

**Communication Graduate Program of Study for Full-Time Students  
(assuming graduation date of May in second year)**

*\*Part-time students navigate the program at different paces. Please see Dr. Miller-Ott to talk through options for your Program of Study.*

<b>Semester</b>	<b>Coursework</b>	<b>Required Activities &amp; Paperwork</b>
<b>First Fall</b>	COM 422, COM 402/473, and 1 elective of your choice	Select spring courses in October, <i>Complete Override Request Form (Current Students)</i>

Note: Dr. Miller-Ott is your academic advisor until you select a committee in the next semester.

<b>First Spring</b>	COM 497 and 2 electives of your choice	Select between thesis and 39-hour and choose your committee to oversee rest of program, <i>Complete the Committee Appointment form</i>  Select summer and fall courses in March, <i>Complete Override Request Form (Current Students)</i>
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Note: You must complete and submit the Committee Appointment form before you select your courses for next semester  
39-hour or thesis and committee decisions must be made before you complete 18 credits in the program

<b>Summer</b>	Not required; some take summer to reduce course loads in upcoming semesters	None
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Note: Only 300 level courses, COM 400, and COM 498 are offered during the summer.

## **Second Fall**

### **All students:**

Select spring courses in October,  
*Complete Override Request Form (Current Students)*

### **Thesis students:**

COM 499 (3 credits) and 2 electives of  
your choice

Complete and defend your proposal by end of semester  
(or early Jan.) at the very latest. *Complete the Proposal  
Approval Form* on Grad School website

Note for thesis students: All thesis forms & deadlines available on Grad School website. Download those and pay close attention to them.  
<https://grad.illinoisstate.edu/students/thesis-dissertation/>

### **39-hour students:**

4 electives of your choice  
(or fewer if you took summer courses)

Finalize plan for 39-hour project by end of semester,  
*Complete 39-hour Proposal Approval Form*

Note for 39-hour students: The Grad School website does not include deadlines for 39-hour projects. Check with Dr. Miller-Ott for deadlines.

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## **Second Spring**

### **All students:**

Be sure you are completing your required  
credit hours this semester (27 for thesis,  
39 for 39-hour option students)

Apply for graduation by early January  
Complete your Degree Audit in early January  
*(Audit form and instructions available on our website)*

### **Thesis students:**

COM 499 (2-3 credits) and 1 elective of your  
choice (may vary based on credits you have  
already completed)

Complete and defend your thesis by mid-April  
Follow directions for submitting thesis on the Grad School  
website

### **39-hour students:**

Remaining electives

Complete 39-hour project,  
Submit the final project and completed *39-hour Outcome  
Approval Form*

Note: If you are taking fewer than 9 credits in your last semester and have an assistantship, you must file a PERS form with Patty.