or thesis proposal.

In all cases, a completed **Authorization for Independent Study form**, available on the J-School Grad Programs Sakai site, is required and must be signed by the student, the faculty member with whom the independent study will commence, the Ph.D. program director and the SADGS. The student must work with the faculty member to create a syllabus or other document that outlines in detail what the student will be required to produce for the course, as well as the frequency of contact the faculty member will have with the student over the course of the semester and what the course deliverables will be. This information must be provided when the authorization form is submitted for approval. The form and syllabus must be submitted to the graduate program coordinator and approved by the SADGS by the first day of the semester.

No more than two independent studies may count toward the degree.

If an undergraduate course is offered on the subject or method sought by the graduate student, the instructor may approve that the student takes the course as an independent study, with additional work assigned to bring the course to the graduate level. The student must register for MEJO 900 or appropriate graduate-level independent study number for a class outside the school. A student may take only one independent study of this type.

An instructor may also agree to sponsor a semester-long independent study culminating in an appropriate graduate project or paper. A student may only take one independent study of this type.

Foreign language requirement

Demonstrated competency in a foreign language might be required if your advisor determines it is relevant to one of your substantive areas of study. For example, students in international communication might need to demonstrate such competency. (Courses in a foreign language will not be counted toward the 48-hour credit requirement.)

UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate School requirements

- The Graduate School requires Ph.D. students to take **four semesters of residence credit** at UNC-Chapel Hill. At least two semesters must be in continuous registration on this campus.
- You must be registered whenever university resources, including faculty time, are being used, in order to appropriately reflect work being done. Students who lapse enrollment lose official student status and university affiliation. This jeopardizes your access to library databases, student health care, financial aid eligibility and other services. **Whether on campus or not, if you are using university resources to work on dissertation or other projects, you MUST be registered.**

Documenting coursework and program requirement notes/exceptions

Our school uses the **Ph.D. Student Worksheet** to make note of your fulfillment of course requirements. The form can be found on the J-School Grad Programs Sakai site and can be filled out electronically.

You are responsible for keeping this form up to date electronically in consultation with your advisor. Please also keep a copy of the electronic form on your personal computer (in addition to sending updated forms to the graduate program coordinator) so that you have a copy readily available. Any updates should be sent to the graduate program coordinator with the most recent date of update listed so that your school file remains current. Likewise, the graduate program coordinator will have access to the form located in your school records file and can also help you with keeping it up to date and in compliance with our program requirements.

Sections of this form include:

- Semester taken and grade obtained for the core coursework
- Courses for the research methods requirement
- Courses for the substantive area of study
- Courses for a minor area of study (optional)
- Coursework that fulfills the requirement of having eight in-school MEJO courses at the 700 to 900 levels
- For each section (core, research methods, substantive area, minor area, MEJO in-school requirement) any course waivers, exceptions granted or other comments needed to interpret the way in which the courses fulfill the program requirements
- Date of last update to the form

Grades and Maintaining Program Eligibility

All master's and doctoral programs administered through The Graduate School operate under the same grading system. The graduate grading scale in use at UNC-Chapel Hill is unique in that it **cannot be converted to the more traditional ABC grading scale. Graduate students do not carry a numerical GPA.**

Grading at the graduate level is intended to offer feedback to students on their performance in a given course, including once students reach the thesis or dissertation stage. Faculty are encouraged to specify course requirements and grading expectations for students. Students enrolled in courses numbered 400 and above must receive one of the following grades:

- *H* (clear excellence) should be reserved for truly outstanding work, and it should be given rarely.
- *P* (entirely satisfactory) is the most common grade, and one student should be proud of.
- *L* (low passing) is cause of concern.

Students are expected to earn *P* (pass) or *H* (high pass) in all courses, including core courses. Graduate students in 400- through 600-level courses will receive final grades of *H*, *P*, *L* or *F* as well.

For **inter-institutional courses**, a grade received for a graduate-level course that is the lowest non-failing grade for the partner institution will be interpreted as *L*. *F* will transfer as *F*. The minimum passing grade for all above-mentioned institutions is *C*. Grades earned for courses taken through inter-institutional registration do factor into a graduate student's academic eligibility calculation.

UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate School policies

- **Students who receive two Ls (low pass) on their doctoral transcript are placed on academic probation** and must consult with their advisor and the Ph.D. program director immediately. Academic probation signals that the student will become academically ineligible to complete the program if he/she receives a third *L*.
- **Students may not continue in the program if they:**
 - Receive a grade of *F* (fail) in a graduate course; or
 - Receive 9 or more credit hours of *L* grades (three Ls).
- **Students must complete the Ph.D. within eight calendar years** from the date of first registration in the program.
- **Medical withdrawal:** A student may have physical or mental health issues arise that prevent continuation of the program at that time. A medical withdrawal may be possible, allowing the student to resume study at another point in time. Students who withdraw in their first semester, however, must completely **re-apply** to the program if they wish to return. A student should talk to the SADGS about the available options. Detailed information about the process can be found on the Registrar's website (<https://unc.live/2KA7KE5>).
- **Incompletes:** A grade of incomplete (*IN*) is given when the course instructor determines that **exceptional circumstances** warrant extending the time for the student to complete the course. Instructors should assign a grade of *IN* when the student took the final examination but did not complete some other course requirement. The *IN* is a temporary grade that converts to an *F* unless the grade is replaced with a permanent grade by the last day of classes for the same term one year later. An *IN* may not be submitted when the student is absent from the final examination; a grade of *AB* is the appropriate grade under such circumstances.
 - The instructor may set the maximum allowable period (one year) to reverse the *IN*, but the time period should be linked to the specific circumstances faced by the student. This information should be transmitted in writing to the student and copied to the SADGS and The Graduate School. It is the sole responsibility of the student to complete the course and initiate the grade change prior to the deadline.

- o An incomplete becomes part of your permanent transcript; the grade that you finally earn in the course appears right next to it. The change of grade must be entered by the instructor no later than the last day of classes one year later. (e.g., A student with an incomplete in fall 2019 must have a change of permanent grade submitted by the last day of classes—not exams—of fall 2020.)
- o Practically speaking, this means the student must have the completed work to the professor well before the last day of classes to allow time for grading and the change of grade process to be filed. In addition, if you don't finish one semester's work before embarking on the next, you will be perpetually behind. If the incomplete is not removed within one year, it automatically becomes an F, making you ineligible to continue your studies. All incompletes must be removed before you may take comprehensive exams.
- The Graduate School's graduate student parental leave policy is designed to support full-time graduate students immediately after the birth or adoption of a child. Students must be full-time students, and must have been full-time students for at least one academic year before leave is taken. The policy can be found here: https://gradschool.unc.edu/pdf/parental_leave.pdf, and the request form here: https://gradschool.unc.edu/pdf/parental_leave_application.pdf. A student should communicate closely with her/his chair/advisor, the Ph.D. program director and the SADGS about their plan to take leave.

MJ-school policies

A Ph.D. student who receives an L in a **core course** must talk immediately to the course instructor, his/her advisor and the Ph.D. program director about performing some form of remediation to demonstrate competence. Remediation is at the discretion of the instructor and may include retaking the course. If the remedial work is not retaking the course, the work must be complete by the end of the following semester. If the student again earns an L in the remedial work, he or she must retake the course until a grade of P is earned. If a student earns 3 Ls in the course or across other courses, he or she will not be allowed to continue in the program. The original grade(s) of L remain(s) on the student's official record, and the credit hours associated with retaking the course shall not count toward the degree program.

Comprehensive Exam and Dissertation Process

Become very familiar with The Graduate School's Thesis and Dissertation Guide and follow its rules as well as style conventions for your area (<http://gradschool.unc.edu/etdguide>).

Committee composition

Choose program advisor/dissertation chair by end of first year if possible.

- The advisor should hold a Ph.D. degree.
- With advisor's guidance, select and recruit dissertation committee:
 - o Two additional members of the MEJO faculty who hold a Ph.D. or other terminal graduate degree
 - o Two faculty members outside our school
 - If outside the university, upload the CV to Sakai (J-school Grad Programs/Assignments/CV for External Committee Member). The SADGS will be asked to verify and approve temporary graduate faculty status. Internally approved requests go on for Graduate School approval and appointment.
 - You may petition to have a fourth MEJO member if two outside members cannot be identified.
- All committee members are required to be recognized as graduate faculty by The Graduate School.

Submit the **Report of Doctoral Committee Composition form** and **Report of Approved Dissertation Project form (Part I)** to the graduate program coordinator. This form will be scanned into your student record and electronically maintained.

Comprehensive exams

Comprehensive exams are designed to show your overall mastery of the fields you have identified as your substantive area(s) of study. Questions are often based on the course work you have done with the members of your committee. If you provide your committee members with information about your dissertation, some committee members might elect to ask a question pertinent to your dissertation.

Each committee member contributes a question to the student's exam for a total of five questions. Actively seek guidance from committee members regarding how to prepare for their comps exam question. Committee members will send their questions to the advisor, who will forward the questions to the graduate program coordinator **at least one week in advance of the first exam session.**

Written exam: The written exam typically is taken in the summer or early in the fall semester of the third year after coursework is completed. **All incompletes must be removed before taking comps.** Exams are typically closed-book (open-book allowed at the discretion of the faculty member), held in Carroll Hall and proctored by the graduate program coordinator over the course of five sessions. Students have four hours per question, unless prior arrangements are made for disability reasons, and must complete the exams within a two-week period. The student is responsible for scheduling each exam session with the graduate program coordinator at least two weeks in advance of the first session.

