

Program Overview

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree with a major in Communication Studies comprehensive, non-thesis program provides the greatest flexibility and breadth of understanding. The department assigns all communication studies majors to this comprehensive program. After the first term of course work, the student may request the thesis option. Students may elect to take up to six credits of course work outside of the department, with graduate advisor approval.

Students may select communication studies courses that develop expertise in one or more of the following resource areas: organizational communication, rhetorical studies, communication training and development, health communication, interpersonal communication, or instructional communication. Students also may select courses from related disciplines, such as mass communication, education, English, psychology, sociology, and business. The department encourages all students to explore courses that provide a breadth of knowledge about human communication.

Organizational Communication

Students primarily interested in organizational communication investigate the function, flow, and structure of communication in organizations to enhance organizational effectiveness.

Rhetorical Studies

Students interested in rhetorical studies investigate how symbols have the power to shape perceptions and alter attitudes. Students may select from courses that offer a broad overview of rhetorical theory and rhetorical methods.

Communication Training and Development

Students who seek careers as communication trainers or human resource development specialists select from several courses that provide information and prescribe strategies to enhance communication performance.

Health Communication

Students who focus on health communication investigate the essential role of communication in healthcare through a variety of courses that explore such topics as barriers to patient and provider interactions, health communication leadership, health disparities, healthcare training and assessment, health in relationships and healthcare team effectiveness.

Interpersonal Communication

Students who emphasize interpersonal communication take courses that focus on the role of communication in the development and maintenance of human relationships. *Seminar in Interpersonal Communication* provides a comprehensive review of theory and research that explores interpersonal relationships.

Instructional Communication

Students who wish to pursue careers in teaching at the community college level will take courses that will prepare them for a career in education including communication curricula typically found in community colleges (interpersonal communication, small group communication, public speaking, and communication fundamentals). In addition, students may select courses from our outstanding College of Education.

Facilities

The department is located in the completely renovated Centennial Hall which offers outstanding resources including faculty offices, several graduate assistant office suites, computer labs, conference rooms, classrooms equipped with comprehensive instructional technologies, and a state of the art teaching theatre. The department also has a newly renovated research lab with computer technology and data collection tools.

Faculty

The department's faculty members are active in state, regional, national, and international associations and widely publish their research in books, professional and academic journals, podcasts, and blogs.

Application Requirements

The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College's website (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu>). International students should review the International Admission Documents page (<http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international/>) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- \$55 nonrefundable application fee
- or
- \$90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html>) for more information.)
- official transcripts from **each institution** where course credit was granted
- 3.0 overall GPA or a 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- GRE not required
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose (approx. 1000 words) addressing the following:
 - which area(s) of communication studies are you most interested in pursuing and why
 - Describe at least two communication questions you might like to explore, understand better, or develop an expertise in during your graduate study. These questions are not binding; you do not have to research these questions should you be accepted, but they will help us assess your fit with graduate work, our program, and our faculty.
- rationale for selecting the M.A. in communication studies at Texas State
- readiness for graduate study, i.e., how the academic background has prepared the student for graduate study in the Department of Communication Studies at Texas State
- career goals/plans, including how the student will apply the degree post-graduation

- three letters of recommendation from individuals knowledgeable about your academic ability and promise as a scholar

Approved English Proficiency Exam Scores

Applicants are required to submit an approved English proficiency exam score that meets the minimum program requirements below unless they have earned a bachelor’s degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a country on our exempt countries list (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/international/language.html#waliver>).

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall and minimum individual module scores of
 - 19 listening
 - 19 reading
 - 19 speaking
 - 18 writing
- official PTE scores required with 52 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0
- official Duolingo scores required with a 110 overall
- official TOEFL Essentials scores required with an 8.5 overall

This program does **not** offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts (M.A) degree with a major in Communication Studies requires 30 semester credit hours, including a thesis.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
Choose 6 hours from the following:		6
COMM 5301	Quantitative Research Methods in Communication	
COMM 5302	Rhetorical Methods	
COMM 5303	Qualitative Research Methods in Communication	
Prescribed Electives		
Choose 18 hours from the following in consultation with the graduate advisor:		18
COMM 5304	Work/Life Intersections	
COMM 5307	The Dark Side of Communication	
COMM 5309	Proseminar in Communication Research Methods	
COMM 5312	Intercultural Communication	
COMM 5313	Relational Communication	
COMM 5314	Family Communication	
COMM 5315	Directed Research in Communication Studies	
COMM 5318	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 5319	Organizational Communication	
COMM 5321	Communication Assessment	
COMM 5324	Seminar in Instructional Communication	
COMM 5325	Seminar in Human Communication Theory	
COMM 5327	Contemporary Rhetorical Theory	
COMM 5329B	Communication and Negotiation	
COMM 5329D	Managing Communication Technologies in the Workplace	

