Communication Studies

Chair

- Kembrew McLeod

**Undergraduate major:** communication studies (BA)

**Undergraduate minor:** communication studies

**Graduate degrees:** MA in communication studies; PhD in communication studies

**Faculty:** [https://communicationstudies.uiowa.edu/people/faculty](https://communicationstudies.uiowa.edu/people/faculty)

**Website:** [https://communicationstudies.uiowa.edu/](https://communicationstudies.uiowa.edu/)

Communication creates meaning and builds worlds. The mission of the Department of Communication Studies is to explore the central role that communication plays in shaping our relationships, institutions, and societies. The department prepares students to serve as innovative scholars, engaged citizens, effective communicators, and visionary leaders in all of the communities they inhabit.

**Forensics/Debate**

Students in the forensics/debate program have the opportunity to participate in on-campus debates, in developmental programs designed to improve speech activities in the state, and as members of competitive intercollegiate debate teams. Forensics scholarships are available. Students interested in debate should enroll in [COMM:2813 Practicum in Debate](https://communicationstudies.uiowa.edu/).

**Related Minor and Certificates**

**Minor: Religion and Media**

The Departments of Communication Studies and Religious Studies collaborate to offer the minor in religion and media that emphasizes the study of religion and the study of media in contemporary culture. It is a course of study for students interested in the importance of religion in public life, the digital humanities, and the shaping role of media in public and religious culture. For more information, see the minor in religion and media in the catalog.

**Certificate: Event Management**

The Departments of Communication Studies, Health and Human Physiology, and Marketing, and the School of Journalism and Mass Communication collaborate to offer the undergraduate Certificate in Event Management. Students who earn the certificate will know and be able to demonstrate the basic principles of organizing a successful event. They will gain a robust understanding of the diverse field of event management and careers in the event management industry. For more information, see the Certificate in Event Management in the catalog.

**Certificate: Leadership Studies**

The Certificate in Leadership Studies is an interdisciplinary program supported by the Tippie College of Business, the Colleges of Education and Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership. The certificate provides a structure for involvement and commitment to leadership. It introduces students to leadership concepts and offers them hands-on leadership experiences. The certificate is coordinated by the Pomerantz Career Center and housed in University College. For more information, see the Certificate in Leadership Studies in the catalog.