

APPENDIX - PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

(This information is used to populate the [Degree Search](#)/catalog website.
Please consider the student audience in creating your text.)

1. Program Description (150 words maximum)

The Family Communication Certificate offers students an opportunity to specialize their studies on issues regarding communication in the family. The certificate complements the current Communication Program by bringing together a broad array of courses that have family implications, such as courses in new media and health. In addition, students are encouraged to take courses in other disciplines that complement family-related communication courses. The certificate program consists of 19 credits: 12 credits must be upper division, 6 must be non-communication credits, and a 1 credit course, *Family Communication Portfolio*, is to be taken after a minimum of 12 credits have been completed. Twelve of the 19 credits must be ASU credit. Six credits may be double counted with one's ASU major. Each class must be passed with a C or above.

2. Contact and Support Information

Office Location (Building & Room): FAB S 110

Campus Telephone Number: 602-543-6058

Program email address: SBS.Dept@asu.edu

Program website address: <http://famcom.asu.edu/>

3. Program Requirements: Provide applicable information regarding the degree such as curricular restrictions or requirements, specific course lists, or academic retention requirements. See attached proposal

4. Additional Admission Requirements If applicable list any admission requirements (freshman and/or transfer) that are higher than and/or in addition to the university minimum undergraduate admission requirements.)

Proposal for the Creation of a Family Communication Certificate

1. Justification.

The applied nature of the Family Communication Certificate and its cross-disciplinary appeal makes it a good fit as a certificate rather than a minor or concentration. The Family Communication Certificate will offer concentrated training to those who take into account family communication practices in their professional work. These include:

- health care professionals and patient advocates
- school administrators
- clergy and religious educators
- social services providers
- those providing aging services (including retirement planning, fiduciary services, social security access)
- child and family advocates, including legal advisors, divorce mediators, social workers
- youth services, youth sports, and community recreation specialists
- telecommunications engineers and system designers
- producers of mass media content and advertising
- web designers and developers of emerging communication technologies

4. The Family Communication Certificate will complement the current Communication Program by bringing together a broad array of courses that have family implications such as courses in new media and health, as well as standard family-focused courses such as COM 411: Family Communication. The Communication Program also houses the Family Communication Consortium, an interdisciplinary network of ASU faculty who research and teach on family communication issues (see <http://famcom.asu.edu/>). The Family Communication Certificate will be an educational opportunity associated with the consortium. In addition, students will be encouraged to take courses in other disciplines that complement family-related communication courses.

5. The demand for the certificate should be strong for several reasons:

- Existing family communication courses (e.g., COM 411, COM 312) enroll several hundred students each semester (at the West campus alone) and are popular in Tempe as well. This certificate responds to increasing student interest and enrollment trends.
- Family communication courses appeal to students from other highly enrolled majors (such as psychology or criminal justice).
- No current major provides focused training in the role of communication technologies on family interaction. (For example, the impact of cell phone use on family interaction or protections against online sexual predators.) The certificate fills a curriculum gap.
- The communication program has received requests for this kind of education from health professionals, educators, church leaders, and social work agencies.
- Family communication is an interdisciplinary area of research at ASU, involving faculty from programs in communication studies, mass media, family studies, psychology, sociology, and criminal justice. These faculty are collaborating to form a Family

Communication Consortium (<http://famcom.asu.edu/>) - a focal point for research and teaching in this area. Students who work with these faculty are expected to seek the concentrated coursework offered by the certificate.

6. Primary Faculty Participants

Carla Fisher, Assistant Professor

Related research and teaching: Family- and health related issues; interpersonal communication

Jeffrey Kassing, Associate Professor

Related research and teaching: Family- and sport-related issues; interpersonal communication

Douglas Kelley, Associate Professor

Related research and teaching: Family- and marriage-related issues; interpersonal communication

Vincent Waldron, Professor

Related research and teaching: Family- and aging-related issues; interpersonal communication

Supporting Faculty Participants

Lindsay Mean, Assistant Professor

Related research and teaching: Gender- and sport-related issues

Majia Nadesan, Professor

Related research and teaching: Families and autism

Ramsey Eric Ramsey, Associate Professor

Related research and teaching: Family themes in philosophy

Judd Ruggill, Assistant Professor

Related research and teaching: Family effects of new media

Greg Wise, Professor

Related research and teaching: Family effects of new media

7. Qualifications are a minimum ASU GPA of 2.5. Admission to the program will be managed by New College advisors.

8. 12 of the 19 credits must be ASU credit.

9. See attached description of certificate requirements.

10. New College advisors will advise the certificate with input from Family Communication Certificate Director (a member of the Family Communication Consortium hosted by the Program of Communication Studies) when special decisions are needed (e.g., approval of an omnibus course to be included in the program).

Verification of completion will be conducted by New College advisors and the Family Communication Certificate Director.

11. No new courses are required for creation and maintenance of the certificate program. The certificate will be administered by the Family Communication Certificate Director and the Communication Studies faculty in the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Students will be recruited through normal New College recruiting practices and general advising by New College advisors and Communication Studies faculty.