COMM 5329E	Communication and Organizational Culture
COMM 5329G	Communication and Emotion
COMM 5329H	Work, Identity, and Difference
COMM 5329I	Relational Health Communication
COMM 5329J	LGBTQ+ Rhetoric and Advocacy
COMM 5329K	End-of-Life Communication
COMM 5329L	Communicating Diversity and Inclusion
COMM 5329M	Health Communication Campaigns
COMM 5329N	Rhetoric of Diversity
COMM 5330	Nonverbal Communication
COMM 5331	Persuasive Communication
COMM 5332	Communication and Technology
COMM 5333	Health Communication
COMM 5340A	Rhetorical Movements
COMM 5340B	Free Speech and Extremism
COMM 5340C	Rhetoric of Women’s Rights
COMM 5342	Historical Rhetoric and Social Influence
COMM 5343	Contemporary Rhetoric and Social Influence
COMM 5344	American Speeches
COMM 5345	Political Communication
COMM 5347	Small Group Communication
COMM 5350	Applied Communication Studies
COMM 5355	Media Criticism
COMM 5356	Gender and Communication
COMM 5371	Communication Training and Development
COMM 5372	Organizational Communication Analysis and Development
COMM 5374	Organizational Rhetoric
COMM 5395	Capstone Research Project

May choose 6 hours of advisor-approved electives from outside the department

Thesis		
COMM 5399A	Thesis	3
Select a minimum of 3 hours from the following		3
COMM 5199B	Thesis	
COMM 5299B	Thesis	
COMM 5399B	Thesis	
COMM 5599B	Thesis	
COMM 5999B	Thesis	

Total Hours **30**

Thesis or a Comprehensive Examination Committee

A student must be in good academic standing to apply for a thesis examination committee. The student’s cumulative GPA in all their graduate classes and in their communication studies classes must be 3.0 or higher. Also, the student should not have any incomplete grades in their classes.

Students must submit departmental forms to the director of graduate studies by November 1 or April 1. Students must make the request in the term in which they will complete 15 hours of course work. This is generally during the second term of full-time graduate course work since

students must complete a thesis over two or more terms. The graduate faculty reviews all requests.

Comprehensive Examination Requirement

Students must complete a thesis, which includes an oral defense. At the defense, the faculty committee may: (a) determine that the student has passed, (b) request corrections or revisions to the written portions, (c) request revisions and a subsequent oral defense of the revised document, or (d) determine that the student has failed. If a student has been asked to submit revisions and defend again, they may do so only once.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must demonstrate the student's capability for research and independent thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with the *Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or Dissertation*.

Thesis Proposal (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf)

The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html>) and proposal to his or her thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline. Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements. After signing the form and obtaining committee members' signatures, the graduate advisor's signature if required by the program and the department chair's signature, the student must submit the Thesis Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College. The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College by the end of the student's enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

Thesis Committee

The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three approved graduate faculty members.

Thesis Enrollment and Credit

The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student's initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect

the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair's discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrew), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit ("CR") will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process

Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/>) website under "Current Students." The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student's embargo selection). **NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.**

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student's progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university's or institution's email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf
- electronically signing the form using the university's licensed signature platform.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Doctoral and Master's level courses in Communication Studies: COMM

Courses Offered

Communication Studies (COMM)

COMM 5100. Teaching Communication Studies.

An introduction to curriculum, instruction, and assessment methods in the teaching of Communication Studies. Provides an orientation as well as regular in-service training and planned periodic evaluations of instructional responsibilities. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Repeatable with different emphasis.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Graduate Assistantship|Exclude from Graduate GPA

Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

COMM 5199B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

COMM 5299B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

COMM 5301. Quantitative Research Methods in Communication.

This course is an examination of quantitative research methods in speech communication. Measurement procedures, statistics, experimental design, and descriptive research methods are investigated, as well as a consideration of scholarly writing and library research.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5302. Rhetorical Methods.