It is up to the student and his or her advisor to determine the exact schedule for the written exams. For example, a student might decide to take three portions of the exam the first week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and then the last two portions the following week on Tuesday and Thursday.

The advisor and committee members receive all written responses from the graduate program coordinator upon completion of exams; each member is only responsible for evaluating the response to his or her question. The committee has 10 business days to evaluate responses, not including holidays or breaks. Each response is graded accordingly:

- *Pass* – The response for this question is acceptable, although follow-up questions might still be asked in the oral exam.
- *Pass with Reservations* – a Pass, with the anticipation of a significant oral examination for that question or supplemental writing to address the identified shortcomings
- *Fail* – You must wait three months from the date of the original examination (when the initial response was written for that question) and then re-write your response to that question. **A student who fails a response twice becomes academically ineligible and cannot complete the program.**

Oral exam: The oral exam must be held within two months of receiving the last evaluation of written exam responses from committee members. Failure to do so will result in the student failing the comprehensive exams; three months must lapse before the exam may be retaken. The exam must be scheduled during the regular academic year and it may be scheduled for the same session as the dissertation proposal defense. One hour is allotted for the oral examination and one hour for the dissertation proposal defense.

The oral exam consists of questions about your responses or the areas covered in the written exam. **Three-fifths of the committee must approve the oral exam for a student to pass.** Failure to pass may necessitate further coursework or study (the advisor is responsible for ensuring committee wishes are met). If a student fails the oral exam, three months must lapse before reconvening. **A student who fails orals twice must leave the program.** Once the oral exam is passed, the committee must sign Parts I and II of the **Doctoral Exam Report**, which may be found on the J-School Grad Programs Sakai site. Please submit this form to the graduate program coordinator after Parts I and II have been completed.

The dissertation proposal

In choosing your dissertation topic, remember that you must live with it for a year or more and you are identifying your research path for at least several years after graduation. Consider your interests as well as your resources when making the determination. Consider your advisor's advice carefully. The dissertation is not just a degree requirement; it's a career launching pad. Try to pick a research project that can result in at least several conference papers and articles; in some disciplines, you can get a book out of your dissertation with proper planning. Talk with your advisor seriously about a topic that will be useful in more ways than one.

The dissertation proposal consists of:

- Introduction to topic area
- Literature review of conceptual underpinnings and prior findings
- Research questions or hypotheses
- Detailed methods section
- Plan of data analysis
- Timeline for completion
- Appendices with relevant study materials
- References

Final dissertations include the following additions:

- Revision of the method section
- Results and associated tables/figures in appendices if needed
- Limitations and conclusion
- Revisions requested during the proposal defense

The advisor must give final approval to all chapters and supplementary materials before the proposal is distributed to the other committee members. The proposal should be submitted to committee members **no less than 10 business days prior to the defense date** (not including holidays or breaks).

The purpose of defense is to seek approval of the committee members to conduct the study/studies in accordance to the agreed-upon research design. Committee members may request revisions to the document. **All committee members must approve the proposal.** A failed proposal defense means you must rewrite the proposal. Proposal approval constitutes a contractual agreement regarding the research design.

The proposal defense may be scheduled with the oral exam. Once the proposal is approved, each committee member must sign Part II of the **Report of Doctoral Committee Composition and Report of Approved Dissertation Project**. A student who successfully defends the oral examination and the proposal becomes "ABD" (all but dissertation), is a "Ph.D. candidate" and may apply for doctoral candidacy with The Graduate School using the **Application for Admission to Candidacy** form.

If needed, a student must seek **Institutional Review Board** approval for using human subjects in the research. It is required by federal statute to review proposals before any contact with participants is made and may take two or more weeks to secure approval. For complete information and forms, visit Office of Human Research Ethics website at <http://research.unc.edu/ohre/index.php>.

The student should work closely with the advisor on the dissertation. Especially during the dissertation phase, please be considerate of your advisor. The dissertation drafts you turn in should be professionally done and free of spelling or grammar mistakes. Proper annotation format should be followed. Use your advisor's time for substantive critiques, not for remedial editing.

In addition, watch your scheduling carefully. Advisors will likely have more time to read and reflect on your work early in the semester. The closer it gets to midterm, term-paper or final exam time, faculty schedules become less flexible. Summers are problematic because faculty must get their own research, writing and class preparation done during this time. The agreement between student and advisor is a two-way street; do your part to keep things moving. Plan early!

Final dissertation defense

The advisor must give final approval to all chapters and supplementary materials before the dissertation is distributed to the other committee members. The dissertation should be submitted to committee members **no less than 10 business days prior to the defense date** (not including holidays or breaks). The oral defense of final dissertation must occur within eight years of the first semester of doctoral work (the semester you enrolled).

