



Bachelor's Degree in Information and Communication Systems for the Dissemination of Faith

Program Overview

The Bachelor's Degree in Information and Communication Systems for the Dissemination of Faith at the Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) is an innovative educational program that unites the Christian tradition of evangelization (*kerigma*) with modern technology and digital communication platforms.

In the biblical and ecclesial tradition, the dissemination of faith is the mandate of Jesus Christ to “go into all the world and proclaim the Good News” (Mark 16:15). In today's world, this translates into the urgent need to occupy the digital continent, now considered a new Areopagus or mission field.

This vocation to digital mission is realized through Information and Communication Systems (ICS) — professional disciplines oriented toward the design of digital architectures, data management, multimedia production, and strategic communication across online platforms.

The Bachelor's Degree in Information and Communication Systems at UNICA offers interdisciplinary training that combines computer science, design, social communication, theology, and digital ministry, preparing professionals capable of:

- Understanding and managing information and communication infrastructures within ecclesial institutions.
- Designing and producing multimedia digital content (web, social media, apps) for the dissemination of faith.
- Supporting digital evangelization processes, combining fidelity to the message with communicative effectiveness.
- Leading technology and communication projects for the Church and value-oriented civil society organizations.

Through its virtual and blended learning modality, the program is accessible to students from diverse backgrounds, who may carry out web development, media management, and production projects in their regions or in partner institutions. Likewise, its bilingual offering (Spanish and English) opens opportunities to serve multicultural faith communities and international settings.

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With this degree, UNICA reaffirms its mission to the Church and society: to form leaders who bear witness to faith in the digital space, in the spirit of the Gospel and the Social Doctrine of the Church.

Justification

The Bachelor's Degree in Information and Communication Systems for the Dissemination of Faith is fundamentally relevant to the life and mission of the Church, serving as a strategic pillar for the New Evangelization in the digital era.

1. Formation of Priests: Knowledge of information and communication systems enables priests to manage parishes efficiently (databases, internal and external communication, cybersecurity) and to use social networks and multimedia platforms for homilies and catechesis, bringing the Word of God closer to new generations in their own language.
2. Formation of Committed Laypersons: Laypeople are the main actors in the secular and digital world. This program prepares them to be digital missionaries, capable of creating high-quality content, managing online communities, and combating misinformation (fake news) with Christian truth and charity. They become techno-pastoral leaders in service of the mission.
3. Pastoral Agents and Leaders of Different Traditions: Designing information systems is essential for coordinating charity (*diakonia*) and global social projects. Graduates of this program will be able to create assistance platforms, manage volunteer databases, and facilitate ecumenical and interreligious dialogue through digital media—ensuring that the Church's actions are visible, transparent, and strategically efficient in the use of resources.

In summary, this program equips the Church with professionals who not only use technology but also design and ethically orient it toward transcendent goals, transforming systems and communication into effective tools for the Regnum Dei.

Institutional Identity

The Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) is an ecclesiastical institution inspired by the Christian-Catholic tradition, committed to integral formation in the light of the Gospel and the living tradition of the Church. It integrates faith and reason, fosters spiritual life, and prepares students for intellectual, social, and pastoral service in contemporary society.



Mission

To form professionals in information and communication systems with academic, ethical, pastoral, and spiritual competencies—prepared to design technologies and communication strategies that promote truth, charity, and the dissemination of faith, in fidelity to the Church’s evangelizing mission.

Vision

To be recognized as a Catholic university of reference in the formation of technologists and communicators for the Church, impacting digital evangelization, ecclesial management, and the promotion of Christian values in cyberspace throughout the Americas and the world.

Values

Truth, Charity, Excellence, Holiness, Unity, and Service.

Technical Program Sheet

Field	Description
Program Name	Bachelor’s Degree in Information and Communication Systems for the Dissemination of Faith
Academic Level	Undergraduate / Bachelor
Duration	8 semesters (curricular structure organized by semesters)
Total Credits	160 credits (average of 20 per semester)
Modality	Virtual and blended (synchronous/asynchronous classes, intensive web development workshops, and media management practices)
Language Options	Spanish / English / Bilingual (according to student selection)
Location	State of Texas, USA
Degree Awarded	Bachelor of Science in Information and Communication Systems for the Dissemination of Faith — Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA)

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Admission Requirements (Profile and Documentation)

- Recognized High School Diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Academic transcript or secondary education record.
- Personal essay (motivation letter and vocational discernment toward technology and evangelization).
- Admission interview (academic and vocational/technological).
- Pastoral or academic recommendation.
- Proof of language proficiency according to selected modality (see language section).
- For international students: compliance with current migration and visa regulations.
- The university may include additional requirements in accordance with institutional and accreditation policies.

Educational Purpose

To form Christian leaders proficient in information systems and digital communication strategies, capable of designing, implementing, and managing technological solutions that serve the Church's mission and the dissemination of faith ethically and effectively.

Learning Outcomes

Upon graduation, the Bachelor of Science in Information and Communication Systems graduate will be able to:

- Analyze the information and communication needs of ecclesial or pastoral institutions.
- Apply web development and programming methodologies to create platforms for faith dissemination.
- Integrate theological, biblical, and social doctrine foundations in content production.
- Design and lead strategic communication and evangelization campaigns on social media.
- Promote cybersecurity and ethics in pastoral data management.
- Develop multimedia production skills (video, audio, graphic design) for web platforms.
- Use digital analytics and metrics to evaluate the impact of evangelization actions.
- Research and evaluate emerging technological trends for the Church's mission.

