



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG

Department of Rhetoric,
Writing, and Communications

Joint Communications Degree/Diploma Program (JCP) with RRC Polytech

FAQ Sheet

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FAQs about admission and completing degree work at University of Winnipeg

For more information about the joint degree program, please see the Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications department website: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/rhetoric>

For more information about the University of Winnipeg, please see: www.uwinnipeg.ca

What does the Joint Communications Program (JCP) offer?

The joint Degree/Diploma program offers you the opportunity to get both a 4-year Degree in Communications from the University of Winnipeg (UW), and a 2-year Creative Communications Diploma from Red River College Polytechnic (RRC Polytech).

Normally, a 4-year degree requires the completion of 120 credit hours of university coursework. This joint program offers you the possibility of receiving the 4-year Communications degree by taking 72 credit hours of coursework at UW, and the remaining 48 credit hours in the 2-year Creative Communications Diploma program at RRC Polytech. It offers the opportunity to get both a degree and a diploma in Communications at the same time, as well as to experience what both university and college have to offer.

What are the UW course requirements?

There are some strict course guidelines that you will need to fulfill to ensure your education is commensurate with the regular 4-year degree work. You will be required to take the following:

- 3 credit hours of Introduction to Rhetoric and Communications
- 3 credit hours of Academic Writing (if not exempt)
- 3 credit hours of first year English
- 6 credit hours in Science
- 12 credit hours in Social Science
- 3 credit hours of Indigenous Requirement courses
- at least 12 credit hours of upper-level courses offered by the Department of Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications.

You will also need to select **one** of four cluster areas (see the four clusters later in this document). You will be required to take 18 credit hours of advanced level courses from your cluster. In several cases, you may need to complete prerequisites in order to enter the advanced courses. For example, advanced Business, Psychology, Sociology, and Theatre courses require successful completion of a prerequisite. History, Political Studies and Conflict Resolution Studies (CRS) typically waive their prerequisite for JCP students.

Please note: many cluster courses fulfill the Social Science requirement, and this may allow students to take elective courses to complete the full 72 credit hour requirement for the Degree portion of the program.

How long is the program?

Students typically complete the program in 5 years. We recommend that students first spend 3 years at UW, and then spend the final 2 years at RRC Polytech.

Completing the program in this way has several advantages:

- It allows enough time for you to gain admission into courses at UW that can be difficult to access because they are offered every other year, scheduled at inconvenient times, or filled to capacity.
- The Creative Communications program offers opportunities for work placements. Completing these placements later in the program can be helpful when looking for work immediately after you graduate.

- It helps students avoid having to complete outstanding UW credits after attending RRC Polytech, which can be difficult if on a placement or after starting a permanent position.

Students have occasionally completed the program in 4 years instead of 5. This may require taking some courses each Spring or taking some UW credits while also attending RRC Polytech. This plan has drawbacks: you may not have the opportunity to take courses in the Spring, or have time to take classes at U of W while attending RRC Polytech full-time. In addition, even if you are prepared for a crammed schedule, you may not find the required courses offered at the times you have available. For these reasons, we generally recommend students take 5 years to complete the program.

How do I enroll?

Students are required to apply and pay an application fee at both institutions.

To apply to The University of Winnipeg, please see: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/apply>

- For more information on applying to UW, contact a student recruitment officer at welcome@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9844.
- To talk to an advisor about the program, contact Dr. Andrew McGillivray, RHET Department Chair, a.mcgillivray@uwinnipeg.ca

To apply to Red River College, please see: www.rrc.ca. When applying to Red River College, please note:

- RRC Polytech does not reserve seats for JCP students. You are advised to apply to the RRC Polytech start date you wish to attend once it is advertised on RRC's website at www.rrc.ca/cre.
- The annual application intake opens on March 1 and closes the following February 28. For example, for the Fall 2024 start date, applications will be accepted between March 1, 2023 and February 28, 2024.
- A selection process will determine final candidates. Offers of admittance will be made to qualified applicants based on portfolio scores in descending order until all available seats are filled. Applicants who are not offered a seat may reapply for a future intake by submitting a new application, application fee, and portfolio based on the portfolio specifications for that application year.
- For further information on applying to the Creative Communications program at RRC Polytech contact recruitment@rrc.ca.
- To talk to an advisor about the program, contact Kelly Stifora, Creative Communications Coordinator, rstifora@rrc.ca

Choosing First Year Courses

It's important to choose first-year courses that prepare you to take the advanced courses in a single cluster. The cluster templates on the following pages will suggest possible paths for your first year of study.

