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Program Elimination Proposal

Date Submitted: 03/02/26 10:40 am

Viewing: BS-ICDV : Bachelor of Science in Information Communication & Data Visualization

Last approved: 04/14/25 12:57 pm

Last edit: 03/02/26 10:40 am

Changes proposed by: sghatak

Catalog Pages
Using this Program
Bachelor of Science in Information Communication & Data Visualization

Elimination type	Elimination ~~Active~~
End Term	Fall 2026

What is the reason this program is being eliminated?

In Workflow

1. HUMA Chair
2. Academic Affairs
3. Undergraduate Academic Affairs
4. LS Dean
5. Undergraduate Studies Committee Chair
6. Faculty Council Chair
7. Faculty Council Chair
8. Provost
9. President
10. Academic Affairs

Approval Path

1. 03/02/26 10:45 am Saran Ghatak (sghatak): Approved for HUMA Chair
2. 03/09/26 3:13 pm Ayesha Qamer (aqamer): Approved for Academic Affairs
3. 03/09/26 4:01 pm Joseph Gorzkowski (jgorzkow): Approved for Undergraduate Academic Affairs
4. 03/12/26 10:37 am Jennifer deWinter (jdewinter): Approved for LS Dean

History

1. Mar 19, 2025 by Hannah Ringler (hringler)
2. Mar 24, 2025 by Ayesha Qamer (aqamer)
3. Mar 24, 2025 by Ayesha Qamer (aqamer)
4. Apr 14, 2025 by Ayesha Qamer (aqamer)

This program is being replaced by a new Communication and Emergent Media program which shares many of the same courses.

Are there any students in this program?

Yes

TEACH-OUT PLAN

Provide the number of students, by level, who are currently in the program, and an estimated time to graduation (in years) for each level.

Level	Number of Students	Time to Graduation (in years)
U4	2	1

List any courses that will be discontinued and the term when they will no longer be offered.

All courses will continue. Current students will not have any problem in continuing their degree

Please list what other options a student will be offered to complete their degree. Any plans for student academic and financial advising through this process.

Students will be given the option of moving over to the new degree in Communication and Emergent Media

Please provide a communication plan to ensure students and other institutional stakeholders are informed of this closure and throughout the teach-out process. If you wish to include an attachment instead, please include it below.

There are two students currently enrolled in the program. They will have the option of completing their degree since all courses will continue to be offered. They will also have the option of moving over to the new degree program in Communication and Emergent Media

Communication Plan Attachment

What contact information (name, phone number, email, etc.) will you provide for students and other stakeholders to ask questions about this program closure?

Saran Ghatak, Chair, HASS, sghatak@illinoistech.edu, 312-567-3464

Please provide a list of programmatic accreditors and/or licensing agencies (i.e., NAAB, AACSB or ABET) that have been or will be notified.

Name of Accreditors and/or Licensing Agencies	Date of Notification (MM/DD/YYYY)
This is not an accredited prorgam	None

If you have notification documentation, please attach.

Program Status	Elimination ~~Active~~		
Requestor Name	Saran Ghatak ~~Ayesha Qamer~~	E-mail	sghatak@iit.edu ~~aqamer@iit.edu~~
Origination Date	2025-4-14		
Is this an interdisciplinary program?	No		
Is this an incubator program?			
Is this stem-eligible?			
Available for direct application?			
Academic Unit	Humanities	College	Lewis College of Science and Letters
Program Title	Bachelor of Science in Information Communication & Data Visualization		
Effective Academic Year	2025 - 2026	Effective Term	Fall 2026
Academic Level	Undergraduate		

If all courses in a subject in your department are required, please enter each subject followed by the number ranges in the "Quick Add" field in the pop up box when you click the green plus button below. For example: ARCH 100-499.

