

COMMUNICATION STUDIES MAJOR REQUIREMENTS (FALL 2020)

Requirements for a Major: 48 units

Foundation: 16 units

- ___ COM 006 Messages, Meaning, and Culture*
- ___ COM 015 Public Speaking*
- ___ COM 098 Introduction to Communication Research [pre-requisite: any COM course]
- ___ COM 101 Theories of Rhetoric and Communication I [pre-requisite: COM 006]*

Relationships & Conflicts (4 units, choose one)

- ___ COM 110 Interpersonal Communication
- ___ COM 127 Group Communication and Leadership
- ___ COM 133 Conflict and Reconciliation
- ___ COM 134 Conflict and Reconciliation Case Studies (*off campus program*)*

Discourse & Society (4 units, choose one)

- ___ COM 125 Media and Mass Communication [pre-requisite: any research methods course]
- ___ COM 135 Studies in Public Discourse [pre-requisite: any research methods course]
- ___ COM 145 Organizational Communication [pre-requisite: any research methods course]
- ___ COM 138 International Rhetoric*

Reasoning & Writing (8 units, choose two)

- ___ COM 103 Communication Criticism* [pre-requisites: COM 006 and any research methods course]
- ___ COM 130 Argumentation and Advocacy
- ___ COM 140 Studies in Communication Ethics
- ___ ENG 104 Modern Grammar and Advanced Composition

Electives (12 units of the following not taken above)

- ___ COM 102 Theories of Rhetoric and Communication II [pre-requisites: COM 006 and COM 101]
- ___ COM 103 Communication Criticism* [pre-requisites: COM 006 and any research methods course]
- ___ COM 107 Focus on Film – 1 unit (may be repeated up to 3x as topics vary)
- ___ COM 110 Interpersonal Communication
- ___ COM 115 Advanced Public Speaking [pre-requisite: COM 015]
- ___ COM 125 Media and Mass Communication [pre-requisite: any research methods course]
- ___ COM 127 Group Communication and Leadership
- ___ COM 128 Facilitating Deliberation and Dialogue – 2 units [pre-requisite: permission of instructor]
- ___ COM 129 Persuasion and Propaganda
- ___ COM 130 Argumentation and Advocacy
- ___ COM 133 Conflict and Reconciliation
- ___ COM 134 Conflict and Reconciliation Case Studies (*off campus program*)*
- ___ COM 135 Studies in Public Discourse [pre-requisite: any research methods course]
- ___ COM 140 Studies in Communication Ethics
- ___ COM 138 International Rhetoric*
- ___ COM 145 Organizational Communication [pre-requisite: any research methods course]
- ___ COM 148 Postmodern Narratives
- ___ COM 190 Internship [pre-requisites: COM 006 and COM 098; up to 4 units]
- ___ COM 195 Special topics [May be taken more than once as topics change]
- ___ COM 198 Independent Research

Senior Capstone Experience: (4 units, choose one)

- ___ COM 191 Senior Capstone Internship [pre-requisite: senior standing or instructor approval for early grads]
- ___ COM 196 Senior Seminar [pre-requisite: senior standing or instructor approval for early grads]
- ___ COM 197 Senior Capstone Research
- ___ COM 199 Major Honors Thesis [pre-requisites: senior standing; honors standing; proposal due April of Junior Year]

Global Communication (complete at least one)

- ___ Academic Study Abroad experience of at least one month (Mexico, Europe, etc.)
- ___ Advanced or Intermediate (Level II) Modern Foreign Language (Spanish, German, French, Arabic, etc.)
- ___ COM 138 International Rhetoric
- ___ Westmont in San Francisco

* Also fulfills GE requirement (see catalog)

Advising Nuggets

First Year

- COM-006 (also meets GE “Understanding Society” requirement)
- COM-015 (also meets GE “Writing/Speech Intensive” requirement)

Spring of First Year or Fall of Second Year:

- COM-098 (must have completed COM-006)
- Review Off Campus Program Plans

Fall of Junior or Senior Year:

COM-101 (only offered in fall semesters)

Spring of Junior Year:

- Plan for Senior Capstone (Senior Seminar, Senior Capstone Internship, or Senior Capstone Research)
- Research Proposals (for Senior Capstone Research and Major Honors - Due Spring of Junior Year)

Senior Year:

- Complete Capstone Course
- Finalize Resume

Citing Sources in Communication Studies Courses

All courses will require sources to be cited in one of two formats. See online guides, librarians, or reference guides in Library.

- MLA (Modern Language Association); or
- APA (American Psychological Association)

Technology Tips

- Ask before recording class if it’s appropriate. Sometimes it’s not.
- Turn off your phones before coming to class, or at least put them in airplane or silent mode. Some good communication principles when using phones, tablets, computers: Privilege those in your presence.
- Ask before posting photos or comments of your fellow students and professors in online and social media venues.
- We have a Facebook page and a LinkedIn page for majors and minors in communication studies. Join us!

Professor and Advisor Availability

We look forward to talking with you about your academic program plans, your career aspirations, your off-campus program ideas, and how you’re doing in class. Each professor posts office hours. These are times when professors are in their offices waiting for you to come in. During busy times, such as enrolling for courses the following semester, appointments must be made (usually done online) to be sure everyone gets in for some advising. But most other times in the year office hours are open for you to come in. If your schedule prevents you from coming to posted office hours, ask to make an appointment. You might also consider using the “Take a Professor to Lunch” program offered through the Student Life office. Bottom Line: Be Proactive! Seek out your advisor and your professors.