

# 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 encourages critical thinking about the ways that symbols and interactions contribute to social problems and solutions.

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. Students learn how to design innovative messages, build quality personal and professional relationships, elevate their critical thinking skills and are prepared to thrive in a variety of professions.

## Requirements

### Required Courses and Credits

Majors must complete a minimum of 36 credit hours of coursework 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).

*Note:* In addition to major requirements, communication majors must complete CMCI Core Curriculum requirements. The Core Curriculum requirements for the College of Media, Communication and Information can be found in Policies & Requirements (<https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/media-communication-information/policies-requirements/#corecurriculumtext>).

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

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
COMM 1210	Perspectives on Human Communication	3
COMM 1300	Public Speaking	3
COMM 1600	Group Interaction	3
COMM 3210	Communication Theory	3
COMM 3300	Rhetorical Thinking	3
<b>Lower-Division COMM Electives</b>		
Select at least two of the following:		6
COMM 2320	The Craft of Argument	
COMM 2400	Discourse, Culture and Identities	
COMM 2410	The Practice of Intercultural Communication	
COMM 2500	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 2650	Business and Professional Communication	
<b>Methods Course</b>		
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 3740	Qualitative Research Methods	
COMM 3750	Quantitative Research Methods	
COMM 3760	Rhetorical Research Methods	

### 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	Senior 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

COMM 3000	Issues in Communication	
COMM 3320	Persuasion in Society	
COMM 3330	Social Movements	
COMM 3340	Political Communication	
COMM 3370	Environmental Communication	
COMM 3380	Advanced Topics in Storytelling, Culture, & Climate Justice	
COMM 3410	Intercultural Communication	
COMM 3420	Gender and Communication	
COMM 3430	Communication, Culture and Sport	
COMM 3510	Family Communication	
COMM 3610	Communication, Technology, and Society	
COMM 3620	Advanced Teamwork and Collaboration	
COMM 3630	Organizational Communication	

### COMM Elective

One additional COMM elective, any level.

### Independent Study/Internships

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.

**Total Credit Hours** **36**

## 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. Secondary areas of study typically require 15-21 credit hours.

## Additional Information

The department encourages its majors to take related courses in other departments in CMCI as well as 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.

## Sample Four-Year Plan of Study

### Year One

Fall Semester		Credit Hours
COMM 1210	Perspectives on Human Communication	3
CMCI 1040:Foundational Concepts and Creativity in Media, Communication and Information (4) or CMCI Core or Elective (3)		4
CMCI Core or elective (P & S; H & A; Hist V; Div & Global)		3
Lower-division Writing Course		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>13</b>

### Spring Semester

COMM 1300	Public Speaking	3
CMCI 1040:Foundational Concepts and Creativity in Media, Communication and Information (4) or CMCI Core or Elective (3)		3
COMM 1600	Group Interaction	3
CMCI Core Computing Course		3
Quantitative Thinking Course		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

### Year Two

Fall Semester		Credit Hours
At least one of the following:		3
COMM 2320	The Craft of Argument	
or COMM 2400	or Discourse, Culture and Identities	
or COMM 2410	or The Practice of Intercultural Communication	
or COMM 2500	or Interpersonal Communication	
or COMM 2650	or Business and Professional Communication	
CMCI Core: Natural World		3
CMCI CORE or elective (P & S; H & A; Hist V; Div & Global)		7
Secondary Area of Study		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>

### Spring Semester

At least one of the following:		3
COMM 2320	The Craft of Argument	
or COMM 2400	or Discourse, Culture and Identities	
or COMM 2410	or The Practice of Intercultural Communication	
or COMM 2500	or Interpersonal Communication	
or COMM 2650	or Business and Professional Communication	
CMCI Core: Natural World with Lab		4
CMCI CORE or elective (P & S; H & A; Hist V; Div & Global)		3
Secondary Area of Study		6
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>

### Year Three

Fall Semester		Credit Hours
COMM Elective, any level		3
COMM 3210	Communication Theory	3
or COMM 3300	or Rhetorical Thinking	
(Students should not take COMM 3210 and COMM 3300 in the same semester)		

CMCI CORE or elective (P & S; H & A; Hist V; Div & Global)	6
Secondary Area of Study	3

**Credit Hours 15**

### Spring Semester

COMM 3210	Communication Theory	3
or COMM 3300	or Rhetorical Thinking	
(Students should not take COMM 3210 and COMM 3300 in the same semester)		

One of the following methods courses: 3

COMM 3740	Qualitative Research Methods
or COMM 3750	or Quantitative Research Methods
or COMM 3760	or Rhetorical Research Methods

CMCI CORE or elective (P & S; H & A; Hist V; Div & Global) 6

Secondary Area of Study 3

**Credit Hours 15**

### Year Four

#### Fall Semester

One Senior Seminar:		3
COMM 4220	Senior Seminar: Functions of Communication	
or COMM 4300	or Senior Seminar: Rhetoric	
or COMM 4510	or Senior Seminar: Interpersonal Communication	
or COMM 4600	or Senior Seminar: Organizational Communication	
or COMM 4610	or Senior Seminar: Communication Studies of Science and Technology	

COMM Upper-division Elective <sup>1</sup> 3

CMCI CORE or elective (P & S; H & A; Hist V; Div & Global) 6

Secondary Area of Study 3

**Credit Hours 15**

#### Spring Semester

COMM Upper-division Elective <sup>1</sup>	3
CMCI CORE or elective (P & S; H & A; Hist V; Div & Global)	9
Secondary Area of Study	3

**Credit Hours 15**

**Total Credit Hours 120**

<sup>1</sup> Detailed list available in major requirements section of catalog.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completing the program, students will be able to:

- Critically reflect on one's own role within social interactions.
- Develop creative messages to solve problems.
- Utilize communication theories to analyze intersectional differences as they relate to power in society.
- Strategize how to engage with communities to create social change through communication practices.
- Understand communication research processes.
- Practice effective group communication to work together toward a collective outcome.