

MASTERING MEDIA & LINKING THE LITERACIES.



The Graduate Program in Media Literacy - Appalachian State.

FAQ: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

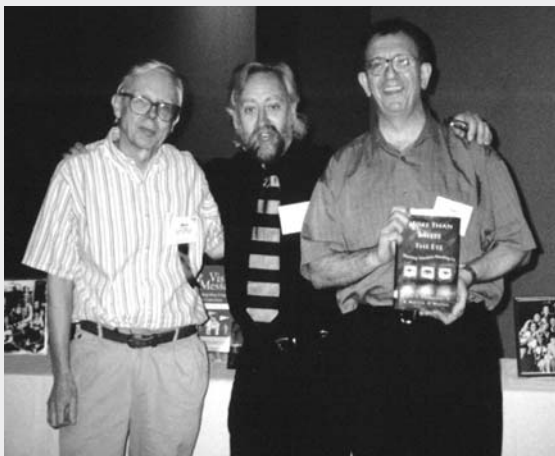
WHERE IS Appalachian State University? We are located in northwestern North Carolina, near the Virginia and Tennessee Borders. We are approximately 2.5 hours from major cities like Charlotte, Greensboro and Winston-Salem.

WHO STUDIES media literacy? Our students come from many different fields and often want to apply key concepts of media literacy to their existing job. They include teachers in private schools, public schools, universities and community colleges. They come from the Arts, Sciences, Education, Technology and Health fields.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE to complete a degree? That depends upon whether you are a full-time or a part-time student. A full-time student should be able to take 9 hours per semester and complete course work in 2 years. Summer school can shorten the process and a thesis may increase the duration. Part-time students could complete the degree in 4-5 years depending upon how many classes they took each semester.



HOW MUCH WILL IT COST? Tuition fees are set by the state legislature, not the university. You can access that information by contacting the graduate school. Be sure to price in-state and out-of-state tuition rates. Taking a 3-hour graduate class in summer is cheaper than taking a 3-hour graduate class in a full semester. We try to facilitate this process by offering intensive week-long classes during July. We also offer housing and meal plans.



CAN I DO IT ALL ONLINE? No. Distance education is very convenient and we offer some classes including CI 5830 Media Literacy and CI 5630 Instructional Technology online. However, the face-to-face interpersonal communication is very important to the learning community, especially during summer when students from across the country gather to continue their studies. This often means working with leaders in the media literacy field from across the U.S. as well as Canada and the U.K. These are important opportunities and cannot be replaced by distance-delivered classes. (over)

CAN I take a class before I have been formally admitted to the program? Yes. In fact, for out-of-state students, this is a relatively painless and affordable way of finding out if the people, place and program match your nature and needs. If you take a class and then apply for the program, the class can be added to your program of study so the credit hours will count towards your degree or certificate.



IS THERE FINANCIAL SUPPORT? There is limited financial support but only for full time students. Our students typically are offered either a graduate assistantship or work study opportunities after their first semester. The college has numerous media labs that need staffing and students with technology skills often work in these facilities.

WHY DO I HAVE TO TAKE PRODUCTION? Because the formal North American definition of media literacy says it is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate and COMMUNICATE information in a variety of media forms. Literacy is not just the ability to read or comprehend print. It also requires proficiency in communicating through the written word. Media literacy is not simply the ability to comprehend media messages someone else has created. Production includes the effective design and delivery of media messages in several different formats.

WHICH IS THE BEST CHOICE a thesis or a culminating project? That depends upon what you are interested in. A student who might go on to pursue a doctorate will benefit from the rigor and discipline of completing a thesis and a review of the literature. Other students might benefit more from a project such as curriculum design and development. The thesis normally takes longer and involves review and editing by the Graduate School, not just faculty on the students' advisory committee. The culminating project is judged entirely by faculty from the program area.

WHAT IS THE STUDENT- FACULTY RATIO? This is a relatively small program with between 15-25 students at any given time. That usually means close contact with an advisor and faculty from the program area.



Dr. David Considine

CAN I TRANSFER CREDIT? Yes you can transfer 6 hours of approved courses from an accredited institution that is graded. Pass/Fail grading method is not acceptable.

NEED TO KNOW MORE?

Set up a phone call with Dr. David Considine by emailing him at:

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Dr. Considine's phone [828] 262 2270

Registrar web address: www.registrar.appstate.edu/

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