Communication Studies, BA

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in communication studies requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 39 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

The curriculum is designed to encourage learning that progresses from foundation courses that teach the basics of communication to intermediate and advanced (capstone) courses. Students may choose to build creative combinations of coursework that suit their individual learning and career goals.

Students may count up to 56 s.h. of Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward credit required for the Bachelor of Arts degree. Transfer courses may be applied toward the requirements of the major, with the department's approval. A maximum of 15 s.h. of transfer credit may be counted toward the major.

Students work with the communication studies academic advisors to develop study plans that meet the requirements of the major. Students may check their progress toward the degree on MyUI.

First-year students interested in completing a major in communication studies are advised at the Academic Advising Center. Students who have earned 30 s.h. or more and have declared the communication studies major are advised in the department by the communication studies academic advisors.

Students are encouraged to discuss their career goals and interests with faculty members.

The semester hours required for the major consist of foundation courses, intermediate courses, a capstone course, and additional coursework which may be earned in courses listed under "Intermediate Courses," "Capstone Experience," and/or "Additional Courses," below. Students may not use a course to satisfy more than one requirement of the major.

The BA with a major in communication studies requires the following coursework.

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<th>Requirements</th>
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<td>Foundations of Communication Courses</td>
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<td>Intermediate Courses</td>
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Foundations of Communication Courses

Foundation courses cover introductory concepts in the field of communication. Students must complete five foundation courses (15 s.h.) and should take them early in their studies. The following foundation courses are appropriate for first- or second-year students. They do not require a minimum grade-point average for enrollment and most do not have prerequisites. Students complete the first three foundation courses as follows.

Courses:
- COMM:1112 or COMM:1170: Interpersonal Communication
- COMM:1117 or COMM:1130: Communication Theory in Everyday Life
- COMM:1168 or COMM:1174: Advocacy and Argument or The Art of Persuading Others
- COMM:1140: Music and Social Change or Media and Society

The fourth and fifth foundation courses are appropriate for first- or second-year students.

Intermediate Courses

Intermediate courses cover detailed aspects of the study of communication. Students usually complete these courses during their third and fourth years of study.

Courses:
- COMM:1305: Understanding Communication: Social Scientific Approaches
- COMM:1306: Understanding Communication: Humanistic Approaches

Capstone Experience

Capstone courses (those numbered 3000–4999) provide a faculty-led experience in which students participate directly in producing knowledge, research, or creative work about communication. The capstone experience gives students a chance to synthesize what they have learned about the study of communication. Students must complete one capstone course (3 s.h.).

In order to enroll in a capstone course, students must have completed at least four of the five foundation courses and at least two intermediate courses.

Courses:
- COMM:3118: Politics of Reproduction
- COMM:4040: Practical Research Applications: Communication and Community
- COMM:4044: Political Marketing: Media, Campaigns, and Persuasion
- COMM:4111: 360 Radio Experience
- COMM:4131: Globalization and Culture
- COMM:4140: Communication and Relationships
- COMM:4147: Family Communication
- COMM:4154: Magic Machines: Technology and Social Change
- COMM:4157: Advanced Topics in Communication Studies
- COMM:4163: The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication
- COMM:4168: Rhetoric of the Body
- COMM:4169: Feminist Rhetorics

Courses from the Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward Communication Studies requirements are numbered from 1300-1799.

Courses from the Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward Communication Studies requirements are numbered from 1800-2799.

Courses from the Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward Communication Studies requirements are numbered from 3600-3999.

Courses from the Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward Communication Studies requirements are numbered from 3000-4999.

Courses from the Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward Communication Studies requirements are numbered from 1800-2799.

Courses from the Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward Communication Studies requirements are numbered from 3600-3999.

Courses from the Department of Communication Studies coursework (prefix COMM) toward Communication Studies requirements are numbered from 3000-4999.
Additional Courses
Students earn an additional 9 s.h. to complete at least 39 s.h. in communication studies courses required for the major. They may choose from the courses listed below and/or from the intermediate and capstone experience courses. However, students may not use a course to fulfill more than one requirement for the major, so in selecting the additional 9 s.h. of coursework, they may not choose a course they already used to fulfill the intermediate or capstone experience course requirement.

All of the courses listed below, except COMM:2800, have prerequisites, a minimum grade-point average, or other requirements for enrollment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM:2800</td>
<td>Introduction to Latin American Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM:2813</td>
<td>Practicum in Debate</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM:2821</td>
<td>Oral Interpretation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM:2828</td>
<td>Experiential Learning in Communication Studies</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM:2897</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>arr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM:2899</td>
<td>Honors Thesis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Internships and Professional Experiences
Internships enable students to supplement their coursework with professional experiences relevant to careers in communication-related fields. The department's internship program is open only to communication studies majors.

To earn academic credit for internships, students must obtain approval for their internship experience and site before they register for COMM:2828. Internship academic credit is awarded for an analytical paper and daily log submitted at the end of the internship and for the number of hours worked. Internships can be completed during fall semester, spring semester, or summer session.

Visit the department's website for information on communication studies internships.