

English & Mass Communications

college to career major map



Career Development Center

	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR	4TH OR FINAL YEAR	
Academics	<p>Start taking LASC coursework as well as foundation and core English & Mass Communication courses.</p> <p>Need a little help in your classes? Look into tutoring with the Academic Support Center.</p>	<p>Take a deeper dive into the discipline of English & Mass Communication. Begin considering a minor and/or certificate such as Media Analysis.</p> <p>Schedule an appointment with a Career Coach to discuss how to connect your academics to your future career.</p>	<p>Schedule an appointment with your Academic Advisor to ensure you're on track for graduation.</p> <p>Take inventory of your professional goals and decide if your future will need to include graduate school. Take the necessary exams and begin submitting applications to programs that will help you achieve your goals.</p>	<p>Participate in the Student Academic Conference to showcase research and connect with employers and to boost your resume.</p> <p>Ensure you submit your application for graduation on time.</p>	<p>Where can you go? A degree in English & Mass Communications can take your career in many directions. Most students choose to enter the workforce right after graduation and many continue their education after a few years in the workforce. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for a career as a(n):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising Copywriter • Author • Book Critic • Columnist • Copy Editor • Grant Writer • Publisher • Screenwriter • Technical Writer <p>What skills will you need? To be successful in the world of English & Mass Communications, you will need the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attention to Detail • Critical Thinking • Active Listening • Inductive & Deductive Reasoning • Writing • Reading <p>Thankfully, through your coursework, on-campus involvement, part-time employment and/or internships, and other self-guided learning, you will be prepared for life post-graduation.</p>
Get Relevant Experience	<p>Sign up to participate in the Communication & Journalism Learning Community.</p> <p>Join a major or interest specific student organization such as New Rivers Press or Flypaper Creative Services.</p> <p>Participate in Student Life Pathways to continue growing your skills/knowledge outside of the classroom. We recommend starting with the Community Life Pathway.</p>	<p>Find an on-campus job or a part-time position in the community. Visit DragonJobs powered by Handshake, or one of the many other online job boards to find opportunities.</p> <p>Continue working on your Student Life Pathways. Try working your way through the Personal Wellness and the Equity and Inclusion paths.</p>	<p>Begin your leadership journey by applying for a student leadership position or run for an officer position in a student organization.</p> <p>During your third year, we suggest focusing on the Professional Success and Contribution and Influence Student Life Pathways. These will help connect you to potential employers and develop skills necessary for success post-graduation.</p>	<p>Assess what experiences or skills are areas of growth for you and fill in gaps with volunteering, organizations, internships, or part-time employment.</p> <p>Finish up your pathways and be sure to add your accomplishments to your LinkedIn and resume.</p>	
Connect to the Community	<p>Volunteer on or off-campus with community organizations or join a professional association such as North Dakota Professional Communicators.</p>	<p>Join LinkedIn to begin building your professional network and online presence. Think of your profile as a virtual resume and make sure to update it regularly to reflect new jobs, research, coursework, volunteering, involvement, and skills.</p> <p>Develop an online portfolio to showcase your work.</p>	<p>Attend off-campus events such as Creative Mornings Fargo, StartUp Brew, Ladyboss, Springboard for the Arts, or TedX to connect with others and gain exposure to the community.</p> <p>Attend the on-campus Meet the Employer and Featured Employer events as often as possible. Make sure to engage with the representatives and collect contact information to follow up.</p>	<p>Join professional organizations such as American Society of Journalists and Authors to gain access to research, continuing education opportunities, job boards, and message boards. Make sure to join prior to graduation to receive the discounted student rate (when applicable).</p>	
Understand Your Career	<p>Explore your interests, skills, and values and learn about the career readiness competencies by taking the FOCUS 2, an online assessment free for all MSUM students.</p> <p>Schedule an appointment with the Career Development Center to review your FOCUS 2 results and to begin building your resume.</p>	<p>Start researching potential career paths on O*Net. Here, you will be able to find valuable information such as typical tasks associated with the profession, skills, and knowledge needed, education and licensures needed, wages and employment trends, professional organizations, and related occupations. We suggest you search for careers such as Technical Writer.</p>	<p>Attend professional development-related events on-campus, and connect with faculty to learn more about the field and gain insights on how to be successful in your job search.</p> <p>Find an internship or part-time job with a local or regional company or organization to learn the ins and outs of your chosen career. Prior to applying, schedule an appointment with the Career Development Center to help you prepare.</p>	<p>Network relentlessly! Attend the spring Career Fairs to get connected to employers looking to hire soon-to-be grads. Check DragonCentral for more information.</p> <p>Schedule appointments with a Career Coach to go over your professional documents and to prepare for upcoming interviews. And remember, once a dragon always a dragon. You have access to these services for life.</p>	

This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Schedule an appointment with a Career Coach to discuss your individual goals and to create a personalized map. *This page is interactive. Click on the color-coded phrases to be taken to a correlating website.*