The University of Florida’s in-house Master of Arts in Mass Communication specialization in Science/Health Communication is designed to teach health specialists, scientists and other communications professionals how to connect with their stakeholders, and to teach mass media specialists how to translate scientific language and health news into layman’s terms for today’s audiences.

Among the program’s many benefits:
• Provides a unique program that can be customized depending on the student’s career and educational goals. The master’s degree is open to journalists who want to specialize in covering science and health, public affairs or public information officers who seek training to work as public affairs or public information officers for science and health organizations and for scientists who need to be able to communicate with the public about their work.
• The program focuses on training students to understand and communicate effectively about science and health policy.
• The program is flexible. Students have the option of writing a traditional thesis, producing a series of articles on science or health topics, or completing a project (such as a communications plan for a health or scientific organization).
• Students take four core classes about theory, research, health/science and policy. The rest of the coursework is customized to fit each student’s career and educational goals.

Students can begin the master’s degree in the Fall or Spring terms. Courses include: mass communication theory, research methods, science/health communication, science health policy, international public relations, issues and the press, and others.
The Graduate School, University of Florida, requires both a minimum grade average of 3.0 for all upper-division undergraduate work and a minimum verbal-quantitative total score on the General Test of the Graduate Record Examination. Applicants are expected to have received a minimum grade average of 3.0 for all core courses within the Journalism and Mass Communications area and their area of special interest.

Admission is determined by several factors beyond the application material including space availability, and supervisory availability particularly in specialized areas. Meeting the minimum application requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

Test score requirements: The program typically admits students with a 550/156 verbal and a 550/146 quantitative GRE score. The TOEFL requirements are 550 paper-based and 80 internet-based, and the IELTS requirement is 6.

Tuition

Tuition and fees are determined by the University of Florida for in-state and out-of-state graduate students.

For more information

Visit the program’s website at www.jou.ufl.edu/academics/mamc-sciencehealth-communication/

For more information about the program, email Dr. Debbie Treise at dtreise@jou.ufl.edu. For information on applying, email Sarah G. Lee at sglee@jou.ufl.edu.