Communication Studies

Description
Communication studies is a social science and humanistic field of study, research, and application. Communication competencies are among those most highly desired in professional, personal, organizational, and civic arenas. The mission of the Department of Communication Studies is to examine human symbolic activity as it shapes and is shaped by relationships, institutions, and societies. This work concerns how, why, and with what effects people communicate through verbal and nonverbal messages. Through research, teaching, and service, the Department devotes particular attention to understanding the ways in which communication erodes and sustains collaboration within and among local, national, and global communities.

Program Assessment. In order to assist the department in evaluating the effectiveness of its programs, majors will be required to complete an assessment of the major. This assessment will be implemented in the communication studies capstone course: COMM 495 Communication Studies Senior Capstone. Results of participation in this assessment activity will in no way affect a student's GPA, but could prevent or delay graduation if the assessment is not completed as required.

University Speech & Debate
The University of Nebraska–Lincoln offers a nationally recognized speech and debate program of participation in campus and intercollegiate debate, public speaking, and interpretation events. The program gives students the opportunity to compete at the local, state, regional, and national level. No previous debate or speech experience is required. All students who are in good standing may take part in intercollegiate debate and forensics.

College Requirements
College Admission

College Admission
The entrance requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences are the same as the UNL General Admission Requirements. Students who are admitted through the Admission by Review process may have certain conditions attached to their enrollment at UNL. These conditions are explained under “Removal of Deficiencies.”

In addition to these requirements, the College of Arts and Sciences strongly recommends a third and fourth year of one foreign language. Four years of high school coursework in the same language will fulfill the College of Arts and Sciences’ language requirement. It will also allow students to continue language study at a more advanced level at UNL, and provide more opportunity to study abroad.

Transfer Students
To be considered for admission as a transfer student, Nebraska resident or nonresident, students must have an accumulated average of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum C average in the last semester of attendance at another college. Transfer students who graduated from high school January 1997 and after must also meet the UNL General Admission Requirements. Those transfer students who graduated before January 1997 must have completed in high school 3 years of English, 2 years of the same foreign language, 2 years of algebra, and 1 year of geometry. Transfer students who have completed less than 12 credit hours of college study must also submit either their ACT or SAT scores.

Ordinarily, hours earned at a similarly accredited college or university are applicable to the UNL degree. The College, however, will evaluate all hours submitted on an application for transfer, and reserves the right to accept or reject any of them, based upon its exclusion and restriction policies. Sixty is the maximum number of hours the University will accept on transfer from a two-year college or international institution. Transfer credit in the major or minor must be approved by the departmental advisor on a Request for Substitution Form to meet specific course requirements, group requirements, or course level requirements in the major or minor. At least half of the hours in the major field must be completed at the University regardless of the number of hours transferred.

The College of Arts and Sciences will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other schools. The C- and D grades cannot be applied toward requirements for a major or minor. This policy does not apply to the transfer of grades from UNO or UNK to UNL. All D grades may be transferred from UNO or UNK, but they are not applicable to a major or minor.

Readmitted Students
UNL students who choose not to take courses for more than 2 consecutive terms, must reapply to UNL. Students readmitted to the College of Arts and Sciences will follow the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year of readmission and re-enrollment as a degree-seeking student in Arts and Sciences. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at UNL in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991, the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

Admission Deficiencies/Removal of Deficiencies
Students must remove entrance deficiencies in geometry and foreign language as soon as possible, and before graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences. For questions and more information, students should consult a college advisor in the Academic and Career Advising Center in 107 Oldfather Hall.

Removing Foreign Language Deficiencies
Students must complete the second semester of a first year language sequence to clear the deficiency and the second semester of the second year language sequence to complete the college graduation requirement in language.

Removing Geometry Deficiencies
A deficiency of one year of geometry can be removed by taking high school geometry courses through an approved independent study program, or by completing a geometry course from an accredited community college or a four-year institution. Neither of these options will count for college credit.

College Degree Requirements

College Distribution Requirements
Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (16 hours + Language)
The College of Arts and Sciences distribution requirements are designed to further the purposes of liberal education by encouraging study in several different areas within the College. All requirements are in addition to University ACE requirements. A student may not use a single course to satisfy more than one of the following five distribution requirements. A student cannot use a single course to satisfy both an ACE outcome and a College distribution requirement. A student cannot use a course...
from their primary major to satisfy the Breadth Requirement (F), but may apply an ancillary requirement of the primary major or a course from their second major toward this requirement. Independent study or reading courses and internships cannot be used to satisfy distribution requirements. To see a complete list of excluded courses, run a degree audit through MyRED.

