# Course Approval Form

**Action Requested:**
- [x] Create new course
- Modify existing course (check all that apply)
  - Title
  - Prereq/coreq
  - Credits
  - Repeat Status
  - Grade Type
- Delete existing course
- Repeat Status
- Grade Type

**Course Level:**
- [x] Undergraduate
- [ ] Graduate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/School</th>
<th>CHSS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Communication</td>
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**Submitted by:**
- Timothy Gibson
- Ext: X3793
- Email: tgibson1@gmu.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Code</th>
<th>COMM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>690</td>
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**Effective Term:**
- Fall
- Spring
- Year 2011

**Title:**
- Current Special Topics in Communication

**Credits:**
- [x] Fixed
- [ ] Variable

**Repeat Status:**
- [x] Not Repeatable (NR)
- [ ] Repeatable within degree (RD)
- [x] Repeatable within term (RT)

**Grade Mode:**
- [x] Regular (A, B, C, etc.)
- [ ] Satisfactory/No Credit
- [ ] Special (A, B C, etc. +IP)

**Schedule Type Code(s):**
- Lecture (LEC)
- Lab (LAB)
- Recitation (RCT)
- Internship (INT)
- Independent Study (IND)
- Seminar (SEM)
- Studio (STU)

**Prerequisite(s):**
- Graduate standing.

**Corequisite(s):**

**Special Instructions:**
- (list restrictions for major, college, or degree; hard-coding; etc.)

**Catalog Copy for NEW Courses Only**

**Description** (No more than 60 words, use verb phrases and present tense)
- Explores contemporary issues in communication theory, research, and practice. Content varies.

**Notes** (List additional information for the course)
- May be repeated for credit when content differs.

**Indicate number of contact hours:**
- Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: 3
- Hours of Lab or Studio: 

**When Offered:**
- (check all that apply)
  - Fall
  - Summer
  - Spring

**Approval Signatures**

If this course includes subject matter currently dealt with by any other units, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Name</th>
<th>Unit Approval Name</th>
<th>Unit Approver's Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</table>

**For Graduate Courses Only**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Graduate Council Member</th>
<th>Provost Office</th>
<th>Graduate Council Approval Date</th>
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TO: CHHS Curriculum Committee

FROM: Sheryl A. Friedley, Chair
      Communication Department Curriculum Committee

RE: Communication 690 -- New Course Proposal

DATE: February 26, 2010

Attached please find the appropriate paperwork for a new course proposal submitted by the Department of Communication; the course is entitled "Comm 690 -- "Special Topics in Communication." As explained in the "Notes" section of the Course Approval Form, this proposed course will create a new special topics option for our graduate students at the 600-level. Our concern is that the current special topics course, "Comm 590 - Seminar in Communication," is currently open to undergraduates with permission, a policy that sometimes makes such courses inappropriate for doctoral students. For this reason, we believe it is necessary to create a special topics course at the 600 level that will better serve the needs of our MA and PhD students.

With the development of this new course, we still wish to preserve the existing special topics course, "Comm 590: Seminar in Communication." Maintaining this course will provide us the opportunity to offer a course appropriate for both MA and high-performing undergraduate students. We appreciate your consideration of this curriculum matter.

We are proposing this course to create a new special topics option at the 600 level. Our concern is that our current special topics course is Comm 590. 500-level courses are open to undergraduates, a policy that sometimes makes such courses inappropriate for doctoral students. For this reason, we wish to create a special topics course number at the 600-level that would better serve the needs our MA and PhD students. At the same time, we wish to preserve the existing Comm 590: Seminar in Communication course for those times when we wish to offer a course appropriate for both MA and high-performing undergraduate students. Thank you for considering our proposal.