

# **PhD in Communication General Information**

## **1. 0 General Information**

### **1.1. The Vision of Daystar University**

Daystar aspires to be a distinguished, Christ-centred African institution of higher learning for the transformation of church and society.

### **1.2 The Mission of the University**

1.2.1 To provide Christian-based higher education, training and research for the expansion of God's kingdom in the world, and especially in Africa;

1.2.2 To provide broad biblically-based education programmes that will develop men and women to serve in a variety of supportive and leadership roles in the African church and society, and through the training and extension programmes, research and advisory services, to help equip the church to effectively serve the society in which it exists.

### **1.3 The Philosophy of the University**

Daystar University's Christian philosophy of life and conduct, teaching, training and research is founded on Christian principles and values based on the following "Biblical Statements of Faith and Practice." As a community of people who follow Jesus Christ, we:

1.3.1 Affirm our belief in:

1.3.1.1 The one eternal God in the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; the Creator and Lord of the world, who governs all things according to the purpose of His will, calling out of the world a people for Himself and sending them back into the world to be His servants and witnesses for the extension of His kingdom, and the building of Christ's church for the glory of His name;

1.3.1.2 The one Saviour, Jesus Christ Himself being the only God-man, who died for the sins of humanity and was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures; the only ransom for sinners and mediator between God and humanity; who is exalted above every other name as Saviour of the world, who offers the forgiveness of sins and the liberating gift of the Spirit to all who repent, believe and come to Him personally and so are reconciled to God; and those who reject Him repudiate the joy of salvation and condemn themselves to eternal separation from God;

1.3.1.3 The Holy Spirit, sent by God the Father to bear witness to His Son, whose power and works among humanity lead to the conviction of sin, faith in Christ, new birth and Christian growth; and speaking through the Scriptures illumines the minds of God's people in every culture to perceive the truth and disclose to the whole church the wisdom of God;

- 1.3.1.4 The divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of the Old and the New Testament Scriptures as the Word of God with power to accomplish His purpose of salvation; the Gospel of Good News for the whole world addressed to all humanity for God's revelation in Christ and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.
- 1.3.1.5 The return of Jesus Christ personally and visibly in power and glory to consummate His salvation and judgement; the interim period being filled with evangelism by the people of God, who eagerly wait for Christ's return and the coming of the new heaven and new earth in which righteousness will dwell and God will reign forever; and meanwhile His people rededicating themselves to the service of Christ and humanity in joyful submission to Christ's authority over the whole of life.
- 1.3.2 Acknowledge the constant spiritual warfare with principalities and powers of evil which are seeking to overthrow the kingdom of God, and to frustrate the work of the church, and the need for Christians to be equipped with God's armour and to fight with spiritual weapons of truth and prayer, being watchful and discerning to safeguard the biblical gospel.
- 1.3.3 Are committed to:
  - 1.3.3.1 The church as the community of God's people that is not identified with any particular culture, social or political system or human ideology; being the centre of God's cosmic purpose and His appointed means of spreading the gospel to the world; and which needs to be closely united in fellowship, work, witness and functional cooperation for the furtherance of its mission, and for mutual encouragement and the sharing of resources and experience;
  - 1.3.3.2 Christian churches that are deeply rooted in Christ and closely related to their cultures, always testing and judging such cultures in accordance with Scripture's criteria for truth and righteousness, insisting on their moral absolutes and seeking to transform and enrich them for the glory of God;
  - 1.3.3.3 The freedom of thought and conscience to practice and propagate the gospel in accordance with the will of God, and to remain faithful to the gospel whatever the cost;
  - 1.3.3.4 The sharing in God's concern for justice and reconciliation throughout human society and for the liberation of humanity; evangelism and socio-economic/political involvement, without being afraid to denounce evil and injustice wherever they exist, being part of our Christian duty and the necessary expression of Christian doctrines of God and humanity; love for one's neighbour and obedience to Jesus Christ, to exhibit His kingdom and to spread its justice and righteousness in the world;
  - 1.3.3.5 Christian education, training and research that are indigenous and developed by creative local initiatives according to biblical standards of doctrine, discipleship, evangelism, nurture and service; to equip and

encourage Christian leaders in church and society to provide Christian style of leadership and service.

