



Twin Cities Campus

Communication Studies B.A.

Communication Studies

College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2017
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 34
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

This program examines human communication using humanistic and social scientific methods. Fields of study include speech writing, rhetorical criticism, ethics, interpersonal, small group, organizational, intercultural, and electronic (broadcasting, cable, satellite, internet) forms of communication. Students are strongly encouraged to declare their major during the first or second year. Students intending to declare a communication studies major must first meet with an a communication studies advisor in 274 Ford Hall.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the [Office of Admissions website](#).

General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements including writing and liberal education courses. For more information about University-wide requirements, see the [liberal education requirements](#). Required courses for the major or minor in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward the major or minor (including transfer courses).

Program Requirements

Students are required to take 4 semester(s) of any second language.

Students may earn a bachelor of arts or a minor in communication studies, but not both.

CLA BA degrees require 4 semesters or the equivalent of a second language.

All CLA BA degrees require 18 upper division (3xxx-level or higher) credits outside the major designator. These credits must be taken in designators different from the major designator and cannot include courses that are cross-listed with the major designator. The major designator for the Communication Studies BA is COMM.

All incoming CLA freshmen must complete the first year experience course sequence.

Introductory Courses

Take 2 courses for a total of 6 credits.

- [COMM 1101](#) - Introduction to Public Speaking [CIV] (3.0 cr)
- or [COMM 1101H](#) - Honors: Introduction to Public Speaking [CIV] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 1313W](#) - Analysis of Argument [WI] (3.0 cr)

Core Courses

Take 2 or more course(s) totaling 6 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [COMM 3211](#) - Introduction to Media Studies (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3401](#) - Introduction to Communication Theory (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3601](#) - Introduction to Rhetorical Theory (3.0 cr)

Performative Electives

Required Performance Elective

Note: in order for COMM 3990 to count as a performative elective, it must be taken for at least 3 credits.

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling 3 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [COMM 3201](#) - Introduction to Electronic Media Production (4.0 cr)
- [COMM 3411](#) - Introduction to Small Group Communication (3.0 cr)



- [COMM 3422](#) - Interviewing and Communication (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3605W](#) - Persuasive Speaking and Speech Writing [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3994](#) - Directed Research (1.0 - 3.0 cr)

Upper Division Elective

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:

- COMM 4xxx
- COMM 5xxx

Additional Communications Studies Electives

In addition to the above requirements and the senior project, take as many COMM 1xxx-5xxx credits as needed to reach the 34-credit graduation requirement.

Take 0 or more course(s) from the following:

- COMM 1xxx
- COMM 3xxx
- COMM 4xxx
- COMM 5xxx

Senior Project

The senior project is fulfilled by completing a senior paper. The senior paper can be written in any COMM 4xxx or 5xxx course. COMM 3995W, an S-N only, senior paper course, must be taken during the same semester in which the senior paper is written.

[COMM 3999W](#) - Capstone Project [WI] (1.0 cr)

Upper Division Writing Intensive within the Major

Students are required to take one upper division writing intensive course within the major. If that requirement has not been satisfied within the core major requirements, students must choose one course from the following list. Some of these courses may also fulfill other major requirements.

Take 0 - 1 course(s) from the following:

- [COMM 3263W](#) - Media Literacy: Decoding Media Images and Messages [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3451W](#) - Intercultural Communication: Theory and Practice [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3452W](#) (*Inactive*) [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3605W](#) - Persuasive Speaking and Speech Writing [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3635W](#) - Famous Speeches [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3645W](#) - How Pictures Persuade [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3676W](#) - Communicating Terrorism [GP, WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3681W](#) - Rhetorical Fictions and 20th Century Conflicts [LITR, GP, WI] (4.0 cr)
- [COMM 3682W](#) - Communicating War [AH, CIV, WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 3999W](#) - Capstone Project [WI] (1.0 cr)
- [COMM 4404W](#) - Language Borderlands [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 4602W](#) - Contemporary Political Persuasion [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 4621W](#) - Rhetoric of Feminism [DSJ, WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 5451W](#) - Intercultural Communication Processes [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [COMM 5615W](#) - Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism [WI] (3.0 cr)