What are the 4 clusters?

The clusters are areas of concentrated focus for your degree work within the program. The clusters correspond roughly to the four majors offered in the Creative

Communications program at RRC Polytech, but students are not required to select a cluster that matches their eventual major at Red River College – the cluster you choose at U of W does not affect which courses you can select in the Diploma program.

Please note: you will need to complete 18 credit hours of cluster courses. The Department may approve additional courses for inclusion (course substitutions) which seem to fit coherently with others in the cluster; students seeking such approval should consult with the Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications Department Chair.

Template Examples of Course Work for Each Cluster

On the following pages are the clusters as they are currently constituted. Because courses and offerings are often revised in other departments, this list is updated on a yearly basis to reflect actual course offerings.

The templates that follow are guidelines and the courses listed are meant to provide examples to guide your choices. In any case where the University's 2022 Academic Calendar and this FAQ sheet differ, the Calendar takes precedence.

Cluster 1: Human Relations Template

This template provides an example of one way to pursue this cluster as part of the requirements for the Joint Communications Program.

Due to the prerequisites involved in this cluster and the rotation of upper-level courses, this path cannot normally be completed within two years, even for a student who plans to take Spring classes.

Electives

Students may take additional courses as electives after completing the requirements on the right (if necessary to complete 72 credit hours).

First year – Fall/Winter (24-30 credit hours)

Required Courses

3 credit hours of Intro to Rhetoric & Communications and Academic Writing:

- RHET-1120(3) Introduction to Rhetoric and Communications
- RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences, or any other Academic Writing section (unless exempt from the Writing Requirement)

3 credit hours of first-year English:

- ENGL-1000(3) English 1A or ENGL-1003(3) Introduction to English: Topics in Literature or ENGL-1004(3) Introduction to English: Reading Culture or ENGL-1005(3) Introduction to English: Reading to Write

6 credit hours of Science:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

12 credit hours in Social Sciences:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses, including many Psychology and Sociology courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

3 credit hours of Indigenous Requirement courses:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses, including RHET-2141(3) Representations of Indigeneity (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

Prerequisites for Cluster 1: Human Relations (prerequisites do not count toward the major requirements):

- PSYC-1000(6) Introductory Psychology (*prerequisite for PSYC-2400 & PSYC-2410*)
- SOC-1100(3) Introduction to Sociology I (*prerequisite for SOC-2105 & SOC-2118*)

Second & subsequent years – Fall/Winter (24-30 credit hours)

Required Courses

One of the following:

- RHET-2131(3) Professional Style and Editing
- RHET-2530 (3) Rhetorical Grammar
- RHET-3340(3) Strategies in Technical and Professional Communication

One of the following:

- RHET-2135(3) Rhetorical Criticism
- RHET-4151(3) Critical Theories of Discourse and Ideology
- RHET-4152 (3) Digital Rhetorics

6 additional credit hours of RHET-2000, RHET-3000 or RHET-4000 courses. The following is recommended:

- RHET-2137(3) Contemporary Communication Theories

Cluster 1:
Human
Relations
Template
- Cont'd

18 credit hours of cluster courses:

A minimum of 12 credit hours must be taken from the courses listed below. The remaining 6 credit hours may be fulfilled by taking upper-level courses offered by the Department of Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications (beyond the 12 credit hours required above) and/or the Department of English.

