

# Communication Studies Major

The communication studies major offers an in-depth study of communication in various contexts, including but not limited to rhetoric, argumentation, interpersonal communication, small group communication, organizational communication, conflict management, intercultural communication, and family communication.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the communication studies program shall be able to, in a variety of relational, group, and organizational settings:

1. Explain how communication creates, sustains, manages, and changes persons, groups, organizations, and society, and use that knowledge in an ethical manner.
2. Articulate how their faith informs the study, evaluation, and practice of communication, and exemplify Christian values that affirm people's inherent worth as they put principles into action.
3. Identify their communication tendencies, strengths, and weaknesses.
4. Express ideas clearly and accurately through oral and written communication using various media in academic and practitioner contexts.
5. Utilize quantitative and qualitative research tools to explore communication worlds.
6. Ethically apply communication theories and skills to various communicative situations (e.g., developing healthy, supportive relationships; participating in and leading teams; solving problems and making decisions; managing conflict; presenting strategic messages; cultivating healthy organizations; interacting with diverse populations; executing change strategies; and promoting the intellectual, spiritual, and emotional growth of those with whom they live and work).
7. Identify a vocational direction where one's communication skills can be utilized to make a positive difference.

## Career Opportunities

To prepare for career opportunities, students are required to complete a 3-unit communication internship prior to graduation. Communication studies graduates often work as:

- Communication training and development specialists
- Strategic communication (including social media) specialists
- Public relations and public affairs staff
- Human resource officers
- Corporate or personal event planners
- Customer relations managers
- Sales representatives
- Higher education administrators
- Corporate managers
- Ministry leaders in churches or nonprofits
- Marriage and family counselors
- High school guidance counselors
- Entrepreneurs

51 units

To graduate, Communication Studies Major students must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.0 or higher in their major coursework.

| Code                                    | Title                                    | Units |
|---|--|-------|
| <b>Lower-division Core Requirements</b> |  |       |
| COMM 111                                | Public Communication <sup>1</sup>        | 3     |
| COMM 201                                | Introduction to Communication Studies    | 3     |
| COMM 203                                | Communication Theory                     | 3     |
| COMM 211                                | Professional Communication               | 3     |
| COMM 230                                | Small Group Communication                | 3     |
| COMM 260                                | Intercultural Communication <sup>2</sup> | 3     |
| <b>Upper-division Core Requirements</b> |  |       |
| COMM 300                                | Research Methods in Communication        | 3     |

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| COMM 302 | Rhetorical Theory                                 | 3 |
| COMM 305 | Writing 3: Writing for Communication <sup>3</sup> | 3 |
| COMM 420 | Conflict Management                               | 3 |
| COMM 425 | Interpersonal Communication Processes             | 3 |
| COMM 430 | Organizational Communication                      | 3 |
| COMM 490 | Communication Internship <sup>4</sup>             | 3 |
| COMM 496 | Senior Seminar: Ethics in Human Communication     | 3 |

**Electives**

|                                  |                                |   |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Take 9 units from the following: |                                | 9 |
| COMM 315                         | Intercollegiate Forensics      |   |
| COMM 325                         | Gender Communication           |   |
| COMM 335                         | Leadership Communication       |   |
| COMM 340                         | Argumentation and Debate       |   |
| COMM 345                         | Nonverbal Communication        |   |
| COMM 435                         | Family Communication           |   |
| COMM 440                         | Persuasion and Attitude Change |   |
| COMM 495                         | Special Topics                 |   |
| COMM 498                         | Directed Research              |   |

---

|             |  |    |
|-------------|--|----|
| Total Units |  | 51 |
|-------------|--|----|

- 1 Meets the General Education Oral Communication requirement.
- 2 Meets the General Education Intercultural Competence requirement.
- 3 Meets the General Education Writing 3 requirement.
- 4 Meets the General Education Integrative and Applied Learning requirement.