

PUBLIC RELATIONS/JD 3+3 DEGREE, BA

Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations/JD Degree

The BA/JD degree is an accelerated program which allows highly qualified and disciplined students to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and a Juris Doctor degree in six years (180 credits) instead of the usual seven by completing 29 credits from the first year of law school toward the bachelor's degree.

Requirements for Admission

- Admission to the 3+3 program as a first-year student requires an ACT of 25 (SAT of 980) and a minimum high school GPA of 3.4; admission of transfer and ICT students requires a GPA of 3.4.
- Any University of Akron Public Relations major may apply for inclusion into the 3+3 program at the same time they apply for admission into the Public Relations BA program, or anytime while enrolled as a Public Relations major at the University of Akron.
- University of Akron Public Relations majors participating in the joint 3+3 program who have completed the equivalent of three years or more of a baccalaureate degree will be admitted into the University of Akron School of Law so long as they:
 - Are in good standing academically, financially, and from a disciplinary perspective in the Public Relations BA program.
 - Satisfy the character and fitness standards required of all students admitted to the Law School.
 - Have an LSAT that is at or above the 25th percentile of the previous year's entering class, and not below a 151 (GRE results can be considered if no LSAT score is available).
 - Have an undergraduate grade point average at or above the median of the previous University of Akron Law School entering class.

The following information has official approval of **The School of Communication** and **The Buchtel College of Arts & Sciences**, but is intended only as a supplemental guide. Official degree requirements are established at the time of transfer and admission to the degree-granting college. Students should refer to the Degree Progress Report (Stellic) which is definitive for graduation requirements. *Completion of this degree within the identified time frame below is contingent upon many factors, including but not limited to: class availability, total number of required credits, work schedule, finances, family, course drops/withdrawals, successfully passing courses, prerequisites, among others.* The transfer process is completed through an appointment with your academic advisor.

Requirements Summary

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://bulletin.uakron.edu/undergraduate/general-education/)	36
	College of Arts & Sciences Requirements	9-24
	Communication Core	9
	Communication Studies Core	15
	Communication Studies Electives	15

Minor Requirement	18
Additional Credits for Graduation *	18-3
Total Hours	120

* Bachelor's degrees require a minimum of 120 credit hours for graduation.

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Students pursuing a bachelor's degree must complete the following General Education coursework		
Breadth of Perspectives courses may also fulfill major or Breadth of Knowledge requirements. Integrated and Applied Learning courses may also fulfill requirements in the major.		
Academic Foundations		12
<i>Mathematics, Statistics and Logic: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Speaking: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Writing: 6 credit hours</i>		
Breadth of Knowledge		19
<i>Arts: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Humanities: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Natural Sciences: 7 credit hours</i>		
<i>Social Sciences: 6 credit hours</i>		
Breadth of Perspectives		
U.S. Perspectives		
Global Perspectives		
Civic Literacy		
Integrated and Applied Learning		1-3
<i>Select one class from one of the following subcategories:</i>		
Complex Issues Facing Society		
Capstone		
General Education Elective ¹		4-2
<i>Review the General Education Requirements page for detailed course listings.</i>		
Total Hours		36

¹ Credits may be selected from any approved General Education course not already accounted for.

College of Arts & Sciences Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Degree requirements in Arts & Sciences include either 1) the demonstration of ability to use another language by completion of the second year of a foreign language, or 2) the completion of a certificate program outside of the Communication department		
<i>2 Year Language Proficiency</i>		<i>14</i>
101 Beginning I		
102 Beginning II		
201 Intermediate I		
202 Intermediate II		
SLPA 222	Survey of Deaf Culture in America (American Sign Language option only)	

-or-	
Certificate program ¹	9-24

¹ Please see your advisor for a list of available certificate programs

Code	Title	Hours
Students must also complete a minimum of 40 credits (excluding workshops) consisting of either:		
Upper-level (300/400) courses both in and outside of the student's major;		
or other courses outside the major department approved by the student's major department chair (permission should be obtained prior to enrollment); these may not include workshops		

General Education Requirements ¹

Students pursuing a bachelor's degree must complete the following General Education coursework. Diversity courses may also fulfill major or Breadth of Knowledge requirements. Integrated and Applied Learning courses may also fulfill requirements in the major.

