

Communication Studies

The Department of Communication Studies is a community of scholars and students dedicated to communication research and education through the analysis, interpretation and production of messages.



Academic Track

Relational Communication

Our lives are spent in relationships with others. From family, romantic partners and friends to co-workers, supervisors and clients to neighbors and other community members, we are constantly interacting and communicating with people. While many assume that communication comes naturally, miscommunication and misunderstanding are abundant in most relationships.

The relational communication track focuses on current research and theories in interpersonal communication to explain behaviors and improve tangible communication skills. Classes increase understanding of verbal and nonverbal communication and responses, relational development, cultural similarities/differences, conflict, deception and group communication dynamics.

By improving understanding of communication theories, students learn about taking different perspectives and modifying personal communication behaviors to maximize relational outcomes. These skills are particularly important in careers involving interactions between organizational members or with clients.

Communication Studies Courses - 39 hours

Core Courses - 12 hours

COMM 320: Theories of Human Communication (3 hrs)

COMM 330: Rhetoric in Western Thought (3 hrs)

COMM 431: Criticism of Public Discourse (3 hrs) or

COMM 433: Communication Research Methods (3 hrs)

COMM 550: Senior Colloquium (3 hrs) or

COMM 551: Senior Honors Thesis (3 hrs)

Relational Communication Courses - choose 12 hours

COMM 322: Interpersonal Communication (3 hrs)

COMM 323: Nonverbal Communication (3 hrs)

COMM 328: Professional Interviewing (3 hrs)

COMM 480: Intercultural Communication (3 hrs)

COMM 420: Gender Communication (3 hrs)

COMM 526: Persuasion (3 hrs)

COMM 542: Relational Communication (3 hrs) *****REQUIRED*****

Electives - 15 hours of additional COMM courses

Additional Requirement - 3 hours must be at the 500 level or above (in addition to COMM 550 or COMM 551)

POTENTIAL CAREERS

CLIENT SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

COMMUNICATIONS FACILITATOR

HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST

PROJECT MANAGER

MARKETING RESEARCHER

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

COMPLEMENTARY MAJORS/MINORS

PSYCHOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY

FAMILY STUDIES/HUMAN SERVICES

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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