Health Communications and Communication Combined Degree Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about GVSU's Health Communications and Communication combined degree program. A combined degree program allows students to complete their bachelor's and master's degree in as few as 5 years, thus saving both time and money compared to completing both degrees separately. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. GVSU undergraduate students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Health Communications may pursue a Master of Science in Communication at Grand Valley through this combined degree program. In the program, students will have the opportunity to enhance their skillset and refine their career goals. As I mentioned, students in Grand Valley's combined degree programs are able to complete both degrees in as few as 5 years, while a traditional pathway would require 6 or more years to complete both a Bachelor's and Master's degree.

The Master of Science in Communication combined degree program is designed to enhance effectiveness and leadership skills central to various applications of professional communication in fields such as advertising, broadcasting, public relations, media, health communication, and research.

Standard GVSU admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo, or the PTE Academic. There is a $30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

Interested students should contact the program during the fall semester of their junior year. Additional requirements specific to the Health Communications and Communication combined degree program include a grade point average of 3.0 (B) or greater, a minimum of 75 hours undergraduate academic credit completed or in progress, and completion of or registration for CAP 495 Capstone. Applicants are also required to submit a current resume, a 500-word essay, GVSU transcripts, and two letters of recommendation.

More program details as well as the online application can be found on the Health Communications and Communication combined degree website, www.gvsu.edu/combineddegrees/.

The great news about GVSU's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The Health Communications and Communication combined degree program at GVSU is unique for a number of reasons. It is a blend of theory and research, with most of the program's attention given to professional application. The central focus of the program is strategic communication. This program develops the student's information-gathering skills, as well as their ability to decide how to most effectively apply information to communication problems

That is just a snapshot of the Health Communications and Master of Science in Communication combined degree graduate program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Alex Nesterenko, at nesterea@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.