The 10 course/30 credit hour Master of Arts in Communication (M.A.) graduate program integrates communication theory and application, aligning with expectations for communication professions or for doctoral education. Our program is distinguished by:

- Nationally-recognized graduate faculty who teach all master’s level courses
- Student placement in top communication careers post-graduation at regional, national and international organizations
- Faculty and graduate student collaborations that result in leading-edge research relevant to academic and practitioner careers
- Capstone choices (i.e. professional project, thesis, exam) that allow students to personalize their research and/or applied interests
- Courses that fit your schedule; all courses are offered after 6 p.m.

Also available is the Accelerated Graduate Degree Program that allows WMU seniors to begin accumulating as much as 12 credits (four courses) toward the completion of a master’s degree while completing their bachelor’s degree. Students pay the undergraduate tuition rates for these courses.

Focus Areas
The program provides students with an integrative degree spanning interpersonal, organizational and mass communication.

The degree adds value to students’ professional experience and advancement in academic and nonacademic careers, including:

- Improved ability to successfully lead teams and facilitate group discussions
- Managing relationships effectively (i.e. conflict, feedback, motivation)
- Developing expertise in communication skills and knowledge for personal fulfillment and professional development
- Providing opportunities to network with like-minded professionals

Points of Pride

- Research productivity rivals that of leading communication doctoral programs
- Proven track record of faculty and graduate student research resulting in conference papers, publications, consulting opportunities and community outreach
- Researching and teaching opportunities as well as resources (faculty mentors, technology, labs, etc.) typically associated with Ph.D. programs, within a supportive master’s degree-only environment
- Organizations currently employing alumni of our graduate program include the Kellogg Company, Bronson Healthcare Group and Stryker Corporation.
- Graduates interested in academic careers have been accepted to top communication doctoral programs such as Cornell University, Ohio University, Pennsylvania State University, Purdue University, University of Iowa and University of Tennessee.
Industry Highlights
Communication master’s degree graduates hold positions in a variety of public, private and non-profit organizations, such as:
• Communication director
• Community college professor
• Human resources director
• Social media manager
• Training and development professional

WMU’s 2015-16 post-graduation activity report shows that 86 percent of communication graduate degree recipients were actively engaged in full-time communication-related employment or continuing education.

Funding
Our graduate assistantships provide a competitive stipend plus a tuition waiver of nine credits per semester (18 credits per academic year). Working closely with faculty mentors, our graduate assistants have the opportunity to gain extensive teaching experience, including being responsible for their own sections of introductory courses. Honors fellowships provide additional support of $3,000 per year ($6,000 total). The funding consideration deadline is Feb. 1, 2018.

Admission
Domestic
Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis, allowing students to begin coursework during the fall, winter and spring semesters.

International
Fall 2018: April 1, 2018
Spring 2019: Aug. 1, 2018
Summer 2019: Jan. 15, 2019

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Western Michigan University est. 1903
Offering over 100 world class advanced degree programs and holding Carnegie Foundation classification as a higher research doctoral university, the institution has consistently appeared in the U.S. News & World Report as one of America’s best national universities. Graduate students make up 21 percent of the total student body and have been awarded nearly $52 million in financial assistance. WMU enjoys a rich 60+ year history of graduate education.

Kalamazoo, Michigan
The community offers a vibrant cultural atmosphere mixed with a variety of outdoor recreational activities. The city of Kalamazoo is located midway between Detroit and Chicago and is in close proximity to the shoreline of Lake Michigan.