Monmouth College Department of Communications and Theatre Arts

Overview of the Major Requirements and Options

The Department of Communication and Theater Arts (CATA) offers a major that focuses on either a concentration in Communication and Media or in Theatre. In addition to coursework, internships and practical experience in a concentration, a CATA student will learn the interrelationship of elements involved in all successful communication exchanges—e.g. audience analysis, message content, delivery options and context adaptations. CATA majors may work in organizational training, in public relations, in radio, television or other media organizations, or in live theatre, just to name a few of the career possibilities. All of these involve the need to understand and develop useful communication strategies.

A major in Communication and Theatre Arts consists of

36 semester hours of work in CATA courses, including

- Communication and Theatre Arts 101,
- 3 hours of 100/200 level workshop credit,
- CATA 230 – Introduction to Communication Studies
- CATA 261 – Mass Media and Society
- CATA 321 and 421 – Junior and Senior Colloquium (one credit hour each),
- CATA 491 – Senior Seminar in Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics,
- An independent study or internship and
- Departmental acceptance of a senior web-based electronic portfolio.

In addition, majors must complete one of the following concentrations:

Communication and Media

- Either CATA 231 (Interpersonal Communication) or CATA 235 (Small Group Communication),
- Two courses selected from CATA 333 (Organizational Communication), CATA 335 (Argumentation), 337 (Communication Criticism) and 339 (Persuasion);
- One course selected from CATA 263 (Radio and Television Production), CATA 363 (Media Writing), or CATA 365 (Media Production);

Theatre

- CATA 273 (Classical Theatre),
- CATA 275 (Modern Theatre),
- CATA 370 or CATA 371 or CATA 372 (Advanced Acting Courses)
- CATA 375 (Scenery and Lighting Design)
- CATA 377 (Directing)

NOTE CAREFULLY: Some required courses have pre-requisites that must be taken in advance. Plan for that!! Students are strongly encouraged to discuss their future plans with a faculty member in the CATA department and consider taking additional elective courses that will further their career plans.