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Competencies

- Generic: Critical thinking, oral and written communication, technological leadership, teamwork, intercultural sensitivity, cyberethics.
- Specific: Web Development (Front/Back-end), Strategic Communication, Database Management, New Media Production, Cybersecurity, Digital Ministry, Social Doctrine of the Church.

Language Options and Proficiency Requirements

The program is offered in three modalities: Spanish, English, and Bilingual. Language certification requirements are equivalent to those of other programs (TOEFL/IELTS, DELE, or institutional testing).

Curriculum by Semester (8 semesters — 160 credits)

Semester	Code	Course	Credits	Description	Prerequisites
1	SIC-101	Fundamentals of Digital Communication and Media	6	Principles of communication, digital storytelling, and new media.	None
	SIC-102	Introduction to Theology and Digital Evangelization	6	Foundations of the Christian message and missionary mandate in cyberspace.	None
	SIC-103	Programming I: Logic and Data Structures	4	Foundations of algorithmic thinking and programming structures.	None
	SIC-104	Introduction to Graphic and Multimedia Design	4	Basic visual design tools for web and social media.	None
		Total Credits:	20		
2	SIC-201	Theory of Information	6	Systems architecture, hardware, and	SIC-103

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		Systems and Networks		networking fundamentals.	
	SIC-202	Biblical Exegesis and Sources of the Kerygma	6	Sacred Scripture as the main content of dissemination.	SIC-102
	SIC-203	Web Programming I: HTML, CSS, and Frontend	4	User interface development and markup languages.	SIC-103
	SIC-204	Digital Metrics and Analytics	4	Use of measurement tools to assess online impact.	SIC-101
		Total Credits:	20		
3	SIC-301	Management of Relational Databases (SQL)	6	Design, query, and administration of data for applications.	SIC-201
	SIC-302	Digital Ethics, Cybersecurity, and Ethical Hacking	6	Ethical foundations, data privacy, and system protection.	SIC-201
	SIC-303	Web Programming II: Backend and Servers	4	Business logic, server-side development, and APIs.	SIC-203
	SIC-304	Audiovisual Production Workshop for Media	4	Video creation, editing, and optimization for YouTube and social media.	SIC-104
		Total Credits:	20		
4	SIC-401	Strategic Communication and Social Media Management	6	Campaign planning, segmentation, and crisis management in networks.	SIC-204
	SIC-402	Theology of Communication and Digital Culture	6	Theological reflection on technology, culture, and the Church's Magisterium.	SIC-202
	SIC-403	User Experience (UX) and Web Accessibility	4	User-centered design and accessibility for all	SIC-303



				(including persons with disabilities).	
	SIC-404	General Elective I	4	Elective course in humanities or social sciences.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		
5	SIC-501	Mobile Application Development (iOS/Android)	6	Design and programming of native or hybrid applications.	SIC-303
	SIC-502	Digital Ministry and Ecclesial Community Management	6	Leadership of online faith communities and remote pastoral care.	SIC-402
	SIC-503	Advanced Cybersecurity and Systems Auditing	4	Intrusion detection, encryption protocols, and incident response.	SIC-302
	SIC-504	Systems Development Practice I (Supervised)	4	First practical experience in developing a technological solution for the Church.	SIC-301
		Total Credits:	20		
6	SIC-601	Research Methodology in ICT and Communication	6	Design and implementation of research in technology and media.	SIC-204
	SIC-602	Social Doctrine of the Church (and the Information Society)	6	In-depth study of social teaching on access, equity, and digital globalization.	SIC-402
	SIC-603	Big Data and Predictive Analytics for Mission	4	Use of large datasets for pastoral and social decision-making.	SIC-503
	SIC-604	Strategic Communication Practice II (Intensive)	4	Intensive experience in faith-based campaign design and execution.	SIC-504



		Total Credits:	20		
7	SIC-701	Artificial Intelligence Projects in Evangelization	6	Application of AI (generative models, chatbots) in catechesis and service.	SIC-501
	SIC-702	Ecumenism, Dialogue, and Interreligious Communication	6	Use of media to promote unity and understanding among different faiths.	SIC-602
	SIC-703	Leadership, Entrepreneurship, and Management of Church Media	4	Competencies for founding and managing Catholic startups or media outlets.	SIC-502
	SIC-704	Advanced Elective in Communication or Technology	4	Specialized course in software, language, or media area.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		
8	SIC-801	Integrative Seminar and Final Project (System or Campaign)	10	Development and defense of an information system or high-impact communication campaign.	SIC-601
	SIC-802	Professional Ethics and Digital Social Responsibility	6	Ethical principles in the professional practice of technology and communication.	SIC-302
	SIC-803	Future Trends (Web 3.0, Metaverse) and Faith	4	Analysis and application of emerging technologies for mission.	SIC-502
		Total Credits:	20		

Methodology and Evaluation

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- Blended methodology: Synchronous/asynchronous classes, coding and design workshops (project-based), intensive seminars, thematic hackathons, and field practices in communication or IT departments of ecclesial institutions.
- Continuous evaluation: Software development (code portfolios), system design projects, strategic communication plans, technical certification exams, applied research, and final project defense.
- In the bilingual modality, social and linguistic competencies will be evaluated in both languages.

Institutional Observations and Compliance

The university will adapt documents and admission requirements according to the State of Texas regulations and the current authorization and accreditation standards for religious institutions and virtual/hybrid programs.