Committee members judge the quality of work and adherence to the final proposal and may request revisions to the document, including additional analyses. The committee may not request changes to research design at this point because proposal approval constitutes a contractual agreement regarding the research design. **If the committee feels a complete rewrite of the dissertation is needed, this constitutes failure of the oral defense.** The student must perform the rewrite and reschedule the defense. Once the defense is successful, each committee member must sign Part III of the Doctoral Exam Report. The student is now a Dr.! In most cases, revisions will be required. Once the revisions are complete, the advisor should check and sign **Part IV of the Doctoral Exam Report** and submit to the graduate program coordinator.

The dissertation must be submitted electronically to The Graduate School only after Doctoral Exam Report is complete and turned in to graduate program coordinator. The submission must include an abstract (not exceeding 350 words) for publication in Journalism and Mass Communication Abstracts.

Embargo options: Some students may wish to request a delay in the publication of their dissertation in order to give time to work towards journal or book publication. Students can request an embargo through ProQuest, which will be reviewed by The Graduate School. Per The Graduate School, its submission software “provides a method for written restriction requests. The university will consider all such justifications requesting a temporary embargo period, during which your document would not be made available. At the end of the requested period your document will join all other theses and dissertations available to the public at UMI and the UNC Libraries.” For additional information, see <http://gradschool.unc.edu/student/etd>.

Approval for graduation is based on guidelines listed in the Registrar’s calendar for the semester in which you plan to graduate. **You are eligible to walk in the UNC-Chapel Hill hooding ceremony only after submitting your final electronic dissertation to The Graduate School before the stated deadline on the University Registrar’s calendar.** You may walk in the MJ-school’s ceremony if you have successfully defended your final dissertation during that academic year or will defend by the deadline to graduate in Summer Session II with an August date of degree conferral. Your name will be listed in the program, and the term of graduation will be noted (December, May, August).

Comprehensive Exam, Dissertation and Graduation Paperwork

All forms must be filed with The Graduate School in the proper sequence at the proper time. Your advisor, the Ph.D. program director and the graduate program coordinator can assist with getting paperwork completed and submitted, but it is ultimately your responsibility to ensure all requirements are completed. Forms are found at <http://gradschool.unc.edu/forms> and on our J-School Grad Programs site on Sakai.

Report of Doctoral Committee Composition and Report of Approved Dissertation Project (Parts I and II)

- Part I of this form is the list of committee members and advisor. Part I must be submitted **before your written comprehensive exams** because your committee composes the exam questions.
- Part II is to report the approval of your dissertation proposal by your committee members. All committee members must sign the form.

Doctoral Exam Report (Parts I-IV)

- *Part I: Report of Preliminary Written Examination* – The committee signs this part after all written comprehensive exam responses are evaluated as Pass or Pass with Reservations. You may wait until the oral comprehensive exam to get this signed.
- *Part II: Report of Oral Examination* – Your advisor completes this part once three-fifths of your committee approves the oral portion of the exams.
- *Part III: Report of the Final Oral Examination (defense of dissertation)* – The committee signs this form, saying the oral defense of the dissertation is acceptable. (Revisions might be needed, but a complete rewrite of the dissertation is not.)
- *Part IV: Report of the Final Dissertation* – The advisor verifies that all revisions requested during the oral defense have been completed. All committee members must also sign this section.

Application for Admission to Candidacy for a Doctoral Degree

Admission to candidacy signifies that the only outstanding requirement for the Ph.D. degree is the final dissertation. This is an *optional form* used to request the ABD (all-but-dissertation) notation on your transcript.

Application for graduation

Apply through the ConnectCarolina system. The Graduate School will review your academic record to be sure you are eligible to graduate. **The Graduate School must clear you first, before your degree can be conferred in the university ceremony.**

Copy of dissertation for Park Library

Once revisions are completed, you are to electronically submit your final dissertation document, the release form and the **Program Certification of Degree Requirements** via Sakai to the graduate program coordinator and it will be kept in the Park Library catalog.

Academic Paper Submissions

It is important to understand the expectations of writing and submitting academic papers for presentation or publication consideration, as well as **authorship** of the work. Authorship credits the work of those involved in making dissemination of findings of a project possible. Authorship can also be a negotiation process. Discuss authorship **early on** whenever engaging in collaborative research or research guided by a faculty member. For guidelines in determining authorship order, visit: <http://www.apa.org/science/leadership/students/authorshippaper.aspx>.

Submitting papers to academic conferences

- Follow blind judging procedures; paper reviewers should not know who wrote the paper.
- Go into Preferences in your file and remove all identifying information before saving and submitting the file.
- Avoid posting the paper online and generating buzz while the paper is under review.
- Meet length requirements.
- Adhere to submission deadlines.
- Footnote/bibliography style varies by venue. Identify and follow the preferred style.
- Check spelling, grammar and layout prior to submission.
- Do not submit the same paper to several organizations at the same time.
- Wait for a rejection from the first venue before submitting to a different venue.
- If using quantitative data, you may submit papers using the same data set, provided different arguments/ analyses/results are presented.
- Submission is an implicit agreement that you will attend the conference if the paper is accepted—do not submit if you know in advance that you will not attend.
- If the paper is accepted, you will be notified whether your acceptance will be presented in a paper/panel presentation or as a poster presentation; details should soon follow.