A study of approaches to the analysis of public discourse directed toward establishing workable perspectives for students conducting rhetorical analysis. Required of communication studies majors.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5303. Qualitative Research Methods in Communication.

This course provides an introduction to qualitative methods of inquiry in communication. Students will learn and apply principles of qualitative research designs in data collection, analysis, and integration of narrative and non-numeric data in communication research.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5304. Work/Life Intersections.

This course examines those situations where work and life intersect, and how humans use communication to create, negotiate, and manage work/life intersections.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5305. Communication Ethics.

This course explores common ethical dilemmas in personal and professional communication contexts. Various ethical decision-making frameworks, dialogic communication styles, and ethical case studies are emphasized to develop socially responsible and ethically sound communication strategies for diverse audiences, platforms, and situations.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5306. Communication for Leadership & Management.

This course explores communication theories related to leadership and management in social and professional organizational contexts. Students will research, critically evaluate, and apply these frameworks to case studies where they can demonstrate their knowledge of effective leadership and management communication.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5307. The Dark Side of Communication.

This graduate seminar will examine aversive and problematic interactions in interpersonal, organizational, health, and instructional settings. Sample topics include (un)fairness, backstabbing/betrayal, breaking up, end of life communication, deception, teacher misbehaviors, and bullying. Students will take a research-based approach to understanding these undesirable, yet common, messages.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5309. Proseminar in Communication Research Methods.

The goal of this course is to provide students with an overview of the methods used in the discipline of Communication Studies. To that end, we will begin by introducing students to the history of the discipline followed by overviews of rhetorical, quantitative, and qualitative research methods.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5310. Methods of Teaching Communication Studies.

A study of the methods of the teaching speech communication principles and skills for secondary school teachers. Prerequisite: Admission to teacher certification program or permission of department chair.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5312. Intercultural Communication.

This course examines how culture evolves and is maintained through communicative systems of meaning. The many ways in which language, culture, and communication interact with, influence, and manifest in each other in everyday experience are explored.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5313. Relational Communication.

This course provides a comprehensive overview of relational communication theories and research. Students engage with theory and research frameworks to think critically about relational communication perspectives and contributions, understand the strengths and limitations of those perspectives, and learn to contribute to new knowledge of relational communication.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5314. Family Communication.

This course explores the communication processes associated with families. Topic areas for exploration will include: storytelling, intimacy, conflict, rituals, religion, health-illness, and death. The goal is to further understand interdisciplinary research and theory related to family interactions embedded in larger webs of social, cultural, and generational relationships.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5315. Directed Research in Communication Studies.

A course to be offered to certain graduate students to allow for independent study in a specific area for which a regular course is not available. May be repeated with different emphasis for additional credit.

Prerequisite: Departmental approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Dual Enrollment Permitted

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5318. Interpersonal Communication.

A review of current research in the area. Includes an examination of contemporary theories and research methods.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5319. Organizational Communication.

Examines organizational communication theory and research in applied organizational contexts. Provides communication professionals with an analytical framework for improving communication.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5320. Directing Communication Studies and Theatre Activities.

Designed to assist any teacher, whether of speech and drama or some other subject, in directing speech and drama activities. During the course, those in the class will actually direct debate, plays, declamation, and other activities. May be repeated with different emphasis for additional credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5321. Communication Assessment.

An in-depth study of communication assessment techniques employed in the field of oral communication. Statistical, experimental, and observational methods of assessing oral communication in interpersonal, group, and classroom settings are included.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5324. Seminar in Instructional Communication.

Examines communication instruction theory and research and their practical applications in various instructional settings.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5325. Seminar in Human Communication Theory.

This course is an examination of theories of human communication contexts including interpersonal, family, intercultural, organizational, and instructional communication. The course may be repeated with a different topic.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5327. Contemporary Rhetorical Theory.

A survey of the major contemporary theoretical perspectives and conceptual debates in rhetoric. Focuses upon critical interpretations and applications of theory in addition to study of primary theorists' writings.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329B. Communication and Negotiation.

Examines theory, research, and practice of conflict management and negotiation.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329D. Managing Communication Technologies in the Workplace.

Examines how communication technologies both help and hinder workplace communication. Examines theory, practical applications, key scholars and empirical research. Heavy focus on using case studies that provide context for learning how to thrive in the contemporary organization.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329E. Communication and Organizational Culture.

A seminar about communication and organizational culture. Discussion and materials explore communication practices that enable people to identify themselves as members of an organization and bind themselves to each other. Students will have the opportunity to analyze an organization.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329G. Communication and Emotion.

