The Program
This interdisciplinary program helps students who wish to act as advocates for issues they care about. These concerns might include the rights of ethnic minorities or women, protection of the environment, educational reform, consumer education, or antiwar movements, among others.

The program provides opportunities to learn how various disciplines view advocacy and the ethics of advocating (COMM 480), how to disseminate information about an issue effectively (JMC 323), and how social change is effected by means of communication (COMM 315).

Students are encouraged to choose electives that complement their major or that extend their understanding of the chosen issue. The culminating experience challenges them to apply what they have learned to real work on that issue in the community beyond campus.

Students develop both verbal and written skills in order to influence individuals and audiences, to become more aware of their own ethic of advocacy, and to develop an understanding of how policymaking institutions work.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR
Total units required for the minor: 18

JMC 323 [3] Public Relations
COMM 416 [3] Social Advocacy Theory & Practice

Culminating Experience
Complete 2 or more units by advisement. For example:
COMM 495 [1-6] Field Experiences in Speech
JMC 482 [1-3] Mass Media Internship or other internship/service learning courses.

Electives
Complete 6 units by advisement. Suggested:
PHIL 302 [3] Environmental Ethics
PSCI 358 [4] Political Advocacy
COMM 214 [3] Persuasive Speaking
SOC 475 [4] Community Organizing
WS 480 [1-5] Selected Topics in Women’s Studies [Topic: Lobbying Women’s Issues]