What courses will factor the major	COM 421 - Technical Communication COM 424 - Document Design

GPA?	COM 428 - Verbal and Visual Communication COM 425 - Editing COM 372 - Mass Media and Society COM 353 - Media and Globalization COM 382 - Social Media and Society HIST 373 - History of Video Games PSYC 203 - Undergraduate Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences MATH 225 - Introductory Statistics MATH 425 - Statistical Methods MATH 426 - Statistical Tools for Engineers CHE 426 - Statistical Tools for Engineers MATH 474 - Probability and Statistics MATH 475 - Probability MATH 476 - Statistics BUS 221 - Business Statistics COM 438 - Exhibit Desisgn HUM 372 - Interactive Storytelling COM 437 - Video Documentation ITMD 362 - Human-Computer Interaction and Web Design CS 442 - Mobile Applications Development FDSN 320 - Food Law, Labels, and Health Claims INTM 301 - Communications for the Workplace PSYC 312 - Human Motivation and Emotion COM 497 - Special Project MAX 502 - Analytics for Decision Making MAX 507 - Visual Analytics - Data Analytics & Visualization
Program Type	Degree
Degree Type	Bachelor of Science (BS)

CIP Code

09.0908 - Technical and Scientific Communication.

Is there more than one Academic Unit proposer?

No

Program Code	BS-ICDV
Program Attribute	
Total Program Credit Hours	120

Program Narrative and Justification

Narrative description of how the institution determined the need for the program. For example, describe what need this program will address and how the institution became aware of that need. If the program is replacing a current program(s), identify the current program(s) that is being replaced by the new program(s) and provide details describing the benefits of the new program(s). If the program will be offered in connection with, or in response to, an initative by a governmental entity, provide details of that initiative.

Illinois Tech currently offers a B.S. in Communication: Professional and Technical Communication. However, this program has had historically low enrollment and appeal to students. The Humanities Department believes this is due to a) outdated curriculum, and b) a lack of structured curriculum which provides marketable training in this area.

This new B.S. ICDV program is designed as a replacement for the current Professional and Technical Communication degree. Over time and as technology has progressed, the field has generally moved away from “technical communication” and into areas like data visualization and information communication, which this program reflects. Moreover, it is designed to build skills in media studies, statistics, and data visualization, on top of traditional technical communication skills. These skills culminate in a capstone or thesis project, where students can engage deeply with communication practices and complexities in other fields, thus allowing students to customize their communication expertise to the unique qualities of other fields. Finally, this program allows for 40 credits of free electives, and as such, would be a marketable second major for many students.

Narrative description of how the program was designed to meet local market needs, or for an online program, regional or national market needs. For example, indicate if Bureau of Labor Statistics data or State labor data systems information was used, and/or if State, regional, or local workforce agencies were consulted. Include how the course content, program length, academic level, admission requirements, and prerequisites were decided; including information received from potential employers about course content; and information regarding the target students and employers.

Communication skills are widely regarded as incredibly important for workers in technical degree fields. Employers also regularly report communication skills as lacking by many recent graduates in engineering and related fields. In response, agencies like ABET have explicitly added communication skills to their accreditation criteria.

We believe that students who add this degree as a second major (on top of an engineering or computing-related degree) will thus enhance their marketability by highlighting not only their technical skills, but a unique dedication to communication skills which employers find important and rare. We have thus designed this program with 40 credit hours of free electives, so that students can easily add it as a second major. In addition, we have designed the requirements to be integrated with developing technical communication skills in their majors: students must engage in statistics and specialized communication-related courses (many in majors) as part of this degree program, fostering a deeper engagement between discipline and communication skills which can be explored further in the final thesis or capstone.

Narrative description of any wage analysis the institution may have performed, including any consideration of Bureau of Labor Statistics wage data related to the new program.

N/A

Narrative description of how the program was reviewed or approved by, or developed in conjunction with, one or more of the following: a) business advisory committees; b) program integrity boards; c) public or private oversight or regulatory agencies (not including the state licensing/authorization agency and accrediting agency); and d) businesses that would likely employ graduates of the program. For example, describe the steps taken to develop the program, identify when and with whom discussions were held, provide relevant details of any proposals or correspondence generated, and/or describe any process used to evaluate the program.

N/A

Admission Entry Details

What are the enrollment estimates?

Year 1 10 Year 2 20 Year 3 25

Attach Additional Program Justification Document(s) BS-ICDV Sample Curricula Name Change Oversight.pdf

Academic Information

Advising

Since quality advising is a key component of good retention, graduation, and career placement, how will students be mentored? What student professional organizations will be formed? How will the department work with the Career Services office to develop industry connections?

