

Mission Statement

Department of Communication & Theatre

Department Mission Statement: As communicators, all humans are part of an ongoing conversation. Communication is inevitable, irreversible, and continuous. The messages we send and receive shape our attitudes, build our relationships, and impact the environment in which we live. The mission of the Department of Communication and Theatre is to empower students with a meaningful Christian voice in the ongoing conversation of the world in which we live. We strive to meet this mission through, learning, growing, and serving.

Learning Informed by our Faith in Christ

- Students will learn basic theory about the discipline of communication, organizational communication, media communication, broadcast journalism and theatre.

Growing in a Christ Centered Community

- As students understand the process of communication, they will be challenged to use communication competently in a variety of complex environmental and social contexts.

Serving in a Context of Christian Faith

- Students will participate in the disciplines of Communication and Theatre in the collective community around them.

The Department of Communication and Theatre is committed to helping each student learn, grow, and serve so that they may contribute meaningfully to the ongoing conversation of all humans and seek to make an impact in the world through their communication abilities. The power to communicate is the power to transform our world one conversation at a time.

Broadcast Journalism:

Program Mission Statement: The broadcast journalism (BJ) program at PLNU exists to reinforce and support the mission of the university, which is to teach and shape students in the creative, technical, and socialization areas of professional media preparation, and to send students into media industries. These have traditionally included radio and television broadcasting.

Historically, print and broadcast journalists have worked in “silos” as distinct segments of the industry. In recent years, the rapid diffusion and emergence of online communication has precipitated the integration of convergent journalism. From a professional standpoint, convergence is the practice of print and broadcast journalists using each other’s skills in the reporting and dissemination of news, specifically applied in a Web context.

In order to more closely emulate the profession, the BJ program at PLNU has undergone a number of curricular changes that recognize the importance and necessity of convergent journalism. This has included introducing online components in a number of courses, such as a news blog in TV News

Production that enables students to post story text, as well as still photos, videos, and links to additional sources.

Media Communication

The mission of Point Loma Nazarene University states that it exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Similarly, the mission of the media communication program at PLNU exists to reinforce and support this mission:

The purpose of the media communication program is to two-fold. First, we seek to prepare students to become responsible, professional, and creative producers of media programming. This includes programming for broadcast TV, radio, cable TV, film, corporate media, the internet, and church media. Second, we seek to prepare students to be thoughtful and critical consumers of the media. Our goal: to send students into the various secular and Christian media industries to produce outstanding programming and be a witness of Christ's love and grace in the world.