Submitting papers to academic journals

- Follow all author guidelines (e.g., length, annotation style, blinding) posted by journal.
- Ensure a professional-looking paper (e.g., check spelling, grammar, layout).
- Do not submit the same paper to more than one journal.
- Wait for a decision from the journal before sending the manuscript elsewhere. Law journals are exceptions; you may submit a legal article to more than one law journal for review and then choose which one to publish in, if both accept the paper.
- Expect a reviewing period of between two and five months.
- The most common outcomes for a first submission are a rejection or a revise-and-resubmit. If you receive an R&R, congratulations! Consult with faculty on how substantial the requests are and whether/how to meet those requests.
- You may include a line (after the paper is accepted) on the title page acknowledging the assistance of a faculty member or other colleague who is not a co-author on the paper.
- For information about journal impact factors or other ranking information, you may check the Journal Citation Reports available through the main campus library database.

Submitting a book manuscript

Book manuscripts break most of these rules. For instance, you may query several publishing houses at the same time with the same basic proposal. You then would go with the first or the best deal. Play fair—you might need to work with a rejected house at a later time. Not all publishing houses are the same in terms of reputation, the terms they offer to authors (such as the price point of their books) or the rigor of their peer review process. It is highly advisable that you ask for advice from faculty members or senior members of the field about the book-publishing process. In addition, consult the guidelines from the publishing house regarding the proposal and sample chapters. Standard proposals include an overview of the work, detailed chapter outlines, information on the market for the book and the author, and a timeline for completion. First-time book authors usually are expected to submit multiple chapters of the work for review. It is also helpful to reach out to editors at publishing houses or series editors to ask for sample proposals and the fit of your work with the publishing house or series.

Policies for Graduate Student Instructors

Doctoral students will discuss areas of teaching interest their first semester with the professional seminar instructor. Teaching assignments will be made by the SADGS based on the teaching needs of the school. Funded doctoral students will be expected to shadow and guest lecture in the course they will be expected to teach.

Eligibility

- You must be an enrolled student in good standing and have completed at least 16 credit hours in the discipline.
- You must have appropriate professional experience to teach a skills course.
- You must have completed FERPA training, per the link in the email sent by the university.

Preparation to teach

The Ph.D. Student Instructor Timeline document, available on the J-school Grad Programs Sakai site, outlines a plan for preparing to teach, including recommended workshops, steps for familiarizing yourself with your assigned course, creating your syllabus and ordering textbooks.

Evaluation

Once you begin your first semester of teaching, you should check in regularly with your advisor to address any questions or concerns that you have. Per school policy, all first-time instructors of record (including graduate students, adjuncts and junior faculty) will be observed by a full-time faculty member for one class period. Observation write-ups will be shared with you.

After your first semester of teaching is finished, you should schedule a meeting with your advisor to discuss the experience, review course evaluations and make any necessary adjustments for future classes.

Compensation

- Students who have a service/work requirement based on fellowship obligations are required to teach two times during their three years in the program. Teaching during the fall or spring semesters will count as their fulfillment of service/work for that semester.
- Students who do not have service/work requirements based on fellowship obligations receive the standard adjunct pay for teaching a course in the fall or spring.

For all students, summer teaching is compensated with a stipend determined by the Summer School office.

Summers

Some students fill their summers by taking a job in the profession or around campus. In early spring, you will be notified by the SADGS about any **available summer teaching positions**. You should also plan on using summers to turn seminar papers into conference papers or publications, to get a start on your work for fall and, between your second and third years, to study for written and oral exams and work on your dissertation proposal.

Most members of the graduate faculty are on nine-month contracts. That means that although you see them around the office occasionally during the summer months, they are using that time to do their own research and writing. If faculty members are to maintain their positions in the academic community, summer must be reserved for research and writing. Under extraordinary circumstances, faculty members may agree to administer comprehensive exams or read dissertations or proposals. However, normally all formal doctoral committee activities must be scheduled during the months of the regular school year—mid-August through the end of final exams in December and January through graduation in May, excluding university vacation periods such as spring and fall breaks.

Scholarships and Awards

School-based scholarships and awards

Each spring semester the SADGS requests applications for graduate student awards. The **Margaret Blanchard Dissertation Support Awards** and **Eli A. and Minnie S. Rubinstein Research Awards**, administered by the school, provide funding for some aspects of dissertation research. There are also small funds within the school that are awarded at the end of each year. Ph.D. students are eligible for the **William Francis Clingman Jr. Ethics** and **Tom Wicker** awards. These funds are limited, and applications always exceed the amount of money available. Applications for these scholarships are accepted via the J-school Grad Programs Sakai site.

