



February means it's time to apply for Graduation

February means it's time for graduating seniors to apply for Graduation. Even if you are not a senior, you may meet the requirements for the Associate of Science in Communication. This helps you to lock in your General Education requirements and get a degree you can list on your resume now. If you'd like to graduate with your associate's degree, please email one of the college's General Education advisers before Feb. 16: ddmurphy@weber.edu, triciacook1@weber.edu or nicholasberg@weber.edu. Advisers may be able to substitute several classes to help you meet this requirement.

This is the February edition of the monthly email to majors. At least once a month during the regular school year, we will email you to let you know about meetings of student organizations, guest speakers, important deadlines, opportunities, student and faculty achievements—and more. If you have information you'd like us to distribute, please email department chair Sheree Josephson at sjosephson@weber.edu.

What's Happening

February

- **Feb. 16:** Deadline for Graduation signoff.
- **Feb. 18:** Presidents Day. No class.

March

- **March 4-8.** Spring Break. No class.

April

- **April 25:** Graduation.

Student News

Communication Theory student wins Top 4 student paper in conference

A Communication student's submission accepted in the Western States Communication Association's Undergraduate Student Research Conference has been named a Top 4 student paper. Caleb Marshall, a student in Dr. Stephanie Gomez's Communication Theory class in Fall 2018, wrote "The Pursuit of Captivity: A Marxist Analysis of *The Walking Dead*." It was selected for this recognition from more than 100 submissions. Marshall is a Communication minor with an English major. He will receive the award at a luncheon on Feb. 24 in Seattle.

Weber State debaters racking up wins, honors at tournaments

Weber State debaters have been racking up wins and honors at recent tournaments. The team of Zachary Baker and Zachery Thiede has been invited to the Brick City Round Robin at Rutgers University Newark. An invitation to this tournament means that WSU is recognized as one of the Top 20 competitively successful programs in the nation. The team of Jordan Stephens and Roey Sellouk won the junior varsity division of the 2019 Winter at the Beach Debate Tournament hosted by California State University at Long Beach. Jordan was also awarded the second overall speaker of the tournament and Roey was awarded the fifth. In addition, Communication major Bianca Morales was awarded the eighth overall speaker of the varsity division. Weber State debaters competed at a tournament at Northwestern last weekend. Watch for results.

Announcements

Signpost history documented in exhibit in WSU library

Weber State University's latest exhibit is about The Signpost, WSU's student news organization. The exhibit will be displayed on the first floor of the library until April 30.

CIA looking to recruit Communication students for jobs, internships

The CIA is coming to campus on March 21 to specifically recruit students from Communication for jobs and internships. Positions the CIA is hiring for include editor/publications officer, graphic designer, interactive designer, or intern. Watch for more information about a location and time. See www.cia.gov/careers for more information.

Utah Symphony-Utah Opera visiting campus to recruit summer interns

The Utah Symphony-Utah Opera will visit campus on Friday, Feb. 22, at 2:30 p.m. in the Browning Center Room 136 to provide information on summer internships. The panelists will include Melissa Robison, front of house director; Kyleene Johnson, symphony education manager; Alina Osika, development operations manager; Heather Weinstock, manager of special events and donor relations; Ali Snow, executive assistant to the COO and general office manager; and Chelsea Kauffman, annual fund coordinator.

Tips on registering if you want to do an internship in the summer

If you are planning to do an internship in the summer but not taking any other classes, you can avoid paying for those 3 credits just for summer registration by enrolling in COMM 4890 in the Spring. That will give you access to the Canvas course. You will receive an Incomplete at the end of Spring semester, which will not affect your GPA, but you have a year to complete your online internship assignments. You can NOT do an internship in the summer, but enroll in COMM 4890 in the Fall.

Alumni Accomplishments

Public Relations & Advertising graduate publishes piece in New York Times

Alum Shaquille Heath, a 2015 graduate in Public Relations & Advertising, had a piece published in the New York Times in January about being black in America. Heath is currently the communications associate at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco where she leads media relations and strategy for the museum's exhibitions and special programs on a national and local level. Previously, she was the senior account executive at Cutline Communications, where she oversaw press outreach on behalf of tech companies in Silicon Valley. Her article can be accessed at <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/17/style/the-talk-being-black-in-america.html>.