• Program Committee (faculty). Responsible for the content of curriculum. Runs program assessment. Updates curriculum based on assessment results. Supports professional development activities for students on campus and works with related student organizations to help support the campus ecosystem for communication skills. This committee should have a minimum of 3 members with at least two drawn from HUM. Committee will report on program to the chair of HUM, and the dean of Lewis College.
• Program Adviser (staff). Responsible for front-line advising of students to ensure students understand degree requirements and take the necessary courses. Points students to other resources, when they need specialized or additional support. Tracks majors through graduation.

Program Resources

Which program resources are necessary to offer this program?

Proposed Catalog Entry

Admission Requirements

This degree program has no additional admission requirements, outside of the university's standard undergraduate degree requirements.

Sample Curriculum/Program Requirements

Bachelor of Science in Information Communication & Data Visualization Curriculum

Year 1

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours
Any ITP Course	2	HUM 200	3
COM 101	3	MATH 425	3
Free Elective	3	CS 115	2
Math Elective	3	Natural Science or Engineering (N) elective	3
Natural Science or Engineering (N) elective	4	Social Science (S) Elective	3
	15		14

Year 2

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours
COM 421	3	COM 424	3
Natural Science or Engineering (N) elective	3	COM 425	3
Social Science (S) Elective	3	Social Science (S) Elective	3
Humanities (H) Elective	3	Humanities (H) Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
	15		15

Year 3

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours
COM 428	3	COM 382	3
COM 372	3	IPRO 397	3
Technical Elective	3	Technical Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Humanities (H) or Social Science (S) Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
	15		15

Year 4

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours

IPRO 497	3	COM 497	3
COM 497	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3	Free Elective	3
Free Elective	4	Free Elective	3
	16		15

Total Credit Hours: 120

Specialization Requirements

Program Outcomes and Assessment Process

What are your learning objectives in this program? Please list each learning objective in the boxes below:

Note: These should be the same as described in your assessment plan at the bottom of this form.

Students will be able to produce effective technical texts and documentation in professional and academic contexts

Students will be able to critically evaluate the role of technical and data-driven texts in society

Students will be able to draw upon theories and knowledge from statistics and design to communicate ideas clearly and effectively with data

Upload your assessment plan here:

Assessment Plan_icdv.xlsx

Undergraduate Program Requirements

What courses will factor the major GPA?	COM 421 - Technical Communication COM 424 - Document Design COM 428 - Verbal and Visual Communication COM 425 - Editing COM 372 - Mass Media and Society COM 353 - Media and Globalization COM 382 - Social Media and Society HIST 373 - History of Video Games PSYC 203 - Undergraduate Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences MATH 225 - Introductory Statistics MATH 425 - Statistical Methods MATH 426 - Statistical Tools for Engineers CHE 426 - Statistical Tools for Engineers MATH 474 - Probability and Statistics MATH 475 - Probability MATH 476 - Statistics BUS 221 - Business Statistics COM 438 - Exhibit Desisgn HUM 372 - Interactive Storytelling COM 437 - Video Documentation ITMD 362 - Human-Computer Interaction and Web Design CS 442 - Mobile Applications Development FDSN 320 - Food Law, Labels, and Health Claims INTM 301 - Communications for the Workplace PSYC 312 - Human Motivation and Emotion PSYC 362 - Human-Computer Interaction and Web Design COM 497 - Special Project MAX 502 - Analytics for Decision Making MAX 507 - Visual Analytics - Data Analytics & Visualization