UNC-CH Graduate School awards

The Graduate School also offers a number of competitive awards, including a Summer Research Fellowship, a Dissertation Completion Fellowship, an Off-Campus Dissertation Research Fellowship and a Graduate Student Transportation Grant to support travel to present research at conferences. The SADGS will put out a call for applications for these awards to through the student listserv. To learn more about funding opportunities from The Graduate School, visit: <http://gradschool.unc.edu/funding/gradschool/currentstudents.html>)

Diversity and Inclusion

The UNC School of Media and Journalism recognizes our leadership role in the University, academia and our professions. We developed diversity and inclusion mission and vision statements in spring 2016 with accompanying working goals to reflect an ongoing commitment to diversity in fulfilling teaching, research and service missions among faculty, staff, students and citizens of North Carolina. Our diversity and inclusion efforts reflect the MJ-school's overarching strategic plan and criteria of the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications. The MJ-school's definition of diversity and related mission statement, vision, programs and courses are outlined at http://mj.unc.edu/diversity_home.

The Graduate School and the university of North Carolina at Chapel Hill believe in providing a rich, multicultural and diverse learning environment for all students and faculty. For more information, please see <http://graddiversity.web.unc.edu>.

Resources for International Students

Writing Center

English-language resources are available through the Writing Center. Please see the links below.

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/esl/instruction/workshops>

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/esl/resources>

<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/events/list>

International student and scholar services

The administrative office for UNC-Chapel Hill international students has an international-student support group, open houses, walk-in advising times and a website full of online resources. <http://iss.unc.edu>

Additional Resources

The Graduate School Handbook: This lists the university's requirements for obtaining a doctorate. It also specifies what is left up to the department or school. This is available online at <http://handbook.unc.edu>.

A Guide to Theses and Dissertations: This publication can save money and heartache. It contains all the rules and regulations regarding how dissertations should look (margins, pagination, etc.). Make sure that you review it online and follow its rules as you prepare your dissertation. Make sure that you have a copy of the current rules when you begin to write. This is available at <http://gradschool.unc.edu/academics/thesis-diss>.

UNC Honor Code: It shall be the responsibility of every student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to obey and to support the enforcement of the Honor Code (<http://instrument.unc.edu>), which prohibits lying, cheating, or stealing when these actions involve academic processes or University, student, or academic personnel acting in an official capacity.

Tuition payment. After you enroll in courses each semester, you will be billed tuition by the UNC-CH cashier. To access your account or pay online, visit <http://cc.unc.edu>. You will be unable to register for subsequent semesters or receive your degree if your account has an outstanding balance.

Your UNC-CH email: When you set up your Onyen and password, you will generate a [UNC.edu](mailto:live@live.unc.edu) email account. Your email address begins with your Onyen and ends with "@live.unc.edu." Your instructor and classmates will use this email address to communicate with you. This email address is also where Sakai will send class announcements from instructors.

Your Onyen password expires every year, and you'll need to reset it. Set a prompt for remembering your password at <https://improv.itsapps.unc.edu>. This is the simplest way to reset it if you forget it between semesters.

Check your UNC-CH email at <http://heelmail.unc.edu>, or via an email client such as Outlook, regularly.

Information Technology support: Information Technology Services provides technology support 24 hours a day, seven days a week for students. Resources are available at <http://help.unc.edu>. This is your first point of contact for IT support.

The MJ-school's IT team maintains a website outlining its services at <http://mjhelp.web.unc.edu>.

Software: ITS provides you with the latest versions of supported programs and applications. You can download many applications at <https://software.sites.unc.edu/shareware> and gain access to Adobe Creative Cloud products

at <http://adobe.unc.edu>.

Updating personal information: Check your ConnectCarolina Student Center at <http://cc.unc.edu> to ensure that your permanent records including phone number and address are complete and accurate, or to change that contact information. It is important to keep your address updated. Following graduation, the university will mail your diploma to the home address (not mailing address) indicated in ConnectCarolina.

Any change to a student's full legal name—whether spelling, capitalization, middle name/initial, accent mark or suffix—can only be made by the Office of the Registrar (<https://registrar.unc.edu/about/contact-the-office-of-the-registrar>). The name change must match the name on an official legal document (Social Security card, birth certificate, passport, etc.).

Sakai is the learning management system used at UNC-Chapel Hill. Sakai is accessed at <http://sakai.unc.edu>. This handbook and other important documents for the graduate program are available on the J-school Grad Programs Sakai site: <http://sakai.unc.edu/portal/site/mjgp>.

LinkedIn Learning (formerly Lynda.com) training courses are available to UNC-Chapel Hill students, faculty and staff. Visit <https://software.sites.unc.edu/linkedin>.