## **1.4 The Objectives of the University**

The objectives of the University are to:

- 1.4.1 Provide resources for university education, training, discussion, research and teaching within the context of Christian truth and commitment, spiritual sensitivity, and obedience to Christ;
- 1.4.2 Provide, with other Christians, academic leadership to the church in Africa so as to address through research, education and consultation, the economic, social and political problems of the African society and those challenges unique to the church of Christ;
- 1.4.3 Provide adequate resources for quality university education, training and research based on biblical concepts and values which reflect the African cultural heritage;
- 1.4.4 Develop in students deeper faith in Jesus Christ and greater commitment to His gospel;
- 1.4.5 Guide students to understand and accept themselves, their individual needs and talents, and to develop their potential for productive life and service;
- 1.4.6 Provide students with a balanced educational programme that helps them to develop and to broaden their perception of the inherent inter-relationship between their physical and spiritual needs, and to develop a holistic approach to life;
- 1.4.7 Equip students to personally commit themselves to evangelism, church planting and leadership;
- 1.4.8 Develop in students a deeper understanding of traditional and modern Africa, and to equip them to effectively provide a Christian approach to socio-economic and political development of the African continent;
- 1.4.9 Play an effective role in the development and expansion of Christian university education in Africa.

## **2. Purpose Statement**

In line with the mission of Daystar University, the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Communication program will prepare graduates to effectively articulate and integrate scholarship and Christian faith within the discipline of communication, and promote research for the expansion of God's kingdom in a pluralistic world, especially in Africa. This preparation will enable them to work at research-intensive institutions, church organizations, educational, and various positions in industry. In keeping with African epistemology and ontology, the program will endeavour to take a holistic approach to the

discipline of communication; that is, it aims to nurture and equip students for ongoing personal formation, biblical reformation, and social transformation. Given the need to consider both the local and the global, or the contextual and the universalizing dimensions of communication, the program will examine media studies, development/health communication, corporate communication, and human communication; and their impact on Africa in relation to the worldwide development of communication and its linkage to Christian tradition, both past and present.

### **3. Rationale**

Communication technologies in Africa in the 21<sup>st</sup> century are impacting culture and the church, altering the way that Africans think in a myriad of ways. While Daystar University will continue to provide, with other Christians, academic leadership to the church in Africa so as to address through research, education, and consultation, the economic, social, political, post-colonial, and conflict communication challenges of African societies and those issues unique to the church of Christ, the Ph.D. in Communication seeks to provide further education for aspiring servant leaders desiring to integrate their Christian faith with their communication skills, creative abilities and knowledge of communication and the arts in an African context. Our programme seeks to equip our graduates to function in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond on two levels: intellectual and spiritual. On the intellectual front, we aspire to instil within the framework of African values the following qualities in our graduates: critical and creative thinking skills; confidence to commit to African ideas and values; an understanding of the larger context in which they live; opportunity to develop competence to compete in academic, corporate, and governmental arenas. Spiritually, the programme seeks to enable graduates to do the following: know God through Christ as Saviour within an African context; develop an individual, authentic walk with Him; share that journey with others; find a purpose and a calling; and develop the skills to pursue that calling. Finally, in producing a network of Ph.D graduates, Daystar seeks to empower Christians with a powerful voice in our global society through, both development and health communication channels, through corporate communication networks, through both print and electronic media, through media professionalism, teaching and academic scholarship.

### **4. Expected Learning Outcomes of the Ph.D in Communication**

By the end of the program, the students should be able to:

- 4.1 Carry out qualitative and quantitative research in communication to give informed direction to organizations;
- 4.2 Apply communication theories in their work environment;
- 4.3 Apply various communication ethical-based theories in advocating social transformation;

- 4.4 Lead, manage and teach in private and public organizations using communication principles.

## **5. Clientele**

This program is designed for all parties interested in engaging in various dimensions of media studies, corporate communication, development/health communication, and human communication as specified above. Types of students might include persons involved in:

- 5.1 Governmental and non-governmental, corporate communication organs;
- 5.2 Newspaper and magazine publishing;
- 5.3 Media outlets such as broadcast, radio, cable, and internet service providers;
- 5.4 Christian media ministries, non-profit instructional audio visual media, Christian NGO and development agencies;
- 5.5 Academic research, teaching and scholarship in various settings: diploma programs, colleges and universities;
- 5.6 Media research and advertising agencies.

