

COMMUNICATION - BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

The BA in communication provides a broad-based liberal arts degree designed to foster students’ abilities to understand, analyze, and effectively engage in a wide range of communication practices. It fosters critical thinking about the ways that symbols and interactions contribute to social problems and solutions to them, to identities and differences, to organizations and work, to personal relationships and groups and to experience and meaning across cultural settings.

At the same time, the major provides instruction and practice in the skills of effective communication and collaborative problem-solving that employers are looking for—speaking, writing, reading, listening, asking good questions, utilizing media and working in groups. The mix of theory and practice gives students the tools to improve communication performance and critical awareness of it across many situations.

Requirements

Required Courses and Credits

Majors must complete a minimum of 36 credit hours of course work in communication, at least 18 of which must be upper division (3000 level or higher). Only courses with grades of C- or better count toward the major, and the overall major GPA must be 2.000 (a C- is 1.700).

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
COMM 1210	Perspectives on Human Communication	3
COMM 1300	Public Speaking	3
COMM 1600	Group Interaction	3
COMM 3210	Human Communication Theory	3
COMM 3300	Rhetorical Foundations of Communication	3
Lower-Division COMM Electives		
Select at least two of the following:		6
COMM 2360		
COMM 2400	Discourse, Culture and Identities	
COMM 2500	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 2600		
COMM 2650	Business and Professional Communication	
Methods Course		
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 3740	Qualitative Communication Research Methods	
COMM 3750	Quantitative Research Methods	
COMM 3760	Rhetorical Criticism	
Senior Seminar		
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 4220	Senior Seminar: Functions of Communication	
COMM 4300	Senior Seminar: Rhetoric	
COMM 4510	Senior Seminar: Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 4600	Seminar: Organizational Communication	

COMM 4610 Senior Seminar: Communication Studies of Science and Technology

Upper-Division Electives	
Two additional upper-division electives (3000- or 4000-level courses); 4000-level courses may be taken twice (only twice) with different topics	6
COMM Elective	
One additional COMM elective, any level.	3
Total Credit Hours	36

Up to 8 credit hours of independent study and 6 credit hours of internships may be taken. These are upper-division elective hours but do not count toward major requirements. Eligible students interested in graduating with department honors should contact the department’s honors coordinator as soon as possible.

Secondary Area of Study

In addition to coursework required for the major, all students in COMM must complete a secondary area of study outside of COMM. This secondary area of study can be met by any of the following: a minor, a second major within CMCI, a double degree, or any credit-based certificate program of at least 12 credit hours.

The department encourages its majors to take related courses in other departments in CMCI as well anthropology; business; English; ethnic studies; history; linguistics; philosophy; political science; sociology; speech, language and hearing sciences; and theatre and dance.

The department also encourages participation in optional programs such as study abroad, internships and graduating with honors.

Students who wish to major in communication should meet with a department advisor, where they will be advised of any changes in this list of requirements.

Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credit Hours
Year One		
Fall Semester		
COMM 1210	Perspectives on Human Communication	3
COMM 1300	Public Speaking	3
		Credit Hours
		6
Spring Semester		
COMM 1600	Group Interaction	3
One of the following: COMM 2360 Campaigns and Revolutions, COMM 2400 Discourse, Culture and Identities, COMM 2500 Interpersonal Communication, COMM 2600 Organizational Communication		3
		Credit Hours
		6
Year Two		
Fall Semester		
One of the following: COMM 2360 Campaigns and Revolutions, COMM 2400 Discourse, Culture and Identities, COMM 2500 Interpersonal Communication, COMM 2600 Organizational Communication		3
		Credit Hours
		3

Spring Semester

COMM 3210	Human Communication Theory	3
	Credit Hours	3

Year Three

Fall Semester

COMM 3300	Rhetorical Foundations of Communication	3
COMM Upper-Division Elective		3
	Credit Hours	6

Spring Semester

One of the following methods course: COMM 3740 Qualitative Research Methods, COMM 3750 Quantitative Research Methods, COMM 3760 Rhetorical Criticism		3
COMM Upper-Division Elective		3
	Credit Hours	6

Year Four

Fall Semester

One Senior Seminar: COMM 4220 Functions of Communication, COMM 4300 Rhetoric, COMM 4510 Interpersonal Communication, COMM 4600 Organizational Communication, COMM 4610 Communication Studies of Science & Technology		3
	Credit Hours	3

Spring Semester

COMM Upper-Division Elective		3
	Credit Hours	3
	Total Credit Hours	36