Code	Title	Hours
Academic Foundations		12
<i>Mathematics, Statistics and Logic: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Speaking: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Writing: 6 credit hours</i>		
Breadth of Knowledge		19
<i>Arts: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Humanities: 3 credit hours</i>		
<i>Natural Sciences: 7 credit hours</i>		
<i>Social Sciences: 6 credit hours</i>		
Breadth of Perspectives		3
<i>US Perspectives</i>		
<i>Global Perspectives</i>		
<i>Civic Literacy: 3 credit hours</i>		
Integrated and Applied Learning		2
<i>Select one class from one of the following subcategories:</i>		
<i>Complex Issues Facing Society</i>		
<i>Capstone</i>		
<i>Review the General Education Requirements page for detailed course listings.</i>		
Total Hours		36

¹ We strongly recommend selecting courses that fulfill both Breadth of Knowledge and Breadth of Perspectives requirement. Please consult the General Education requirements to see which courses fulfill both requirements.

Communication Core ¹

Code	Title	Hours
COMM 101	Introduction to Communication ¹	3
COMM 331	Data Collection and Information Design ¹	3
or COMM 384	Communication Research	

Select one of the following Theory courses (Courses not used for this requirement may be taken for elective credit): ^{1,2}

COMM 406	Public Relations Theory	3
COMM 305	Communication Theory	3
COMM 360	Theories of Rhetoric	3
COMM 474	Media Theory	3

Total Hours: 9

¹ Grade of C or better is required in Communication Core courses.

² Courses not used for this requirement can be taken for elective credit.

Public Relations Core

Code	Title	Hours
COMM 210	Multiplatform Production	3
or COMM 309	Public Relations Publications	
COMM 219	Introduction to Public Relations	3
COMM 303	Public Relations Writing	3
COMM 404	Public Relations Cases	3
COMM 409	Public Relations Strategic Campaigns	3
Total Hours		15

Public Relations Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Choose 12 credits from the list below:		
COMM 300	Newswriting Across the Media	3
COMM 307	Principles of Social Media	3
COMM 309	Public Relations Publications ¹	3
COMM 350	Event Planning	3
COMM 355	Freedom of Speech	3
COMM 364	Legal Issues in Media	3
COMM 406	Public Relations Theory ¹	3
COMM 410	Digital Content Creation	3
COMM 429	Advanced Strategic Social Media	3
COMM 475	Political Communication	3
COMM 480	Communication Internship	3-6
Total Hours: 12		

¹ Eligible for elective credit only if the alternative option was taken in the core. Cannot duplicate count between elective and core fulfillment.

Communication Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Choose 6 credits from the list below:		
COMM 228	ZTV ¹	1
COMM 230	WZIP-FM ¹	1
COMM 317	Topics in Media Production	3
COMM 323	Podcasting	3
COMM 324	Interpersonal Communication	3
COMM 325	Intercultural Communication	3
COMM 435	Organizational Communication	3
COMM 438	Health Communication	3
COMM 450	Special Topics in Communication	3

COMM 472	Video Production	3
<i>Total Hours: 6</i>		

¹ Co-curricular activities (WZIP, ZTV) are limited to a total of three credits to be applied to the communication electives.