Courses from interdisciplinary programs will count in the same area as courses from the home/cross-listed department(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDR A - Written Communication</td>
<td>Select from courses approved for ACE outcome 1.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR B and BL - Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences with Lab</td>
<td>Select from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, geology, meteorology, mathematics, physics and statistics. Must include one lab in the natural or physical sciences. Lab courses may be selected from biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, geology, meteorology and physics.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR C - Humanities</td>
<td>Select from classics, English, history, modern languages and literatures, philosophy, and religious studies.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR D - Social Science</td>
<td>Select from: anthropology, communication studies, geography, political science, psychology, or sociology.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR E - Language</td>
<td>Fulfilled by the completion of the 6-credit-hour second-year sequence in a single foreign language in one of the following departments: Classics and religious studies, modern languages and literatures, or anthropology. Instruction is currently available in Arabic, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Omaha, Russian, and Spanish. A student who has completed the fourth-year level of one foreign language in high school is exempt from the languages requirement.</td>
<td>0-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDR F - Additional Breadth</td>
<td>Select from: natural, physical and mathematical sciences (Area B), humanities (Area C), or social sciences (Area D). Cannot be a course from the primary major.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit Hours Subtotal: 16-32

1 See degree audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for approved geography and anthropology courses that apply as natural science.

2 Language courses numbered 210 or below apply only for the foreign language requirement.

3 See degree audit or College of Arts and Sciences advisor for list of natural/physical science courses in anthropology, geography, and psychology that do not apply as social science.

Scientific Base

Bachelor of Science Only (60 hours)
The bachelor of science degree requires students to complete 60 hours in mathematical, physical and natural sciences. Approved courses for scientific base credit come from the following College of Arts and Sciences disciplines: actuarial science, anthropology (selected courses), astronomy, biochemistry (excluding BIOC 101), biological sciences (excluding BIOS 203), chemistry (excluding CHEM 101), computer science (excluding CSCE 10), geography (selected courses), geology, life sciences, mathematics (excluding courses below MATH 104), meteorology, microbiology, physics and statistics.

See your degree audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for a complete list including individual classes that fall outside of the disciplines listed above. Up to 12 hours of scientific and technical courses offered by other colleges may be accepted toward this requirement with approval of a college advisor.

Foreign Languages/Language Requirement

Languages Exemption Policy
UNL and the College of Arts and Sciences will exempt or waive students from the UNL entrance requirement of two years of the same foreign language or from the College's language distribution requirement based on documentation only. The following are the options and procedures for documentation:

High School Transcripts
For the University entrance requirement, students must show an official high school transcript with two or more years of the same foreign language.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement
E-Language, students must show an official high school transcript with four or more years of the same foreign language in high school, or show evidence of graduation from a non-English-speaking foreign high school. Students whose native language is not English must show English as a Second Language study on an official high school transcript. Four years of ESL at the high school level (9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades) will be the basis for a waiver of the CDR E Language requirement.

Proficiency Examination at UNL
For the University entrance requirement, students who do not have transcript documentation must request to take a proficiency exam in the language. (This is not the same test as the Modern Languages Placement Exam.) However, UNL will provide testing only in the languages it teaches. Currently, these languages are: Arabic, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Czech, Japanese, Chinese.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement
E-Language, the Department of Modern Languages will oversee the test at the 202 level. If the student passes the test, the department will sign the College Request for Waiver form and indicate the level of proficiency. The form is then forwarded to the Arts and Sciences Advising Center for approval.

The Department of Modern Languages will oversee the test and provide written documentation to the Arts and Sciences Advising Center the level of proficiency passed.

Distance Education
For the University entrance requirement, students without transcript documentation who claim proficiency in a language not taught at UNL, have the option of seeking out a distance education program in languages. If the student completes the equivalent of 102 from an approved distance education program, the student will meet the UNL entrance requirement. The student must have the course work approved before he/she takes/completes the course as equivalent to 102 by a
College advisor. The student then completes the course and has the distance education program send the transcript to the Admissions Office.

For the College of Arts and Sciences College Distribution Requirement E-Language, the student can seek out a distance education program and complete the equivalent of the 202-level course. The student must submit the request on the College Request for Substitution form and have the course work approved by a College advisor. The student then completes the course and has the distance education program send the transcript to the Admissions Office.