University Libraries have more than 5 million bound volumes in open stacks and some 2 million microforms available. The library also holds manuscripts, pamphlets, maps, records, clippings, U.S. government documents and United Nations and UNESCO documents. Our online library catalog is also connected to the catalogs of N.C. State University and Duke University. UNC-CH students can borrow materials at these two universities with a valid One Card, and the interlibrary loan program can deliver materials nationwide within a relatively short period of time. In addition, there are numerous special research libraries on campus, which are members of the Center for Research Libraries. Items from special libraries are not always electronically cataloged and can take time to acquire, but borrowing privileges can last several years.

The Park Library supports the School of Media and Journalism. The Park Library can help you access various online databases, electronic files such as North Carolina's state data files, state and national polls, and online library catalogs to assist you with literature searches, data retrieval for research and teaching resources. The school librarian offers demonstrations and instruction in the use of online databases and email. Tours, guides, pathfinders and tip sheets are available to aid access to the library's collection and services.

The library subscribes to multiple serials and maintains a growing collection of books, documents and audiovisual materials in mass communication, including photojournalism, broadcast journalism, international communication, media history, media law, media management, public relations, advertising, marketing, graphics and design. Back issues of major mass communication journals are in bound volumes. Our library also maintains a special collection of MEJO faculty and alumni publications, as well as school theses, dissertations and honors essays.

Visit the Park Library's page at <http://parklibrary.mj.unc.edu>. Email the library at UNCParkLib@unc.edu, or follow on Twitter at @UNCParkLib.

The Mary Junck Research Colloquium Series features speakers who present on a variety of research topics ranging from public relations, political communication and media effects, to health communication, media history and media law. Dates, times and locations will be announced. Series events often feature a formal talk, meetings with graduate students and social events. The series is a great way to broaden your horizons, see how others present their work and make connections with scholars in other departments on campus, as well as at other universities.

The Odum Institute for Research in Social Science provides support for students and faculty involved in a number of research projects. Computer and consultative assistance is available for the asking, and IRSS maintains

a statistical library that is operated by individuals who are well acquainted with social science theory and data gathering and analysis. Information can be found at <http://odum.unc.edu>.

Certificates

The following certificates are available to degree-seeking graduate students at UNC-Chapel Hill. Please note that the requirements for some certificates may not be compatible with your MJ-school curriculum requirements and available elective slots.

The **Duke-UNC Graduate Certificate in Middle East Studies** trains students for interdisciplinary research in Middle East studies, in conjunction with the disciplinary training in their home departments.

<http://ncmideast.org/courses/graduate-certificate>

Cultural Studies @ UNC administers a concentration certificate for both master's and doctoral students who wish to augment their field of study with interdisciplinary study in cultural theory and methods. Students are expected to achieve fluency in several critical, cultural theories in relation to a variety of research problems, a reflexive attitude toward theory and methodology that reflect current and historical issues in cultural studies and an ability to conduct interdisciplinary research: to engage perspectives and empirical studies from diverse disciplines rigorously and productively.

<http://culturalstudies.web.unc.edu/graduate-certificate>

The **Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities** serves students interested in the ways that digital technologies are transforming the creation and sharing of knowledge in the humanities.

<https://cdh.unc.edu/programs/dh-graduate-certificate>

The **Graduate Certificate in Participatory Research** is an interdisciplinary program for graduate students at UNC Chapel Hill seeking training in the theoretical bases, rationale, methodologies, challenges and motivations for carrying out research in equitable partnership with communities, instead of on communities.

<http://participatoryresearch.web.unc.edu>

The **Graduate Certificate in International Peace and Conflict Resolution** is available to currently enrolled UNC-CH master's or doctoral students in all departments and schools who wish to demonstrate a specialization in issues of international peace and conflict resolution.

<http://cgi.unc.edu/programs/peace-and-conflict>

Qualitative research includes a wide range of approaches that have different purposes, and underlying theories of knowledge. Nevertheless, the essential understandings and skills required of this methodology take some time to develop. The program of studies in the **Graduate Certificate Program in Qualitative Studies** then asks that the selection of courses develop increasing levels of understanding and skill, as well as know a more specific approach in some detail.

<https://soe.unc.edu/academics/gcqs/courses.php>

Graduate students seeking to document their area expertise are encouraged to earn the **Graduate Certificate in Latin American Studies** in conjunction with an advanced degree in any UNC-CH graduate program.

<https://isa.unc.edu/graduate-opportunities>

The **Graduate Certificate in International Development** is available to UNC graduate students in all schools who wish to acquire a specialization in issues of international development and social change, whether internationally or domestically focused.

<https://ssw.unc.edu/index.php?q=node/596>

Carolina's **Jewish Studies certificate** program for graduate students is the first of its kind at any college

or university in North Carolina. The program is available to degree seeking graduate students studying in the humanities and social sciences at Carolina. It includes opportunities for graduate students to explore Jewish languages, culture, literature and history in both their coursework and research endeavors.