## **6. Regulations**

### **6.1 Admission Requirements**

Admission to the doctoral programme is limited to one August intake annually, comprising a 5-10 member student cohort of candidates of exceptionally high competence and promise. All applicants must meet the entry requirements of the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies, Daystar University. Specifically, the students wishing to enter the Ph.D in Communication program must hold a master's degree in communication. The admission requirements normally include:

- 6.1.1 Evidence of devotion to Christ and good standing with their churches as stipulated in Daystar University's Charter Section 5(1);
- 6.1.2 A 3.00 (on 4.00 system) grade point average in Master of Arts in Communication with thesis or a Master of Arts in Communication without thesis but with at least two research-based papers published in refereed journals.
- 6.1.3 For students whose medium of instruction is not English, and who have not earned an earlier degree at a college or university at which the teaching language is English, a score of 250 out of 300 (computer assisted)/ 500 out of 677 (manual) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required.

## **6.2 Duration of the Course/Examinations and Dissertation Defence for the Ph.D in Communication**

### **6.2.1 Duration**

The duration for the Ph. D in Communication program will be between three to four years of full-time study, including time for dissertation. The program will run on a semester basis, whereby a semester will run for 15 weeks (13 weeks of classwork and 2 weeks of examinations) and a block of 10 weeks (9 weeks of classwork and 1 week of examinations). The program will operate a credit system where one credit hour is equivalent to one lecture hour per week for a period of 13 weeks and 9 weeks respectively. All requirements must be completed within eight-year limit from the time of a student's first enrolment in the program.

The PhD Communication programme will consist of 60 credit hours representing the maximum course work required for an individual. However, for one to start the dissertation, one will be expected to pass the comprehensive examination.

### **6.2.2 Coursework**

The coursework will consist of 39 credit hours which include 8 hours of general education core courses, 10 hours of statistics and research methods courses, 6 hours of core communication courses, 12 hours of communication elective courses and 3 hours of a professional development course. Students must achieve a minimum of B grade (3.00) in each course.

### **6.2.3 Comprehensive Examination**

A comprehensive examination (also referred to in this document as “comps”) is given when the student has completed all required and prescribed courses. The comprehensive examination must be taken within three years of a student's first enrolment in the program. The exams will be written but students may be required to submit to oral examination in cases where the written exams need clarification. To undertake the comprehensive examination, a student must have passed all the core courses and attained a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.00. It is on a pass or fail basis and will not contribute to the total credit hours. However, candidates who do not pass the comprehensive examination will not be allowed to proceed with the program.

### **6.2.4 The Dissertation<sup>1</sup>**

Each candidate for the Ph.D in Communication degree must submit an acceptable dissertation. The Ph.D dissertation at Daystar is expected to be a substantial contribution to research in the field of study, demonstrating originality, creativity, breadth of research, careful argumentation, and clear English style. In principle, a good dissertation will be publishable (certainly in the form of an article or articles). The dissertation is the centrepiece of the doctoral enterprise. The topic should be chosen wisely, and the proposal should be written after extensive appropriate reading and careful and thorough research.

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<sup>1</sup> This section has been adapted from the Wheaton College graduate students' handbook

### **6.2.12.1 Areas for Dissertation Research**

The Ph.D in Communication program emphasizes issues related to such areas of specialization as electronic and print media, health communication, intercultural communication, and public relations. Dissertations may also be “integrative” in the sense that they involve interdisciplinary or cross-disciplinary work. Such integration is encouraged where necessary and where such integration makes a vital contribution to the central thesis and goal of the dissertation. Admitted Daystar Ph.D students are urged to do as much preliminary work in the dissertation area as possible before arriving on campus. Such preliminary study will enable the student, in consultation with the supervisor, to refine the dissertation area into an acceptable dissertation topic very quickly.

### **6.2.12.2 The Dissertation Committee**

The Dissertation Committee consists of four members: the student’s main supervisor, the head of the program, and two other members. The supervisor works closely with the student throughout the production of the dissertation, offering regular guidance regarding the direction and content of the work. In consultation with their students, supervisors should invite a communication faculty member who can complement the strengths of the supervisor in the chosen dissertation area to serve as second reader. The committee will approve the dissertation proposal. An external examiner will be chosen toward the end of the dissertation process by the supervisor in consultation with the Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies to examine the dissertation. The student will not be notified of the identity of the external reader until a defense copy has been completed. The external reader and Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies are normally not involved until a defense draft of the entire dissertation is produced.