This course examines various ways in which interpersonal communication and emotion coexist and impact one another. The goal is to provide opportunities to learn about emotional experience and expression both in an abstract way (class readings and discussions) and in a more concrete fashion (conducting your own analyses and research).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329H. Work, Identity, and Difference.

Work is influential in our social interactions, our understanding of our own and others' identities, and our navigations of difference. We will explore the communication challenges of contemporary work in the United States through researching the history of work, excessive work, and communication construction of difference at work.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329I. Relational Health Communication.

This course reviews the intersection of interpersonal and health communication theory, highlighting the impact of social involvement and communication processes on health outcomes, as well as the application of health communication theories in close relationship contexts.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329J. LGBTQ+ Rhetoric and Advocacy.

This course explores historical and contemporary developments in of LGBTQ+ rhetoric and advocacy. In doing so, the course also examines how approaches to the study of LGBTQ+ rhetoric and advocacy, in terms of theory and methodology, has changed and shifted over time.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329K. End-of-Life Communication.

This course will examine communication at the end-of-life (EOL). Students will discuss how people approach the EOL, and the end of relationships, through communication. Course material will highlight challenges and current issues surrounding EOL communication between terminally ill individuals and their family, friends, and medical professionals.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329L. Communicating Diversity and Inclusion.

This course examines the relationship between communication and power imbalances that deny equal respect, dignity, and rights to inclusion for the socially marginalized. Building upon historical and contemporary research, students will be able to extend principles from the critical paradigm and instructional communication to act ethically when making decisions that impact socially marginalized groups, develop a research project that advances knowledge of diversity and inclusion, and conduct training to advance diversity and inclusion initiatives.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329M. Health Communication Campaigns.

Contemporary theory and research from the field of Communication Studies make it possible to understand how and why health messages may impact future communication and behavior. This course explores how health-focused information can produce shared meaning between message senders and receives. Using a transactional communication framework, students will examine impacts of relationships, organizational roles, and networks of social relationships in relation to health outcomes of patients, families, organizations, and communities. Theoretical and applied research is used to guide the analysis of evidence-based messages that prevent disease and illness, reduce health risks, and promote behaviors that improve health.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329N. Rhetoric of Diversity.

The course delves into the academic literature on rhetoric, diversity, and inclusion. This course explores how the values of diversity and inclusion are products of rhetorical negotiation and definition, examining how these concepts are used in a variety of context and for a wide array of purposes.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329O. Communication in Understudied Close Relationships.

This course focuses on important relationships that may get 'glossed over' in standard interpersonal communication seminars. More specifically, we will examine the various types of close relationships that comprise modern society, and current issues that affect those bonds.

Students will investigate how communication functions to develop, maintain, enrich, or limit these understudied relationships.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5329P. Communication & Identity in International Work Cultures.

This course explores how personal, cultural, organizational, and occupational identities shape workplaces. By traveling to multiple countries abroad, we will explore how different employees make sense of their work identities. Tours across the country will enable students to better understand culture's influence on work, and business site visits will allow students to observe work, communication, and identities in a variety of organizations.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5330. Nonverbal Communication.

A review of current theory and research of nonverbal communication behavior.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5331. Persuasive Communication.

An analysis of theories of persuasion. Emphasis placed on understanding established theories of attitude formation and change, contemporary persuasion, research, and the application of persuasion theory.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5332. Communication and Technology.

Focuses on research and theories about the relationships between technology and communication behavior in interpersonal, group, and organization contexts. Also considers relationships between communication, technology, and culture.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5333. Health Communication.

This course provides an overview of health communication theory and research to explore how interpersonal, organizational, and cultural messages shape views of illness and the health care system. Topics will include health literacy, health risk messages, e-health, health disparities, and physician-patient interactions.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5340A. Rhetorical Movements.

This course examines the unique phenomenon of "rhetorical movements". Unlike rhetorical inquiries that typically focus upon the discourse of those in power, the study of rhetorical movements analyzes how individuals, who often have no other resources but their voices and their bodies, come together to attempt social and political changes.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5340B. Free Speech and Extremism.

One of the most unique and important foundations of American society is the right to free speech. This course will begin with an examination of free speech in historical and contemporary society. Because free speech is often contested (and protected) through extreme controversy, we will also focus on extremist rhetoric.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5340C. Rhetoric of Women's Rights.