<http://jewishstudies.unc.edu/academics/graduate-certificate>

The **Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Certificate of Specialization** is also available for students seeking some formal training in bioinformatics and computational biology, but who wish to pursue their degree in a related discipline.

<http://bcb.unc.edu/certificate-requirements>

The **Graduate Certificate in Technology Commercialization and Entrepreneurship** is a nine-credit hour certificate for graduate students interested in the translation of science and technology into commercial products. The certificate will focus on how cutting-edge innovations are brought to the marketplace, with an emphasis on the startup company as the main vehicle for developing products which solve market needs and create value.

<http://tcgraduatecertificate.unc.edu>

Job Placement

Schools often circulate job announcements when they have open positions. When we receive a job announcement, we compile these openings into weekly “job digests” that are sent to the student listserv. Students on the job market should also look for job postings through the professional societies of our field, including AEJMC, ICA and NCA. In addition, many professional organizations run placement services and hold interviews during annual conferences.

For industry positions, check the professional publications in the library. Some associations (e.g., BEA, ICA) also have listings for industry jobs or research positions outside academia.

Other resources

Take advantage of the research presentation practice sessions held within our school. Participate in the annual end-of-year research colloquium featuring graduate student work. Use the Mary Junck Colloquium series as a means of networking. Go to the brown-bag sessions organized by your fellow graduate students, many of whom are currently on the job market. Schedule your own practice job talk and invite faculty and students to attend and provide constructive feedback. Take full advantage of our network of alumni at academic conferences. These are all common, and useful, events our school’s academic community offers you.

More importantly, let faculty members know you are on the job market and what type of job you are looking for. Because faculty have developed contacts with many colleagues across the country over the years, they are in a very good position to learn about job openings and to spread the word about you. The more people who know that you are looking for a position, the better off you will be. Building relationships with faculty is also why it is critical to attend the numerous events going on in the school, even if they are not in your specific research area.

Professional Organizations

For job placement, professional networking, and scholarly reasons, consider joining at least one of the three general communication associations featuring a wide range of research (AEJMC, ICA, or NCA), in addition to a topic-specific organization that connects you with scholars in your area. Be strategic in your choices—membership and travel to conferences can strain a limited budget. Fortunately, most organizations have reduced membership rates for graduate students.

American Academy of Advertising (AAA): This is an organization of people who research and teach advertising and marketing in journalism/mass communication or business units. It hosts annual conferences for the presentation of research papers and publishes the *Journal of Advertising*. This is the key convention for those who want to do research in advertising, marketing and/or persuasion.

American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR): This group focuses on public opinion issues and holds annual meetings at which scholarly papers are presented. It also publishes *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

American Journalism Historians Association (AJHA): This is a specialized body that focuses solely on media history. It conducts annual meetings at which papers are presented and publishes *American Journalism*.

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC): This is the national, generalist professional organization to which many of our faculty and alumni belong. It focuses on research, teaching and professional industry issues (professional freedom and responsibility). It sponsors an annual convention and various midyear meetings at which your research can be presented. It also has a placement service at its annual convention that may help you get a job. Publications include *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* (formerly *Journalism Quarterly*), *Journalism & Mass Communication Monographs* (formerly *Journalism Monographs*) and *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*. Divisional publications include *Communication Law and Policy*, *Mass Communication & Society*, *Electronic News*, and the *Newspaper Research Journal*. *Journalism History* is underwritten in part by the History Division.

Broadcast Education Association (BEA): This group holds annual research sessions in conjunction with the annual meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters. It publishes the *Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media* and sister journal *Journal of Radio and Audio Media*.

International Association of Business Communicators (IABC), Educator Section: There is a paper session at each annual convention.

International Communication Association (ICA): This association is one of the three largest generalist communication associations and the primary association that reaches out to and features international scholarship in the field. ICA focuses on research and has an annual meeting with a variety of paper topics. These meetings are also a key place to meet scholars from overseas who might share your research interests. Meeting locations typically alternate between North American and overseas venues. It publishes the *Journal of Communication*; *Communication Theory*, *Human Communication Research*; *Journal of Computer Mediated Communication*; and *Communication, Culture & Critique*.

National Communication Association (NCA): NCA is the third major communication association, although it is not quite as broad as AEJMC or ICA. NCA does include a mass communication division, however, and it offers a placement service. It publishes a number of journals, including *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, and its free speech interest group publishes *Free Speech Yearbook*. Regional speech communications groups also publish journals.

Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), Educator Section: This group holds an academic paper session at each of its annual conventions.

Southern Association for Public Opinion Research (SAPOR): This is the regional version of AAPOR, and it holds a local conference typically featuring graduate student research.

World Association of Public Opinion Research (WAPOR): This groups deals with public opinion issues on an international level and holds sessions every two years. The WAPOR conference is typically held in conjunction with the AAPOR convention.