### **6.2.12.3 Dissertation Proposal Defense**

A carefully designed proposal is required of all students. The purpose of the proposal is to force the student to think through the chosen topic very carefully – especially in terms of its scope and method. A thoughtful and well-crafted proposal provides a roadmap for the writing of the dissertation that serves to focus and streamline the process. Students should seek to schedule a proposal defense as early as possible in their program and certainly no later than the end of their second academic year of study. The proposal should clearly and succinctly identify the proposed research topic, explain the methodology to be applied, indicate the need for such a study, provide a chapter-by-chapter outline, and conclude with a reasonably comprehensive bibliography (excluding standard reference sources and commentaries). At the time of the proposal defense (though not as a part of the proposal itself), students, in consultation with their supervisors, should draw up a schedule for the production of the dissertation, including projected lengths and time of completion for each chapter. The proposal should be approved by the dissertation committee, as signified by their signatures on the proposal defense form. The student will then submit the form, along with the proposal, to the program head of the student’s major field (communication studies), who will distribute copies to the Ph.D Committee. The student will then defend his or her proposal before the Committee.

#### **6.2.12.4 Dissertation Completion Procedure**

As the dissertation is reaching its final stages, in consultation with the supervisor the student should begin planning for the defense and dissertation completion. In general, the process should follow these steps:

- **Securing an external reader**  
When the student and supervisor are reasonably sure that a full defense draft will be available within six months, the supervisor, in consultation with the program head of the student's major field (communication), should begin contact with an external reader.
  
- **Submission of an initial full draft to the supervisor**  
The initial draft should be in the supervisor's hands at least three months before the hoped-for defense date. Only if the initial draft is in relatively good shape will this timetable be practicable. Significant revisions on an initial draft will almost certainly mean that the defense must be put off for some time.
  
- **Establish a date for the defense**  
Once the supervisor has read the initial draft, the supervisor and student should consult about the timing of the defense. At least 45 days should intervene between the submission of the completed defense draft and the defense itself. The supervisor should work with the Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies to establish a date for the defense.
  
- **Submission of the defense draft**  
The defense draft of the dissertation must be approved by the supervisor before it is submitted. Seven (spiral binding) copies of the defense draft must be filed in the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies at least 2 weeks before the scheduled defense. The office will circulate the defense drafts to the Dissertation Committee members. The defense draft of the dissertation must be as close to letter perfect as the student can make it, written in clear and accurate English and in conformity with appropriate program style. The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that this is the case. The dissertation may not be amended before the defense. The defense draft (and final copies) of the dissertation must not exceed 100,000 words in length, inclusive of all matter. Longer drafts will not be accepted.
  
- **Submission of the final draft to the committee members.**  
The student will submit the final draft to the committee member(s) designated by the committee to check the revisions. When that person or persons has/have agreed that the revisions have been made, the committee members will sign the approval page.
  
- **Submission of the final draft to the Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies**  
The student should submit five unbound copies of the final draft along with the Graduate Document Form (available from Faculty of Postgraduate Studies) to the approved university binder. After binding, one copy is retained by the library. One copy is to be submitted to the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies' officer, and one copy is to be presented to the student's supervisor and reader each.



#### **6.2.12.5 Specific Deadlines for Graduation**

To graduate in any one academic year the final defense must be held at least 2 months before graduation. **Note that meeting these deadlines in no way guarantees graduation at the specified time. The need for extensive revisions of the initial or defense draft and/or extra time needed by the external reader to read the dissertation may prolong the process.**

#### **6.2.12.6 Dissertation Defense**

Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies or his/her appointee, of the student's major field (communication) will chair the defense session. The second reader and external reader will take the lead role in the oral examination. The supervisor may choose to ask questions during the examination. Once the questioning has concluded, the Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies will dismiss the student whose dissertation is being examined. The Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies will chair the deliberations of the second reader and external reader. The second reader and external reader will determine the outcome of the defense. In the event that the second reader and external reader cannot agree on a decision, the Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies will intervene and, if necessary, cast the deciding vote. Four outcomes of the dissertation defense hearing are possible: 1) the dissertation may be passed with no further revision necessary; 2) the dissertation may be passed without conditions but with recommendations; 3) the dissertation may be passed on condition that further revision is completed prior to resubmission (with or without an oral defense); 4) the dissertation may be failed. The passmark for the dissertation is a 3.00 GPA. Those who fail will be allowed to repeat the dissertation process once after which if they fail for the second time they will be discontinued. Students should be aware that dissertation defenses frequently result in minor and sometimes major revisions to the defense draft, often with new material. They should therefore schedule their defense well before their anticipated graduation date. Once participants have successfully defended the dissertation, they will be certified to walk in the next graduation ceremony (even if revisions to the dissertation are still required). The degree will not, of course, officially be granted until all program requirements have been completed.