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Minimum credit hours	120

Specialization required?
No

Minor required?
No

Proposed General Curriculum

List Major Course Requirements

Courses required for all students

Foundations		**(12)**
COM 424	Course COM 424 Not Found	3
COM 425	Editing	3
COM 428	Course COM 428 Not Found	3
COM 421	Course COM 421 Not Found	3
Communication and Media Studies Requirement		**(6)**
Select two courses from the following		6
COM 372	Mass Media and Society	3
COM 353	Media and Globalization	3
COM 382	Social Media and Society	3
HIST 373	Course HIST 373 Not Found	3
Statistics Requirement		**(3)**
Select one course from the following		3
PSYC 203	Undergraduate Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	4
MATH 225	Course MATH 225 Not Found	3
MATH 425	Statistical Methods	3
MATH 426	Statistical Tools for Engineers	3
or CHE 426	Statistical Tools for Engineers	
MATH 474	Probability and Statistics	3
MATH 475	Probability	3
or MATH 476	Statistics	
BUS 221	Business Statistics	3
Technical Electives		**(6)**
Select two courses from the following		6
COM 437	Course COM 437 Not Found	3
COM 438	Course COM 438 Not Found	3
HUM 372	Course HUM 372 Not Found	3
PSYC 312	Human Motivation and Emotion	3
PSYC 362	Human-Computer Interaction and Web Design	3
FDSN 320	Food Law, Labels, and Health Claims	3

CS 442	Course CS 442 Not Found	3
ITM 300	Communication in the Workplace	3
ITMD 362	Human-Computer Interaction and Web Design	3
INTM 301	Communications for the Workplace	3
MAX 502	Analytics for Decision Making	3
MAX 507	Visual Analytics - Data Analytics & Visualization	3
Capstone or Thesis		**(6)**
COM 497	Course COM 497 Not Found	6
Total Credit Hours		33

List Mathematics Requirements

See Illinois Tech Core Curriculum, section D

5-6 credit hours required. Students will fulfill 3-4 of these credit hours through the statistics requirement.

List Science Requirements

See Illinois Tech Core Curriculum, section D

10-11 credit hours required.

List Computer Science Requirements

See Illinois Tech Core Curriculum, section D

2 credit hours required. Some students may fulfill this with CS 442, as part of the Technical Electives requirement.

List Humanities and Social Sciences Requirements

See Illinois Tech Core Curriculum, sections B and C

24 credit hours required.

List Interprofessional Project (IPRO) Requirements

See Illinois Tech Core Curriculum, section E

6 credit hours required.

List Technical Elective Course Options

Select two courses from the following		6
COM 438	Course COM 438 Not Found	3
COM 437	Course COM 437 Not Found	3

HUM 372	Course HUM 372 Not Found	3
PSYC 312	Human Motivation and Emotion	3
PSYC 362	Human-Computer Interaction and Web Design	3
FDSN 320	Food Law, Labels, and Health Claims	3
CS 442	Course CS 442 Not Found	3
ITM 300	Communication in the Workplace	3
ITMD 362	Human-Computer Interaction and Web Design	3
INTM 301	Communications for the Workplace	3
MAX 502	Analytics for Decision Making	3
MAX 507	Visual Analytics - Data Analytics & Visualization	3
Total Credit Hours		6

List Free Elective Credit Hours (if applicable)	40

Semester-by-semester plan of study for the degree program

Below is a sample plan of study.

Year 1

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours
LCHS 100	2	HUM 200	3
COM 101	3	MATH 425	3
Free elective	3	CS 115	2
Math elective	3	Natural Science or Engineering (N) elective	3
Natural Science or Engineering (N) elective	4	Social science (S) elective	3
	15		14

Year 2

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours
COM 421	3	COM 424	3
Natural Science or Engineering (N) elective	3	COM 425	3
Social science (S) elective	3	Social science (S) elective	3
Humanities (H) elective	3	Humanities (H) elective	3
Free elective	3	Free elective	3
	15		15

Year 3

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours
COM 428	3	COM 382	3
COM 372	3	IPRO 397	3
Technical elective	3	Technical elective	3
Free elective	3	Humanities (H) or Social science (S) elective	3
Free elective	3	Free elective	3
	15		15

Year 4

Semester 1	Credit Hours	Semester 2	Credit Hours
IPRO 497	3	COM 497	3
COM 497	3	Free elective	3
Free elective	3	Free elective	3
Free elective	3	Free elective	3
Free elective	4	Free elective	3
	16		15

Total Credit Hours: 120

Report to Faculty Council

Reviewer Comments

Key: 634