First Year Law Courses

Code	Title	Hours
LAWX 601	Civil Procedure - Federal Jurisdiction	3
LAWX 602	Civil Procedure - Federal Litigation	3
LAWX 607	Criminal Law	3
LAWX 609	Fundamentals of Lawyering	0
LAWX 611	Contracts	4
LAWX 619	Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I (LARW I)	3
LAWX 620	Legal Analysis, Research & Writing II (LARW II)	3
LAWX 625	Torts	4
LAWX 645	Property	4
LAWX 676	Legislation and Regulation	2
Total Hours		29

Recommended Sequence

1st Year

Fall Semester	Hours
COMM 101 Introduction to Communication ¹	3
COMM 105 Introduction to Public Speaking	3
ENGL 111 English Composition I	3
Mathematics, Statistics and Logic Requirement	3
Beginning Language I or Certificate Course I ²	3
Hours	15

Spring Semester

ENGL 112 English Composition II	3
or ENGL 222 or Technical Report Writing	
COMM 309 Public Relations Publications	3
Beginning Language II or Certificate Course II ²	3
Natural Science Requirement	3
Social Science Requirement	3
Hours	15

2nd Year

Fall Semester

COMM 219 Introduction to Public Relations	3
Natural Science with lab Requirement	4
Intermediate Language I or Certificate Course III ²	3
Civic Literacy Requirement ⁴	3
Global Perspectives Requirement	3
Hours	16

Spring Semester

COMM 303 Public Relations Writing	3
COMM 325 Intercultural Communication ³	3

COMM 406 Public Relations Theory ¹	3
Intermediate Language II or Certificate Course ²	3
Arts Requirement	3
Hours	15

3rd Year

Fall Semester

COMM 384 Communication Research ¹	3
or COMM 331 or Data Collection and Information Design	
COMM 404 Public Relations Cases	3
Communication Elective	3
Public Relations Elective	3
Humanities Requirement	3
Hours	15

Spring Semester

COMM 409 Public Relations Strategic Campaigns	3
Public Relations Elective	3
Public Relations Elective	3
Public Relations Elective	3
Complex Issues Requirement	3
Hours	15

4th Year

Fall Semester

LAWX 601 Civil Procedure - Federal Jurisdiction	3
LAWX 611 Contracts	4
LAWX 619 Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I (LARW I)	3
LAWX 625 Torts	4
Hours	14

Spring Semester

LAWX 602 Civil Procedure - Federal Litigation	3
LAWX 607 Criminal Law	3
LAWX 620 Legal Analysis, Research & Writing II (LARW II)	3
LAWX 645 Property	4
LAWX 675 Entrepreneurship	3
Hours	16
Total Hours	121

¹ A grade of C or better is required in order to graduate.

² Students are required to complete four semesters of a modern language or sign language OR complete a certificate from the approved list (see below). Demonstration of ability to use another language by completion of the second year of a modern language or sign language is required through coursework, AP, CLEP, or Oral Proficiency Interview. See your advisor for placement. Please note that all four semesters must be completed in the SAME language and it's recommended you begin your first language course as soon as possible. Students can also complete one of the following certificates, instead of a language, to satisfy this requirement: Applied Political Communication [370019C], Artificial Intelligence [360010C], Conflict Transformation & Social Entrepreneurship [370016C], Parent and Family Education [H40203C], Entrepreneurship [630000C], Health Care Selling [660108C], Applied Politics [370005C], Asian Studies

[340001C], Environmental Studies [337004C], Field Archaeology [324001C], Gerontology [300006C], Latin American Studies [300008C], Linguistic Studies [330008C], Middle Eastern Studies [340002C], Pan-African Studies [300002C], Research Methods for the Social Sciences [385000C], Teaching English as a Second Language [330003C], Women's Studies [300110C], Manual Communication [H70007C], Museum and Archives Studies [140001C], Managing People [650010C], Campus Arts and Culture [140005C], Environmental Ethics [360006C], Applied Community Engagement [140004C], Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion [375001C], and Addiction Services [226106C].

³ COMM 325 (Intercultural Communication) fulfills the U.S. Perspectives course requirement and is a Communication elective.

⁴ SOCIO150, POLIT101, HIST243 are recommended to fulfill Civic Literacy Requirement and Social Science Requirement.