#### **6.2.13. Statute of Limitations and Program Continuation**

Students have a maximum of eight years from the time of enrollment to finish the Ph.D. degree. If students do not complete the Ph.D. program within the eight year limit, they will be dismissed from the program unless they successfully petition the Ph.D. Committee and the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies for special consideration. Petitions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. A petition to continue enrolment past eight years must include a persuasive rationale for the program not being completed on time, and a detailed plan to complete the unfulfilled requirements in a timely manner. An Academic Petition form is used to request an extension.

#### **6.3 Class Attendance**

Daystar University expects students to make the most of educational opportunities available to them by regularly and punctually attending class sessions. Students who miss 25% or more of class sessions will receive no credit for the course. Such students

will not be allowed to take the exams. If a student must be absent from class for a valid reason, he/she must fill in an absence-from-class form obtained from the office of the university registrar.

#### **6.4 Class Time**

It is expected that students will actively participate in the class process in a variety of forms including making presentations, leading discussion, participating in group work among other areas. It is expected that they take these activities seriously. .

#### **6.5 Course Load**

The normal class load for a full-time Ph.D. student is between 9 and 12 credit hours per semester. No student shall be permitted enrolment for more than 15 credit hours (exclusive of dissertation) of course work in any given semester.

#### **6.6 Probation and Discontinuation**

- 6.6.1 A diagnostic review of the academic progress of each doctoral student, by the Graduate Studies Committee, will be held at or near the end of the student's first year. A report will then be sent to the student's first-year adviser, who will share the results with the student. The review is intended to provide an early indication of the student's progress in the program, to identify the student's strengths and weaknesses, and to help the student begin to prepare for the comprehensive examination. A student whose performance is very poor may be advised, but not required, to drop out of the program.
- 6.6.2 Each student working towards the Ph.D. degree must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 (scale of 4.00) throughout the program to remain in good standing. However, for good progress, doctoral students are normally expected to maintain at least a 3.00 average. Students must have achieved a final minimum grade point average of 3.00 in order to graduate.
- 6.6.3 Any student who earns less than a grade of B in a required course will have his or her program terminated unless the committee approves a student petition to waive the requirement of the required course and to accept a substitute course to earn the lost graduate credit. If the petition is approved, the student's adviser will select the additional course. The student must earn a B or better in the course that is retaken.
- 6.6.4 A graduate student whose GPA falls below 3.00 will be placed on probationary status for the following semester. Action will be initiated by the office of the Dean, Faculty of Postgraduate Studies, to help the student on probation to overcome his or her academic problems, and will include a restriction on total course load permitted in any given semester. A student on probation will be terminated from the program unless his or her cumulative graduate grade point average is 3.00 or higher at the end of the probationary period. In practice, termination occurs when the semester GPA is less than 3.00 for two semesters. Exceptions to this policy may be made only with the approval of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) on the recommendation of the student's faculty committee.

- 6.6.5 Students holding graduate research assistantships must maintain a 3.00 average to maintain eligibility for these positions. Those holding graduate teaching assistantships/associateships must maintain a 3.30 grade point average.

## **6.7 Audit and Special Students**

A student may audit any course in the Communication Ph.D program. Enrolling for audit permits one to attend the lectures and to participate in the learning activities, however no academic credit is earned for the experience. The lecturer may mark assignments submitted by the auditor but is not obligated to do so. Only persons who are eligible for admission into the Communication Ph.D program can audit courses in the program.

There is also room for special students, namely, those students who are eligible for admission into the Communication Ph.D program but for various reasons are unable to register, to seek admission to a few courses. Such students can be enrolled into the program for a maximum of one academic year only. Special students who wish to continue beyond this period must apply for admission into the Communication Ph.D program. Special students attend the lectures and participate in the learning activities, and earn academic credit for the experience.

## **6.8 Late Assignments and Examinations**

According to Daystar University policy, late assignments can be made up only for good reason (e.g., illness, death in the immediate family). **In no case will examinations be given early.** If circumstances warrant, the examinations may be given late and the student may be charged a grade penalty or a late examination fee.

## **6.9 Withdrawal**

If for some personal emergency a student wishes to withdraw from a course after the deadline for routine changes has expired, the student may do so up to the time that two-thirds of the course has passed, but the student's transcript will show his or her performance—WP (Withdrawing Passing) or WF (Withdrawing Failing) depending on whether the student was passing or failing at the time of withdrawal.

After two-thirds of the coursework has been completed, the student may not withdraw from any course unless there is a pressing personal emergency or illness. In such cases, students must petition the Faculty Board.