• CRS-2241(3) Conflict & Culture	• PSYC-3480(3) Interpersonal Comm.
• CRS-2252(3) Conflict & Communication	• SOC-2105(6) Race, Ethnic & Aboriginal Rel.
• PSYC-2400(3) Social Psychology I <i>(prerequisite for PSYC-2410 & PSYC-3480)</i>	• SOC-2118(6) Sex & Gender Relationships
• PSYC-2410(3) Social Psychology II	

(There may be other relevant courses in Conflict Resolution Studies, Psychology and Sociology; please consult with the Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications Department Chair.)

Cluster 2: Marketing & Business Template

This template provides an example for students pursuing this cluster as part of the requirements for the Joint Communications Program.

During the Spring of your first year:
Students who intend to complete 72 credit hours at UW in two years should register for at least 6 credit hours in the Spring session of their first year.

During the Spring of your second year:
Students who intend to complete 72 credit hours at UW in two years should register for their last few credit hours in the Spring session of their second year.

Electives
Students may take additional courses as electives after completing the requirements on the right (if necessary to complete 72 credit hours)

First year – Fall/Winter (24-36 credit hours)

Required Courses

3 credit hours of Intro to Rhetoric & Communications and Academic Writing:

- RHET-1120(3) Introduction to Rhetoric and Communications
- RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences, or any other Academic Writing section (unless exempt from the Writing Requirement)

3 credit hours of first-year English:

- ENGL-1000(3) English 1A or ENGL-1003(3) Introduction to English: Topics in Literature or ENGL-1004(3) Introduction to English: Reading Culture or ENGL-1005(3) Introduction to English: Reading to Write

6 credit hours of Science:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

12 credit hours in Social Sciences:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

3 credit hours of Indigenous Requirement courses:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses, including RHET-2141(3) Representations of Indigeneity (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

Prerequisites for Cluster 2: Marketing & Business (prerequisites do not count toward the major requirements):

- BUS-1201(3) Introduction to Business I (*prerequisite for BUS-2103, BUS-2210, BUS-2010*)
- BUS-1202(3) Introduction to Business II (*prerequisite for BUS-2103, BUS-2210, BUS-2010*)
- BUS-2002(3) Fundamentals of Financial Accounting or BUS-2010(3) Fundamentals of Financial Management and Administration (*prerequisite for BUS-4901*)
- BUS-2210(3) Fundamentals of Marketing (*prerequisite for BUS-3230, BUS-3240, BUS-3271 & BUS-4901*)
- BUS-2440(3) Fundamentals of Human Resource Management (*prerequisite for BUS-4901*)
- BUS-2501(3) Fundamentals of Operations Management (*prerequisite for BUS-4901*)
- BUS-3110(3) Ethics in Management or BUS-3255(3) Social Enterprise: From Theory to Practice or IDS-3101(3) Development Ethics or PHIL-2201(3) Moral Philosophy or PHIL-2230(3) Moral Issues in Business or PHIL-2233(3) Environmental Ethics or CRS-3231(3) Ethics in Conflict Resolution (*prerequisite for BUS-4901*)
- ECON-1201(3) Quantitative Methods for Economics and Business or MATH-1301(3) Applied Mathematics for Business & Administration (*prerequisite for BUS-2103, BUS-2210, BUS-2010*)

Cluster 2:
Marketing &
Business
Template
- Cont'd

Second & subsequent years – Fall/Winter (24-36 credit hours)

Required Courses

One of the following:

- RHET-2131(3) Professional Style and Editing
- RHET-2530 (3) Rhetorical Grammar
- RHET-3340(3) Strategies in Technical and Professional Communication

One of the following:

- RHET-2135(3) Rhetorical Criticism
- RHET-4151(3) Critical Theories of Discourse and Ideology
- RHET-4152 (3) Digital Rhetorics

6 additional credit hours of RHET-2000, RHET-3000 or RHET-4000 courses. The following are recommended:

- RHET-2137(3) Contemporary Communication Theories
- RHET-3320(3) Forms of Inquiry in Written Communication

18 credit hours of cluster courses:

A minimum of 12 credit hours must be taken from the courses listed below. The remaining 6 credit hours may be fulfilled by taking upper-level courses offered by the Department of Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications (beyond the 12 credit hours required above) and/or the Department of English.

