LIFE SCIENCES COMMUNICATION, DOCTORAL MINOR

The Department of Life Sciences Communication is a world leader in science communication research, education, and practice. The doctoral minor in Life Sciences Communication allows students enrolled in doctoral programs from the biological and physical sciences, as well as interested students from other social science and humanities departments, to supplement their existing doctoral coursework with a transcriptable minor in Life Sciences Communication.

A doctoral minor in Life Sciences Communication is particularly valuable for graduate students in the natural and physical sciences who are interested in the ethical, legal, and social implications of emerging technologies, or who want to build an intellectual foundation for a future career in policy or various mission agencies (e.g., AAAS policy fellowships) dealing with public understanding and communication of science. Many students from these fields routinely take classes in our department, and a doctoral minor allows them to get formal recognition for their doctoral-level work in this area.

More information may be found on the department website (https://lsc.wisc.edu/).

ADMISSIONS

This doctoral minor is open to any UW-Madison student enrolled in a doctoral program outside of LSC. Students can declare their intent to pursue the minor by completing the Add/Change/Discontinue application process through the Graduate Student Portal (found in MyUW) and selecting the Life Sciences Communication doctoral minor. Students are strongly encouraged to contact LSC’s academic advising manager or Director of Graduate Studies (see Contact Information box on this page for emails) to discuss course planning.

Students are not allowed to earn both the doctoral minor in life sciences communication and science communication graduate/professional certificate.

REQUIREMENTS

The doctoral minor in Life Sciences Communication is a course-based minor (10 credits) for students enrolled in other Ph.D. programs who would like to supplement their existing Ph.D. coursework with a minor in science communication.

Courses must be at the 300 level or above and should have the graduate attribute to count toward the minimum graduate coursework (50%) rule.

A minimum cumulative GPA of a 3.5 in LSC Doctoral Minor coursework is required.

Contact the academic advising manager to discuss course selection for the minor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LSC 700</td>
<td>Colloquium in Life Sciences Communication</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSC 720</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication Theory and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or LSC 902</td>
<td>Public Opinion of Life Science Issues</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or LSC 625</td>
<td>Risk Communication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or LSC/ENVIR ST/ JOURN 823</td>
<td>Science and Environment Communication</td>
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</tbody>
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Approved Electives

- LSC 340: Misinformation, Fake News, and Correcting False Beliefs about Science
- LSC 350: Visualizing Science and Technology
- LSC 430: Communicating Science with Narrative
- LSC 432: Social Media for the Life Sciences
- LSC 435: Brand Strategy for the Sciences
- LSC 440: Digital Media and Science Communication
- LSC 450: Documentary Photography for the Sciences
- LSC 460: Social Media Analytics
- LSC 532: Web Design for the Sciences
- LSC 560: Scientific Writing
- LSC 561: Writing Science for the Public
- LSC/COM ARTS/ JOURN 617: Health Communication in the Information Age
- LSC 625: Risk Communication
- LSC 660: Data Analysis in Communications Research
- LSC/JOURN 811: Conceptualization and Design of Mass Communication Research
- LSC/ENVIR ST/ JOURN 823: Science and Environment Communication
- LSC 875: Special Topics
- LSC 902: Public Opinion of Life Science Issues

Total Credits: 10

PEOPLE

PROFESSORS & INSTRUCTORS (https://lsc.wisc.edu/people/faculty-research-staff/)
Brossard, Dominique (chair)
Chen, Kaiping
Chinn, Sedona
Fisher, Madeline
Li, Nan
Newman, Todd
Scheufele, Dietram (director of academic programs)
Shaw, Bret
Stanley, Don
Xenos, Michael