

# Communication

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## News Release

March 9, 2014

Ioana Coman joins the Communication Department in the fall of 2014



The Communication faculty is pleased to welcome Ioana Coman to the department. Prof. Coman, who is a doctoral candidate at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, will join the Communication department in the fall. We sat down with Professor Coman to discuss her role in the Communication department.

### **Do you know what classes you will be teaching in fall?**

Yes. I will be co-teaching News Reporting and Writing (COMM 302) with Prof. Bina. We are already setting up the syllabus – it will be an exciting class! I will also be in charge of Practicum in Print Journalism I & II (COMM 353, 453).

### **What are your expectations of students?**

Participation, passion and commitment. I expect students to both show up and engage during class. I want them to be committed to learning and practicing new skills and to be passionate about communication, whether their focus is journalism or public relations.

### **What excites you the most about joining the Communication Department at UW-Green Bay?**

I am most excited about working with a great team of professors and the emphasis they put on quality teaching in and out the classroom. Also the students I met during my campus visit really impressed me. I am eager to meet more bright minds, and hopefully to help them better prepare for their future careers.

### **As you know, there have been many recent changes to the Communication department.**

#### **What do you see as your role in the department?**

My goal is to play an active role in helping students negotiate the challenges and opportunities within the ever-changing media industry so they emerge from the program confident and prepared. My professional and academic background, which is a combination of media and

public relations, allows me to draw upon my own interdisciplinary experience as a classroom example. I think it is important for students to recognize that our fields are highly interdisciplinary. For example, students preparing to become public relations practitioners should understand how news is produced and how journalism operates, and the students training to be journalists should understand the public relations principles of promotion.

**What is your teaching philosophy?**

My teaching approach combines concept and theory with modern technology and real-world application. At its fundamental level, this strategy encourages classroom challenge, innovation, adaptability, and collaboration. I encourage students to voyage beyond their own comfort zones by challenging them to think in non-linear terms and for multiple platforms, all while working collaboratively. I believe it is important to teach students the necessary skills via a hands-on approach to real-world training, but it is equally important that they are able to conceptualize their work.

**What are your hobbies?**

I haven't really had a lot of free time recently; hopefully this will change after my dissertation is finished. My two favorite hobbies are skiing and hiking, which align perfectly to my new home. I am quite excited for future winters in Green Bay!