This course examines the rhetoric of women's rights in the United States. We will analyze arguments of the nineteenth century abolitionist, temperance, and women's rights movements, and the public discourse of the twentieth century women's rights movements. We will also consider contemporary issues of gender and power in public argument.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5340D. Argumentation & Public Advocacy.

This course explores the theory and practice of argumentation and public advocacy. The course provides an overview of contemporary approaches to the study of argumentation and ethics. The course emphasizes the application of theories of argumentation and advocacy to recent examples.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5340E. Science, Health, & Environmental Rhetoric.

This graduate course explores the history, theories, and applications of rhetoric as it pertains to science, health and the environment. These fields are both interrelated and distinct in rhetorical studies. For instance, while environmental rhetoric includes the rhetorical construction of "wilderness," it also includes studies of environmental justice & health disparities across gendered/classed/racial lines as well as debates over climate science & scientific consensus. Students will gain a broader understanding of rhetorical theory and how to complete rhetorical critique. Students can also expect to read academic articles, lead class discussions, and engage in independent academic research.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Topics

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5342. Historical Rhetoric and Social Influence.

This course is an analytical study of speeches, speakers, groups, movements, and rhetorical strategies in history. Includes emphasis on the following topics: American Public Address, Rhetoric of Woman's Suffrage, and other historic topics of interest. This course may be repeated with different emphasis or topic for additional credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5343. Contemporary Rhetoric and Social Influence.

The analytical study of speeches, speakers, groups, movements, and rhetorical strategies in contemporary society. Includes emphasis on the following topics: rhetoric and culture, rhetorical movements, and rhetorical genres. May be repeated with a different topic.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5344. American Speeches.

This course is a survey of American public address. The class will study significant and representative speeches from different periods of American history. This class will examine what the study of American public address can teach us about history, communication, and social influence.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5345. Political Communication.

Study of political communication in contemporary times. Course will cover the rhetoric of candidates and politicians, the structure of political campaigns, and campaign practices.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5347. Small Group Communication.

An examination of theories and research evidence about communication in the small group.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5350. Applied Communication Studies.

An application of communication principles and skills. Topics covered may include organizational, interpersonal, nonverbal and group communication, conflict management, communication technology, and persuasion analysis. May not be taken for credit by students pursuing M.A. degree in Communication. May be repeated for additional credit with department approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5355. Media Criticism.

A rhetorical analysis of media from a Contemporary Cultural Studies perspective.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5356. Gender and Communication.

An examination of research and theories about gender communication, relationships, and qualitative research methods. (MULT).

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5360. Introduction to Empirical Research in Communication.

Introduction to Communication Studies as a behavioral science. Students will learn principles of the scientific method; explore quantitative and qualitative methods; investigate variables across the field (persuasion, interpersonal, organizational, non-verbal, intercultural, and instructional); and analyze and apply research in Communication. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling

Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

COMM 5362A. Organizational Communication.

Introduction to communication concepts in the context of organizations. Students will learn how communication influences contemporary organizations through familiarity with contemporary research. Students will be prepared to understand, investigate, and manage communication processes in organizations. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling|Topics

Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

COMM 5362B. Organizational Rhetoric.

Introduction to the study of organizational rhetoric designed for internal and external audiences. Students will analyze and create messages based in theories of organizational rhetoric. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling|Topics

Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

COMM 5371. Communication Training and Development.

This course examines the theory and practice of developing and presenting communication training sessions for organizations.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5372. Organizational Communication Analysis and Development.

This course examines communication problems in organizations and describes effective interventions. Provides communication managers and consultants with a broad range of tools and procedures for diagnosing and changing communication.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5374. Organizational Rhetoric.

This course will include an examination of how organizations use symbols to accomplish a variety of functions for internal and external audiences, as well as exploring the concept of organization as rhetorical argument.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5390. Communication Internship.

Students acquire on-the-job experience in a position with an organization, using skills and knowledge acquired through graduate coursework. The course requires written reports and other projects as specified by the supervising instructor. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 10 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

COMM 5395. Capstone Research Project.

Under the direction of a graduate faculty member, students develop and submit a research or applied project using knowledge and skills acquired through graduate coursework. Required for students not pursuing the thesis path. May be taken only once for degree credit. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

COMM 5399A. Thesis.

This course represents a student's initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until student has completed the thesis in Communication Studies 5399B. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

COMM 5399B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

COMM 5599B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

COMM 5999B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit