

COMMUNICATION STUDIES MAJOR

Department of Communication
(Ref. #792)

The Department of Communication offers a broad spectrum of educational programs that prepare students for successful careers that require excellent communication skills. The department supports the concept that a broad-based liberal arts curriculum is essential for a well-rounded student.

The Communication Studies curriculum provides a liberal arts program that develops the effective and responsible use of communication in a variety of situations: one-on-one, small group, public, interpersonal, intercultural, and organizational settings. The Communication Studies major also prepares students for graduate work in communication and for a variety of other professional fields. A second major or strong minor is required with this major. *Communication Studies* will complement any career goal that requires excellent communication skills such as business, law, politics, health care, social work, religious ministries, teaching, and many more.

The major in Communication Studies requires a minimum of 34 semester hours, and leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. All Courses within the major must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher. One half of the hours must be at the 300-400 level. A minor or second major outside of the Department of Communication is required.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum GPA of 2.3

- ✓ Completion of the following courses with a grade of “C” or better:
 - COMM 145 or COMM 161
 - ENG 100
 - MATH 109 or 116

Note: Students can take no more than 15 hours in the Department of Communication before being admitted to the major.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: COMM 200 will be a pre-requisite for ALL 400-level courses (or instructor permission).
COMM 300 will be a co-requisite or pre-requisite for all 400-level courses or 400 level courses can be taken with instructor permission.

Communication Core Courses (19 hours)

COMM 200: Communication Foundations (COMM 145/161)

COMM 300: Introduction to Communication Research Methods* (COMM 200; Math 109/116)

COMM 345: Advanced Public Speaking (COMM 145/161)

COMM 348: Interpersonal Communication

COMM 362: Organizational Communication

COMM 463: Intercultural Communication

COMM 494: Capstone in Communication (1 hour portfolio) – Senior standing, majors only

**This course requirement may be waived if the student has a second major that requires an equivalent research methods course. Students would then take three additional hours from the elective list.*

Electives (15 hours)

At least one course from each of the following areas; 12 hours at the 300-400 level.

Organizational Communication:

- COMM 330: Leadership Communication
- COMM 349: Small Group Communication
- COMM 462: Advanced Organizational Communication (COMM 362)

Interpersonal Communication:

- COMM 240: Critical Listening
- COMM 374: Gender Communication
- COMM 448: Advanced Interpersonal Communication (COMM 348)
- COMM 450: Family Communication (COMM 348)

Communication in Specialized Contexts:

- COMM 388: Political Communication
- COMM 440: Health Communication
- COMM 451: Computer Mediated Communication

Public Communication:

- COMM 245: Argumentation & Debate
- COMM 247: Voice and Diction
- COMM 343: Speech Analysis/Writing (COMM 145/161)
- COMM 346: Persuasion

With departmental approval, students may opt to substitute one of the following courses in fulfillment of a Communication Studies Elective:

- COMM 400: Special Topics in Communication
- COMM 489: Internship in Communication (COMM 362) with Junior standing
 - ❖ *COMM 489 is repeatable once for credit; only 3 hours will count for credit toward major*
- COMM 495: Independent Study in Communication