Faculty will work with New College advisors to create a curriculum check sheet that will allow advisors to verify completion of the certificate. Advisors will notify the registrar when students successfully complete the certificate.

Family Communication Certificate Requirements

The Family Communication Certificate offers students an opportunity to specialize their studies on issues regarding communication in the family. The certificate consists of 19 credits: 12 credits must be upper division, 6 must be non-communication credits, and a 1 credit *exit portfolio* course is to be taken after a minimum of 12 credits have been completed. Twelve of the 19 credits must be ASU credit. Six credits may be double counted with one's ASU major. Each class must be passed with a *C* or above.

1. Core Course (6 credits): Required: COM 411 Comm in the Family
Select one: COM 312 Conflict and Negotiation
COM 410 Interpersonal Comm
COM 417 Comm and Aging

2. *Four* courses must be selected from at least two content areas listed below (12 credits total):

Social and Cultural Elements of the Family

AFS	370	Family, Ethnic and Cultural Diversity
ASB	346	Marriage and Family Diversity
COM	316	Gender and Communication
COM	410	Interpersonal Communication
FAS	301	Introduction to Parenting
FAS	331	Marriage and Family Relationships
FAS	370	Family, Ethnic & Cultural Diversity
FAS	435	Advanced Marriage and Family Relationships
SBS	440	Family Studies
SOC	415	The Family

Technology, Media, and the Family

COM	424	Television Studies
COM	457	New Media
ENG	244	Intro Research Family History
ENH	243	Intro to Writing Family History
MCO	473	Sex, Love, and Romance in the Mass Media

Health and Family Development

ALD	403	Aging, Lifespan Development, and the Family
ALD	420	Health Issues and Older Adults
ALD	431	Caregiving for Older Adults
CDE	430	Infant/Toddler Development in the Family
CDE	437	Infant Family Assessment and Observation
COM	417	Aging
CRJ	340	Juvenile Justice
FAS	332	Human Sexuality
FAS	431	Parent-Adolescent Relationships
FAS	436	Sexuality in Mid-Life and Beyond
PGS	341	Developmental Psychology
PGS	443	Abnormal Child Psychology
PGS	444	Adolescent Psychology and Psychopathology
SOC	312	Sociology of Adolescence
SOC	417	Family Violence

Community Application

COM	484	Internship (in consultation with FCC advisor)
COM	498	Inner City Families: Cycle of Poverty
COM	498	Inner City Families: Special Topics

3. COM 498 Seminar: Family Communication Portfolio (1 credit)

This course is a synthesis of students' *family communication* academic experience. The portfolio itself integrates each student's family communication experience with theory and concepts from family communication courses. The portfolio may take a variety of forms, to be negotiated by each student with the instructor. This course is to be taken after a minimum of 12 credits toward the certificate have been completed.

4. Substitutions allowed with approval of faculty advisor.

----- Forwarded Message

From: Angela Trethewey <ATRETH@asu.edu>
Date: Wed, 25 Aug 2010 15:03:21 -0700
To: Douglas Kelley <Douglas.Kelley@asu.edu>
Subject: Re: Family Communication Consortium

Doug,

This looks like a wonderful program! We here at the Hugh Downs School wish you all the best as you launch this certificate program. Please let us know if we may be of use.

Warmly,

Angela

On 8/23/10 9:18 PM, "Douglas Kelley" <Douglas.Kelley@asu.edu> wrote:

Angela, This is Doug Kelley from the Comm Studies Dept. at the West campus. We are proposing the creation of a certificate in family communication and are seeking your feedback as part of the curriculum process. Could you please review the attached documents and provide me with your feedback regarding the proposal? Thank you so much. and my regrets that we work so near each other, but I'm not sure that we have met. Thank you for your help.

Doug

Douglas L. Kelley, Ph.D.
Communication Studies #3051
The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
P.O. Box 37100
Arizona State University
Phoenix, AZ 85069-7100
602-543-6641

----- Forwarded Message

From: Adina Carlson <cheree.carlson@asu.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Sep 2010 19:25:45 -0700
To: Douglas Kelley <Douglas.Kelley@asu.edu>
Subject: RE: Family Communication Consortium

Dear Professor Kelley,

The faculty in Communication at ASU Downtown/Polytechnic have reviewed your proposal for a certificate in family communication. We wholeheartedly endorse this effort and have no objections to any of the elements included.

Sincerely,

A. Cheree Carlson
Professor

P.S. It looks very good!

-----Original Message-----

From: Douglas Kelley
Sent: Mon 8/23/2010 9:20 PM
To: Adina Carlson
Subject: Family Communication Consortium

Hi Cheree, It's been a long time since we have connected. We are proposing the creation of a certificate in family communication and are seeking your feedback as part of the curriculum process. Could you please review the attached documents and provide me with your feedback regarding the proposal? Thank you so much and I hope you are well.

Doug

Douglas L. Kelley, Ph.D.
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