Graduate is marketing and social media specialist for Shepherd Union Building

Haille van Patten, who graduated with a bachelor's in Communication in 2017, is the marketing and social media specialist for Weber State's Shepherd Union. Van Patten previously served as the digital marketing aide and assistant coordinator for Weber State's Global Education Opportunity program. She is in her second year of service on WSU's Young Alumni Council. She lives in Roy.

Former Weber State development director working for Type A Inc.

Morgan Bruderer, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in 2014 in Interpersonal & Family Communication, works from home for Type A Inc. She previously worked as the development director for WSU's College of Health Professions and the College of Arts & Humanities. She and her husband, Joseph Bruderer, live in Clinton with their daughter.

Journalism graduate is communication specialist for Ogden School District

Skyler Jo Pyle, who graduated in 2016 in Multimedia Journalism, is the communication specialist for the Ogden School District, where she serves as a resource for stakeholders and builds public awareness and support for the district. She was a February 2017 recipient of the district's Achieving Higher Award.

Faculty Achievements

New professor publishes article in Western Journal of Communication

Dr. Bobbi Van Gilder, a new professor in Communication, has published an article titled "Femininity as Perceived Threat to Military Effectiveness: How Military Service Members Reinforce Hegemonic Masculinity in Talk" in the *Western Journal of Communication*.

Essay by journalism professor to be published in Journal of Communication and Religion

An essay by Dr. Jean Norman will be published in the *Journal of Communication and Religion*, a publication of the Religious Communication Association. The article titled "Social Capital of Last Resort: How People with Low Socio-Economic Status Rely on God when Social Resources Are Scarce" is expected to be published in Summer 2019.

Two faculty members present papers at Utah Digital Humanities Conference

Dr. Anne Bialowas and Ryan Cheek presented papers at the fourth annual Utah Digital Humanities Conference held Feb. 1-2 at Weber State University. Bialowas's paper was titled "Memes as Part of Digital Culture." Cheek's paper was titled "Prepping for Zombies: A Rhetorical Analysis of the CDC's Zombie Apocalypse Blog." His presentation addressed the intersection of apocalyptic rhetoric, popular culture, and disaster preparedness campaigns.

Instructor to co-present workshop at conference for teachers of technical writing

Communication faculty member Ryan Cheek was accepted to co-present a workshop titled "Specific, Knowledgeable, and Kind: A Heuristic for the Journal Publication Process" at the 2019 Conference for the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing in Pittsburgh on March 12-13. His part of the workshop will present findings from a review of author and peer reviewer guidelines for every major academic journal in the technical communication field.

Three professors to discuss emphasizing research skills in basic courses

Dr. Alexander Lancaster, Dr. Mike Ault and Dr. Bobbi Van Gilder will present together on a panel titled "Foundations of Knowledge: How to Integrate Research into Basic Courses" at the Basic Course Conference at the Western States Communication Association Annual Convention. The conference is this month in Seattle. This panel advances a research-centered approach to teaching and learning. The presenters argue that by emphasizing research skills in our basic courses, we can better prepare students to become critical thinkers, informed decision makers, responsible advocates, and critical consumers.

Get Involved

- **The Signpost:** Contact Dr. Jean Norman at jeannorman@weber.edu.
- **Studio 76:** Contact Andrea Baltazar at andreabaltazar@weber.edu.
- **KWCR Wildcat Radio:** Contact Robin Haislett at robinhaislett@weber.edu.

- **WSU Debate:** Contact Ryan Wash at ryanwash@weber.edu.
- **Ogden Peak Communications:** Contact Dr. Nicola Corbin at nicolacorbin@weber.edu.
- **PRSSA:** Contact Leslie Howerton at lesliehowerton@weber.edu.
- **Society of Professional Journalists:** Contact Dr. Jean Norman at jeannorman@weber.edu.
- **Departmental Honors:** Contact Dr. Susan Hafen at shafen@weber.edu.
- **Lambda Pi Eta:** Contact Dr. Hailey Gillen Hoke at haileygillenhoke@weber.edu.