• BUS-2103(3) Fundamentals of Organizational Behaviour <i>(prerequisite for BUS-4901)</i>	• BUS-3271(3) Marketing Research
• BUS-3230(3) Advertising	• BUS-4901(3) Business Strategy
• BUS-3240(3) Consumer Behaviour	• HIST-2120(3) Business History

(There may be other relevant courses in Business and Administration; please consult with the Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications Department Chair.)

Cluster 3: Performance & Production Template

This template provides an example for students pursuing this cluster as part of the requirements for the Joint Communications Program.

During the Spring of your first year:

Students who intend to complete 72 credit hours at UW in two years should register for at least 6 credit hours in the Spring session of their first year.

During the Spring of your second year:

Students who intend to complete 72 credit hours at the U of W in two years should register for their last few credit hours in the Spring session of their second year.

Electives

Students may take additional courses as electives after completing the requirements on the right (if necessary to complete 72 credit hours).

First year – Fall/Winter (24-36 credit hours)

Required Courses

3 credit hours of Intro to Rhetoric & Communications and Academic Writing:

- RHET-1120(3) Introduction to Rhetoric and Communications
- RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences, or any other Academic Writing section (unless exempt from the Writing Requirement)

3 credit hours of first-year English:

- ENGL-1000(3) English 1A or ENGL-1003(3) Introduction to English: Topics in Literature or ENGL-1004(3) Introduction to English: Reading Culture or ENGL-1005(3) Introduction to English: Reading to Write

6 credit hours of Science:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

12 credit hours in Social Sciences:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

3 credit hours of Indigenous Requirement courses:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses, including RHET-2141(3) Representations of Indigeneity (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

Prerequisites for Cluster 3: Performance & Production:

- THFM-1001(6) Introduction to Theatre: Performance or THFM-1003(6) Introduction to Theatre: Indigenous (*prerequisite for THFM-2101, THFM-2801 & THFM-2803*)
- THFM-1001(6) Introduction to Theatre: Performance (*prerequisite for THFM-2310*)
- THFM-1010(6) Introduction to Film (*prerequisite for THFM-2310 & THFM-2611*)

Second & subsequent years – Fall/Winter (24-36 credit hours)

Required Courses

One of the following:

- RHET-2131(3) Professional Style and Editing
- RHET-2530 (3) Rhetorical Grammar
- RHET-3340(3) Strategies in Technical and Professional Communication

One of the following:

- RHET-2135(3) Rhetorical Criticism
- RHET-4151(3) Critical Theories of Discourse and Ideology
- RHET-4152 (3) Digital Rhetorics

Cluster 3: Performance & Production Template - Cont'd

6 additional credit hours of RHET-2000, RHET-3000 or RHET-4000 courses. The following are recommended:

- RHET-2145(3) Theories and Practices of Oral Communication
- RHET-3139(3) Rhetoric of Visual Representation

18 credit hours of cluster courses:

A minimum of 12 credit hours must be taken from the courses listed below. The remaining 6 credit hours may be fulfilled by taking upper-level courses offered by the Department of Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications (beyond the 12 credit hours required above) and/or the Department of English.

Some courses may have co-requisites such as labs. Check Academic Calendar for co-requisite details:

• THFM-2101(6) Acting Theory & Practice (<i>prerequisite for THFM-3110</i>)	• THFM-2612(3) Script & the Small Screen: TV Drama
• THFM-2310(6) Filmmaking I: Screen Narrative (<i>prerequisite for THFM-3310</i>)	• THFM-2801(6) Theatrical Production I
• THFM-2410(6) History of Film	• THFM-2803(3) Intro to Lighting & Sound in Production
• THFM-2502(3/6) Voice & Speech Skills for Presentation & Performance	• THFM-3110(6) Screen Acting
• THFM-2610(3) Script & Screen	• THFM-3310(6) Filmmaking II: Directing the Short Film
• THFM-2611(3) Intro to Screenwriting	• THFM-3802(3) Stage Management

(There may be other relevant courses in Theatre and Film; please consult with the Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications Department Chair.)

