

DEI/IDEA Statement

The Department of Communication is committed to removing systemic barriers that have been traditionally encountered by individuals from underrepresented groups, strives to recruit graduate students who will further enhance our diversity and aims to support the academic, professional, and personal successes of students while they are here. Exemplifying our commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access, the department passed an [Anti-Racism Code of Conduct](#) in Fall 2020 followed by an [Anti-Racism Strategic Plan](#) in Spring 2021.

Consistent with this commitment, the Department of Communication graduate program recognizes that inclusion, diversity, equity, and access fosters educational and institutional excellence. *As such, please include a single-page statement that briefly explains how your educational, research, teaching, and/or other experiences and interests align with this mission.*

For guidance on how to approach a DEI/IDEA statement, visit:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2016/06/10/how-write-effective-diversity-statement-essay>. Statements may include any educational, familial, cultural, economic, or social experiences, challenges, community service, outreach activities, residency and citizenship, first-generation college status, or opportunities relevant to your academic journey; how your life experiences contribute to the social, intellectual, or cultural diversity within a campus community and your chosen field; or how you might serve educationally underrepresented and underserved segments of society with your graduate education. This document may reinforce, but should not duplicate, your statement of purpose/letter of application.