The department offers a master’s degree in life sciences communication, with available research/thesis or available professional course-based tracks.

The thesis track requires 30 credits. Study programs match the interests and needs of individual students. However, all students must take a communication theory course, a research methodology course and a statistics course. The program requires a thesis based on original research.

The professional track is a course-based program (30 credits total) that is designed to prepare students for professional careers in life sciences communication and related fields. Students in this track will not usually pursue a Ph.D. program in the future. In fact, many graduate programs (including life sciences communication) do not accept a non-thesis master’s as a criterion for admission to their Ph.D. program.

Teaching and research in the department focus on science communication in the areas of emerging technologies, bioenergy, environment, agriculture, health, and food.

The M.S. in life sciences communication and Ph.D. in mass communications graduate programs (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/life-sciences-communication/life-sciences-communication-ms) graduate programs provide advanced professional training in communication and preparation for communication research and teaching. Students in the professional track M.S. program are studying for careers in a variety of fields, including consulting, policy, journalism, strategic communication, marketing and market research, particularly in science-related fields.

For more information on the master’s program, funding, resources, and FAQs, go to the “graduate” tab on the life sciences communication website (http://lsc.wisc.edu).

DEGREES/MAJORS, DOCTORAL MINORS, GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES

- Life Sciences Communication, M.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/life-sciences-communication/life-sciences-communication-ms)

PEOPLE

Faculty: Professors Brossard (chair), Loew, Meiller, Reaves, Scheufele (director of graduate studies); Associate Professors Shaw, Shepard; Assistant Professor Stenhouse