Cluster 4: Politics, Ethics, Culture Template

This template provides an example for students pursuing this cluster as part of the requirements for the Joint Communications Program.

During the Spring of your first year:

Students who intend to complete 72 credit hours at UW in two years should register for at least 6 credit hours in the Spring session of their first year.

During the Spring of your second year:

Students who intend to complete 72 credit hours at UW in two years should register for their last few credit hours in the Spring session of their second year.

Electives

Students may take additional courses as electives after completing the requirements on the right (if necessary to complete 72 credit hours).

First year – Fall/Winter (24-36 credit hours)

Required Courses

3 credit hours of Intro to Rhetoric & Communications and Academic Writing:

- RHET-1120(3) Introduction to Rhetoric and Communications
- RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences, or any other Academic Writing section (unless exempt from the Writing Requirement)

3 credit hours of first-year English:

- ENGL-1000(3) English 1A or ENGL-1003(3) Introduction to English: Topics in Literature or ENGL-1004(3) Introduction to English: Reading Culture or ENGL-1005(3) Introduction to English: Reading to Write

6 credit hours of Science:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list). The following courses are recommended:

- HIST-2900(6) History of Science or PHYS-1005(6) Concepts in Science or
- ENV-1600(3) Human-Environmental Interactions or ENV-2603(3) Environmental Sustainability: A Global Dilemma or ENV-2604(3) Environment & Health

12 credit hours in Social Sciences:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses, including many Politics, Sociology, UIC, and WGS courses (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

3 credit hours of Indigenous Requirement courses:

Can be fulfilled by a number of courses, including RHET-2141(3) Representations of Indigeneity (see Degree & Major Requirements section of Academic Calendar for full list).

Second year – Fall/Winter (24-36 credit hours)

Required Courses

One of the following:

- RHET-2131(3) Professional Style and Editing
- RHET-2530 (3) Rhetorical Grammar
- RHET-3340(3) Strategies in Technical and Professional Communication

One of the following:

- RHET-2135(3) Rhetorical Criticism
- RHET-4151(3) Critical Theories of Discourse and Ideology
- RHET-4152 (3) Digital Rhetorics

6 additional credit hours of RHET-2000, RHET-3000 or RHET-4000 courses. The following are recommended:

- RHET-4401(3) Rhetoric of the Public Sphere
- RHET-4151(3) Critical Theories of Discourse and Ideology (if not already taken,

Cluster 4:
 Politics,
 Ethics,
 Culture
 Template
 - Cont'd

above)

18 credit hours of cluster courses:

A minimum of 12 credit hours must be taken from the courses listed below. The remaining 6 credit hours may be fulfilled by taking upper-level courses offered by the Department of Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications (beyond the 12 credit hours required above) and/or the Department of English.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ENGL-2180(6) Popular Literature & Film (<i>prerequisite: 6 credit hours of first year English including ENGL-1000</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POL-3455(3) Politics and the Mass Media
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIST-2500(6) History of Canada to 1939 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOC-3214(3) Mass Comm. & Media (<i>Declared Majors in the Joint Communications program may have the prerequisite for this course - SOC-1100 or SOC-1101 - waived by obtaining permission of the Sociology Department Chair.</i>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIST-2505(3) Survey History of Canada: the Modern Era, 1939 to the Present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOC-3215(3) Popular Culture (<i>Declared Majors in the Joint Communications program may have the prerequisite for this course - SOC-1100 or SOC-1101 - waived by obtaining permission of the Sociology Department Chair.</i>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIST-3544(6) History of Winnipeg 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UIC-2020(3) Colonization & Indigenous Peoples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHIL-2202(3) Health Care and Bioethics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UIC-2220(3) Urban Poverty & Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POL-2500 (3/6) City Politics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WGS-2260(3) Girls, Women and Popular Culture

(There may be other relevant courses in English, History, Politics, Sociology, Philosophy, UIC and WGS; please consult with the Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications Department Chair.)