## **6.10 Academic Counselling**

General advice on academic matters should be sought from the Head of Department of Communication, in the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies. Advice on course work in individual courses should be sought from the lecturers concerned.

## **6.11 English**

The Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) or its equivalent certification is required of all students coming from countries in which English is not the language of instruction. This will also apply to students who have not done undergraduate or graduate study in institutions using English as the language of instruction. Students with deficient examination scores will be asked to postpone further Daystar enrolment pending satisfactory re-sitting of the TOEFL test.

Normal acceptance score on the TOEFL test is 500 (manual). Students with deficient TOEFL scores or who arrive without TOEFL results will be asked to postpone further Daystar enrolment until they have completed additional full-time training in English and have shown satisfactory performance in English on a standardized English Examination.

### 6.12 Computer Literacy

All applicants will be expected to be computer literate.

### 6.13 Student Assessment

- 6.13.1 A final examination will be administered at the end of each semester for some courses; the mark scored by the student will be added to those marks from continuous assessments to establish the student’s final mark for a given course.
- 6.13.2. Course grades for Communication Ph.D students will vary from course to course. The dissertation will be based 100% on assessment of complete work at defence, while the Professional Development and Service Learning will be based 100% on assessment on completed work at final submission.
- 6.13.3. For each course the student is given a letter grade, which has the following significance:

Marks	Letter Grade	GRADE POINTS PER CREDIT	Significance
97 – 100	A	4.00	Superior
91 – 96	A-	3.70	
86 – 90	B+	3.30	
81 – 85	B	3.00	Average
Below 81			Unacceptable For credit

### 6.14 Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence. It undercuts the very process of learning, and all the more so where students and faculty have committed themselves to following Jesus Christ.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, stealing examinations, using hidden information when writing examinations, copying examination answers, submitting papers written by others as one’s own, and failing to give credit in a research paper for words or ideas used from others. If it is established that a student has committed academic dishonesty, the part of the course related to the offence will be failed. Serious

cases of academic dishonesty could result in failure of the course or dismissal from the University.

### 6.15 Transcripts

All grades for course work must be recorded on the student's transcript and averaged with the grade point average (except that courses carrying no credit are not calculated into the cumulative grade point average).

## 7.0 Requirements for Graduation with a Ph.D in Communication

In order to graduate, a student must successfully complete the 60 credit hours comprising 21 credit hours dissertation, 24 credit hours of core course (see 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3), and 15 elective credit hours chosen from specialization courses (see 7.4) and a professional development course (7.5) as specified below:

General Education Core Courses	8 credits
Statistics and Research Methods Courses	10 credits
Communication Core Courses	6 credits
Communication Elective Courses	12 credits
Professional Development Course	3 credits
Dissertation	<u>21 credits</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60 credits</b>

## 8.0 Tentative Schedule for the Communication Ph. D. Program

### Semester 1: August – December

GRA 801	Doctoral Colloquium	2
BIL 801	Seminar on Integration of Faith and Life	3
BIL 802	Philosophy of Scientific Inquiry	3
COM 810	Advanced Communication Theory	3

### Semester 2: January - May

COM 815	Communication Ethics	3
RES 850	Research Methodology	4
RES 851	Quantitative Research Methods and Analysis	3
COM 830	Seminar on Human Communication	3

### Blocks: May - July

RES 852	Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis	3
COM 835	Seminar on Applied Organizational Communication	3
COM 834	Seminar on Media Studies	

### Semester 4: August – December

COM 830	Seminar on Human Communication	3
COM 832	Seminar on Political, Public and Corporate Communication	3
COM 833	Seminar on Development and Health Communication	3

### Choose One Professional Development Course- (3 credits)

GRA 814	Leadership Development and Management	3
	or	

GRA 870	Education, Critical Thinking and Teaching Methods	3
<b>Semester 5: January – May</b>		
COM 831	Media Stewardship and Socio-Cultural Institutions	3
COM 832	Seminar on Political, Public and Corporate Communication	3
COM 833	Seminar on Development and Health Communication	3
	Schedule for Comprehensive Examinations	
COM 834	Seminar on Media Studies	3
COM 835	Seminar on Applied Organizational Communication	3
<b>Blocks: May - July</b>		
COM 998	Dissertation	6
<b>Semester 7: August – December</b>		
COM 998	Dissertation	6
<b>Semester 8: January – May</b>		
COM 998	Dissertation	6
<b>Blocks: May - July</b>		
COM 998:	Dissertation	3
		21