New Course Proposal
CMN 59401, Creative Thesis I
CMN 59402, Creative Thesis II

1. Catalogue Description
   a) CMN 5940
   b) Creative Thesis
   c) Arr. - Arr. 3 to 6
   d) Terms to be offered: F, S, SU
   e) Short Title: Creative Thesis
   f) Course Description: Students engage in a capstone project with an applied
      communication focus that reflects a comprehensive understanding of
      communication theory and research. Students may take no more than nine
      hours from a combination of CMN 5920, 5940, 5950, & 5997.
   g) Prerequisites: Students must have graduate standing and permission of the
      departmental graduate coordinator.

2. Student Learning Objectives and Evaluation
   a) Student Learning Objectives
      • Students who complete this class will demonstrate the
        ability to use communication theory and research in the design and
        construction of a sophisticated message.
      • Students who complete this class will demonstrate the
        ability to use communication theory and research in the
        implementation of their message.
      • Students who complete this class will demonstrate a
        comprehensive knowledge of the theory and research within their
        area of specialization.
   b) Students will devise a set of criteria and expectations to be used for grading in
      conjunction with their project advisor. All students will submit a paper
      identifying the rationale and need for the project, the research and theory
      used in designing and implementing the project, and the justification for how
      the research and theory were used in the design and implementation of the
      project.
   c) Not applicable.
   d) Not applicable.
   e) Not applicable.

3. Outline of the Course
   a) The student will devise a time-line for the project in conjunction with their advisor.
   b) Not applicable.
4. Rationale
   a) Purpose and Need: Departmental assessment has consistently demonstrated that the majority of our students pursue careers in business and industry upon graduation. Many of these students have indicated that such a course would allow them to practice applying the material they learn in their degree to a specific, practical end. Furthermore, students have indicated the desire to have a class that would allow them to have one significant project in their portfolios as they begin the interview process.
   b) As a course that relies primarily upon student initiative, research, and application, this course is an appropriate graduate-level course.
   c) Similarity to existing courses: There are no similar courses.
   d) Impact on Program: This course will not be a core requirement for all candidates, but will constitute one means of demonstrating comprehensive knowledge.

5. Implementation
   a) Advisors for this course will be selected by the student and approved by the departmental graduate committee based on student need and faculty expertise.
   b) There will be no additional costs to students.
   c) This course will not require any supplementary materials.

6. Community College Transfer
   A community college course will not be judged equivalent to this course.

7. Date approved by the department: March 5, 2003

8. Date approved by the college curriculum committee: April 30, 2003

9. Date approved by CAA: Not applicable

   Date approved by CGS: November 4, 2003