Third Language Option
If a student demonstrates knowledge of two foreign languages at the 102 level, the College of Arts and Sciences may consider waiving two semesters of the four semester College Distribution Requirement E-Languages requirement. If this waiver were granted, the student would then be required to complete 101 and 102 in another, 3rd foreign language at UNL. Minimum Hours Required for Graduation
A minimum of 120 semester hours of credit is required for graduation from the College of Arts and Sciences. A total grade point average of at least 2.0 is required.

Grade Rules
Restrictions on C- and D Grades
The College will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other schools except for UNO and UNK. No transfer C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor. No UNL C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor.

Pass/No Pass Privilege
University regulations for the Pass/No Pass (P/N) privilege state:

- The Pass/No Pass option is designed for your use by seeking to expand your intellectual horizons by taking courses in areas where you may have had minimal preparation.
- Neither the P nor the N grade contribute to your GPA.
- P is interpreted to mean C or above.
- A change to or from a Pass/No Pass may be made until mid-term (see academic calendar for specific dates per term).
- The Pass/No Pass or grade registration cannot conflict with the policy of the professor, department, college, or University governing the grading option.
- Changing to or from Pass/No Pass requires using the MyRED system to change the grading option or filing a Drop/Add form with the Office of the University Registrar, 107 Canfield Administration Building. After mid-term of the course, a student registered for Pass/No Pass cannot change to a grade registration unless the Pass/No Pass registration is in conflict with the policy of the professor, department, college, or University governing Pass/No Pass.
- The Pass/No Pass grading option cannot be used for the removal of C- or D or F grades.

Pass/No Pass privileges in the College of Arts and Sciences are extended to students according to the following additional regulations:

- Pass/No Pass hours can count toward fulfillment of University ACE requirements and college distribution requirements up to the 24-hour maximum.
- Most Arts and Sciences departments and programs do not allow courses graded Pass/No Pass to apply to the major or minor. Students should refer to the department’s or program’s section of the catalog for clarification. By college rule, departments can allow up to 6 hours of Pass/No Pass in the major or minor.
- Departments may specify that certain courses of theirs can be taken only on a P/N basis.
- The college will permit no more than a total of 24 semester hours of P/N grades to be applied toward degree requirements. This total includes all Pass grades earned at UNL and other U.S. schools. NOTE: This 24-hour limit is more restrictive than the University regulation.

Grading Appeals
A student who feels that he/she has been unfairly graded must ordinarily take the following sequential steps in a timely manner, usually by initiating the appeal in the semester following the awarding of the grade:

1. Talk with the instructor concerned. Most problems are resolved at this point.
2. Talk to the instructor’s department chairperson.
3. Take the case to the Grading Appeal Committee of the department concerned. The Committee should be contacted through the department chairperson.
4. Take the case to the College Grading Appeals Committee by contacting the Dean’s Office, 1223 Oldfather Hall.

Course Level Requirements
Courses Numbered above 299
Thirty of the 120 semester hours of credit must be in courses numbered above 299. Of the 30 hours above 299, 15 hours (1/2) must be completed in residence at UNL.

Graduate Courses
Seniors in the University who have obtained in advance the approval of the dean for Graduate Studies may receive up to 12 hours credit for graduate courses taken in addition to the courses necessary to complete their undergraduate work, provided that such credits are earned within the calendar year prior to receipt of the baccalaureate. For procedures, inquire at the Office of Graduate Studies.

Course work taken prior to receipt of the baccalaureate may not always be accepted for transfer to other institutions as graduate work.

Residency
Residency Requirement and Open Enrollment and Summer Independent Study Courses
Students must complete at least 30 of the 120 total hours for their degree at UNL. Students must complete at least 1/2 of their major course work including 6 hours above 299 in their major, and 15 of the 30 hours required above 299 in residence. Credit earned during education abroad may be used toward the residency requirement if students register through UNL and participate in prior-approved education abroad programs. UNL open enrollment and summer independent study courses count toward residence.

ACE Requirements
Consistent with the mission and values of the University, ACE is based on a shared set of four institutional objectives and ten student learning outcomes. The ACE program was approved by faculty in all eight undergraduate colleges and endorsed by the Faculty Senate, the student government, and the Academic Planning Committee in January 2008.
for implementation in the fall 2009. ACE aligns with current national initiatives in general education.

Key characteristics of ACE demonstrate the benefits of the program to students:

- Students receive a broad education with exposure to multiple disciplines, critical life skills and important reasoning, inquiry, and civic capacities.
- ACE is simple and transparent for students, faculty and advisors. Students complete the equivalent of 3 credit hours for each of the ten student learning outcomes.
- Students connect and integrate their ACE experiences with their selected major.
- Students can transfer all ACE certified courses across colleges within the institution to meet the ACE requirement and any course from outside the institution that is directly equivalent to a UNL ACE-certified course. Courses from outside institutions without direct equivalents may be considered with appropriate documentation for ACE credit (see academic advisor).

ACE allows faculty to assess and improve their effectiveness and facilitate students’ learning.

**ACE Institutional Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes**
To meet the ACE Program requirement, a student will complete a minimum of 3 credit hours for each of the ten ACE Student Learning Outcomes (a total of 30 ACE credit hours). See the ACE website at: http://ace.unl.edu for the most current information and the most recently certified courses.

**Catalog Rule**
Students must fulfill the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at UNL. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a subsequent catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at UNL in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991 the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

**Learning Outcomes**
Majors in communication studies will be able to:

1. Develop the core competencies to advocate, negotiate, and relate across communicative contexts.
2. Proficiently create, organize, convey, and evaluate messages.
3. Understand and apply theories and methods of symbolic activity.
4. Demonstrate an ability to recognize and develop a critical framework for making ethical choices surrounding communication.
5. Showcase awareness of the complex nature of multiple communication contexts (such as public, interpersonal, group, organizational, intercultural).
6. Recognize how message channels influence the communication process.
7. Understand human diversity and the influence of diversity on communication.
8. Demonstrate an ability to understand and critically evaluate historical, current and future social issues through a communicative perspective.

**MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**
Thirty-six (36) credit hours in communication studies. No more than 3 hours of internship, independent study or assistantship may count toward the 36-hour requirement in the major.

**Core Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 101</td>
<td>Communication in the 21st Century 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 201</td>
<td>Introduction to Research Methods in Communication Studies 1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM 202</td>
<td>Rhetorical Methods in Communication Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 495</td>
<td>Communication Studies Senior Capstone</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours: 9

1. COMM 101 and COMM 201 or COMM 202 should be completed within the first 12 hours of the communication studies major.

**Specific Major Requirements**

**Introductory Course**
Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 109</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Human Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 205</td>
<td>Performance of Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 209</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 212</td>
<td>Debate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 220</td>
<td>Public Advocacy and Civic Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 286</td>
<td>Business and Professional Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 295</td>
<td>University Speech and Debate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit Hours Subtotal: 3

**Foundation Courses**
Select two of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 250</td>
<td>Rhetoric, Media, and Civic Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 271</td>
<td>Organizing Social Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 283</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit Hours Subtotal: 6

**Advanced Communication Studies**
Select 18 hours of COMM courses at or above the 300 level, including at least 6 hours at the 400 level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 395</td>
<td>Communication Studies Senior Capstone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit Hours Subtotal: 18

Total Credit Hours: 27

2. No more than 3 hours from COMM 395.

3. Not including COMM 495 Communication Studies Senior Capstone.

**Minor Requirement**
An approved Plan A minor or two approved Plan B minors are required.

**Additional Major Requirements**

**Prerequisite Requirements/Rules**
COMM 101 must be completed before a student can enroll in any 400-level course. COMM 101, COMM 201 or COMM 202 must be taken before COMM 495.
Grade Rules
C- and D Grades
A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the major and minor.

Pass/No Pass
No course taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the major or the minor, with the exception of 3 hours of either COMM 395 or COMM 397.

Requirements for Minor Offered by Department
Plan A Minor
Eighteen (18) hours in communication studies courses including:

Required Courses
COMM 101 Communication in the 21st Century 3
COMM 109 Fundamentals of Human Communication 3
COMM 205 Performance of Literature
COMM 209 Public Speaking
COMM 212 Debate
COMM 220 Public Advocacy and Civic Engagement
COMM 286 Business and Professional Communication
COMM 295 University Speech and Debate
Credit Hours Subtotal: 6

Additional Communication Studies Courses
Select 9 hours of 300/400 level COMM courses with at least 3 hours at the 400 level. 1,2 9
Select one additional COMM course at any level. 3 3
Credit Hours Subtotal: 12
Total Credit Hours 18

1 Excluding COMM 397 Research Assistantship in Communication Studies and COMM 395 Professional Internship.
2 Of the 9 hours, at least 3 must be at the 400 level. COMM 101 Communication in the 21st Century must be completed before a student can enroll in any 400-level course. COMM 395 Professional Internship cannot be used to meet this requirement.

Plan B Minor
Twelve (12) hours of communication studies courses with at least 9 hours at or above the 200 level, excluding COMM 397 Research Assistantship in Communication Studies or COMM 395 Professional Internship. A maximum of 3 hours of internship or independent study may apply to the 12-hour requirement.

Grade Rules
C- and D Grades
A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the major and minor.

Pass/No Pass
No course taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the major or the minor, with the exception of 3 hours of either COMM 395 Professional Internship or COMM 397 Course COMM 397 Not Found.
COMM 198 Special Topics in Communication Studies
Description: Topics vary.
Credit Hours: 1-12
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 12
Max credits per degree: 12
Format: IND

COMM 199 Independent Study
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-3
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: IND

COMM 201 Introduction to Research Methods in Communication Studies
Description: Introduction to the social-scientific and critical-historical research methods in communication studies. Location, interpretation, and application of extant communication research. Letter grade only.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Prerequisite for: COMM 495

COMM 202 Rhetorical Methods in Communication Studies
Description: Introduction to rhetorical research methods in communication studies. Location, interpretation, and application of extant communication research. Letter grade only.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Prerequisite for: COMM 495

COMM 205 Performance of Literature
Description: Introduction to skills and theories in the performance of literature, including written analyses of the works performed and the demonstration of this analysis during performance for the class.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Prerequisite for: COMM 495

COMM 209 Public Speaking
Description: Detailed practice in composition and delivery of speeches leading to effective extemporaneous speaking. Critical analysis of contemporary speeches on vital public issues.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 7 Arts

COMM 209H Honors: Public Speaking
Prerequisites: Good standing in the University Honors Program or by invitation.
Description: Detailed practice in composition and delivery of speeches leading to effective extemporaneous speaking. Critical analysis of contemporary speeches on vital public issues will culminate in a major research paper.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 210 Communicating in Small Groups
Description: Practice and theory of communication to participate in and lead small group discussion and problem solving.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 211 Intercultural Communication
Crosslisted with: ETHN 211
Description: Exploration of culture as a dimension of all communicative activity. Communication between cultural groups in a variety of contexts, e.g. interpersonal relationships, groups, organizations, politics, and international relations.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity

COMM 212 Debate
Description: Principles of argumentation and debate. Practice in analysis, briefing, use of evidence, reasoning, detection of fallacies, refutation, and delivery of argument.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 215 Visual Communication
Description: Surveys theories of visual communication to improve critical thinking about images.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 220 Public Advocacy and Civic Engagement
Description: Introduction to fundamentals of public deliberation, advocacy, and civic engagement in a democratic society. Develop civic engagement campaigns using the resources of the rhetorical tradition.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship
COMM 226 Introduction to Broadcasting
Crosslisted with: BRDC 226
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing; or freshman standing with a minimum of 12 hrs completed, broadcasting major, and 3.0 GPA in major.
Description: Development of the American system of broadcasting and the telecommunication industry.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 250 Rhetoric, Media, and Civic Life
Description: Explores the centrality of communication in contemporary, digitally-networked civic life.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

COMM 271 Organizing Social Change
Description: Examine communication processes that support organizing social change. Explore theories and case examples of how social change agents develop their voices, relationships and the organizational capacity to act on behalf of shared goals.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 280 Communication and Popular Culture
Description: Introduction to communication and popular culture, e.g. television, music, film, popular literature, “self help” literature, etc., using rhetorical and critical methods of analysis to understand the communicative dimension of these cultural forms to explore the complex relationship of language, visual images, mediated communication, and cultural values.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 283 Interpersonal Communication
Description: Understanding the processes and challenges of interpersonal communication across a variety of relationship types. Issues of interpersonal communication in personal and professional relationships.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 286 Business and Professional Communication
Notes: Letter grade only.
Description: An introduction to a variety of communication skills to help achieve maximum effectiveness on the job: verbal and listening skills, oral presentation techniques, small group problem solving/leadership, interviewing, and organizational communication.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 295 University Speech and Debate
Prerequisites: Limited to members of the intercollegiate forensics squad
Notes: Tournaments from September through April.
Description: Application of principles of argumentation and persuasion in intercollegiate debate, public address, and oral interpretation. Intensive research and practice.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 297 Instructional Assistantship
Notes: Pass/No Pass only.
Description: Structured professional experience for training instructor assistants to tutor, evaluate communication activities, and do other instructional assistance for communication studies courses.
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: LEC

COMM 300 Nonverbal Communication
Description: Introduction to the behaviors, theories, functions, and skills relevant to the enactment and interpretation of nonverbal communication.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 312 Argumentation
Description: Special forms of debate and public discussion. Adaptation of argument to various types of audiences. Analysis of principles of argumentation in great historical debates.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 325 Interviewing
Description: Primary focus: studying and applying the principles and strategies of interviewing to practical situations; defining and discussing the applications of interviewing theory as it applies to interviewers and interviewees; and participation in interviews utilizing the strategies and techniques discussed in class including employment, counseling, informational, appraisal, complaint, reprimand, and/or persuasive.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 334 Polls, Politics and Public Opinion
Crosslisted with: POLS 334
Description: Attitudes and behavior of citizens with respect to politics, how these attitudes and behaviors are shaped, how they are measured, and what influence they have on government.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government/Public Pol
COMM 354 Health Communication
Description: Overview of communication research and practice in various care contexts: client/provider interactions, provider/provider communication, communication in health care organizations, mediated messages in the marketing and promotion of health information, consumer advocacy, politics of health care.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 355 Community and Identity in the Digital Age
Description: Theories and research on communication and technology (e.g., social media). Understanding how the "digital age" is shaping our personal, relational, and social experiences. Grade only.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 368 Communication and Aging
Description: Introduction to theories and concepts of intergenerational communication, perceptions of aging, and attitudes about age groups. Focus on cultural variations, media and technology, personal relationships, health and health care.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 370 Family Communication
Description: Theories and research in family communication and relationships. The complexity and consequences of defining and interacting in the family. The diversity of family forms and experiences.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science

COMM 371 Communication in Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
Description: Introductory account of the role of conflict in relationships, organizations, and communities.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Prerequisite for: COMM 485; COMM 486; COMM 487

COMM 373 Narratives and Health
Description: Focus on understanding the intersections between narratives, health, and communication. Exploration of theory, research, and skills associated with narrative approaches to well-being and healthcare.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL/SPR

COMM 375 Theories of Persuasion
Description: An upper-division course in the theories and perspectives of persuasion, including an examination of the dimensions, scope, and role of persuasion in our society. Critical analysis of persuasive messages, becoming familiar with persuasive research, and applying to practical situations.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

COMM 378 Cultural Encounters on the Great Plains
Crosslisted with: GPSP 378
Description: Inter-cultural encounters which have occurred on the Great Plains with a focus on American Indians, African, African-American, Latino, Asian, South Asian, and European cultures.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity

COMM 380 Gender and Communication
Description: Introduction to theory and research in gender and communication. Emphasis on examining the relationships among gender, language, social reality, and cultural values.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 386 Organizational Communication
Description: Introduction to the guiding theories in organizational communication field and key communication issues in contemporary organizations. Application of theories and issues through case studies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

COMM 391 International Studies in Communication
Prerequisites: Permission of the Program Coordinator
Notes: Travel outside the United States is required. Passport to travel is required; educational visa may be required. Arrangements for payment and program costs (tuition, transportation, room and board, etc.) will vary depending on the program.
Description: Study abroad at site(s) outside the United States with topics to vary depending on the country(ies) visited and specific area of study. Assignments link experiential learning to communication processes and theories. Students will earn 1 credit hour per every 45 hours of attendance commitments and/or assigned work.
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 15
Format: FLD
COMM 395 Professional Internship  
**Prerequisites:** Permission  
**Notes:** P/NP only.  
**Description:** Structured professional experience in the field of communication studies outside of the traditional academic setting. Communication problems are confronted not as abstractions, but as specific occurrences with which the student must cope.  
**Credit Hours:** 1-6  
**Min credits per semester:** 1  
**Max credits per semester:** 6  
**Max credits per degree:** 6  
**Format:** FLD

COMM 397 Research Assistantship in Communication Studies  
**Notes:** Pass/No Pass only. Students must be invited by a faculty member leading a research project in Communication Studies to work as an assistant on that research project.  
**Description:** Structured research experience aimed at connecting undergraduate students with faculty-led research projects to provide undergraduate students interested in research processes with hands-on experience.  
**Credit Hours:** 1-3  
**Min credits per semester:** 1  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC

COMM 398 Special Topics in Communication Studies  
**Description:** Topic varies.  
**Credit Hours:** 1-12  
**Min credits per semester:** 1  
**Max credits per semester:** 12  
**Max credits per degree:** 12  
**Format:** LEC

COMM 399 Independent Study  
**Prerequisites:** Permission.  
**Notes:** Students must secure the agreement of a faculty member in Communication Studies to supervise the IS project. Once this agreement has been secured, the student will receive the permission number to register. Visit comm.unl.edu to see specialization areas and contact information for faculty.  
**Credit Hours:** 1-3  
**Min credits per semester:** 1  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 6  
**Format:** IND

COMM 399H Honors Course  
**Prerequisites:** Permission.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 6  
**Format:** IND

COMM 400 Rhetorical Theory  
**Prerequisites:** COMM 101  
**Description:** Major writers, works, and concepts involved in the rhetorical approach to the study of human communication.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC

COMM 412 Directing Forensics  
**Prerequisites:** COMM 101  
**Notes:** For students interested in teaching debate and speech activities at the secondary or collegiate level.  
**Description:** Emphasis placed on the relationship between theory in speech communication and practice in the debate and speech contest situation.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC

COMM 427 Instructional Communication  
**Crosslisted with:** TEAC 429, COMM 827, TEAC 829  
**Prerequisites:** COMM 101  
**Description:** Advanced introductory course in instructional communication, focusing on understanding variables associated with the communication process in instructional settings and managing instructional communication more effectively. Provides an experimental and a cognitive understanding of the role of communication in the instructional process.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC

COMM 430 Political Communication  
**Crosslisted with:** POLS 430, POLS 830, COMM 830  
**Prerequisites:** 12 hrs communication studies, or permission.  
**Description:** Role of communication in the political process, with emphasis on communication strategies in political campaigns. Includes communication variables important in the political process, an application of communication theory and principles to political rhetoric, and analysis and criticism of selected political communication events.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** American Government & Public Pol

COMM 440 Rhetoric of Sports and Games  
**Prerequisites:** COMM 101  
**Description:** Examination of rhetorical theories and perspectives viewed through the cultural lens of sports.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC

COMM 452 Media and Culture  
**Prerequisites:** COMM 101  
**Description:** Theories of mass media, digital media and culture as the basis for investigation of human communication in a variety of contexts and activities.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC
COMM 454 Communication and Health Disparities  
Prerequisites: COMM 101  
Description: Examines the differences across groups in health, illness, and health care access and the role of communication in defining health problems and creating intervention solutions.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC

COMM 465 Communication and Social Identity  
Prerequisites: COMM 101  
Description: Introduction to the theories and concepts of intergroup communication, personal and social identity, and social categorization. Communicative processes associated with defining self and others including social comparison, prejudice and discrimination, and social conflict.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC

COMM 470 Interpersonal Communication Theory  
Prerequisites: COMM 101  
Description: In-depth exploration of interpersonal communication theory and research across contexts. How people interact to create, maintain, and dissolve relationships.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC

COMM 471 The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication  
Prerequisites: COMM 101  
Description: In-depth exploration of theories and research associated with interpersonal communication phenomena presumed to be destructive and dysfunctional.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC

COMM 485 Small Group Communication Theory  
Prerequisites: COMM 101  
Description: Overview of small group communication theory and research centered on how groups and teams are formed and enacted in interaction.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC

COMM 486 Communicating Organizational Culture and Power  
Prerequisites: COMM 101 and 386  
Description: Critical and cultural theories, principles, and research related to organizational communication. Organizations as sites of culture and power.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC

COMM 487 Global Organizational Communication  
Prerequisites: COMM 101 and 386  
Description: Communication challenges and issues that arise in global organizations and in an era marked by globalization. Relationships among culture, communication and ways of organizing across local and global contexts.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC

COMM 495 Communication Studies Senior Capstone  
Prerequisites: COMM 101, COMM 201 or 202, and Senior Standing  
Description: Examination of essays and completion of a semester project that integrates and applies theories, concepts and processes learned throughout the communication studies major.  
Credit Hours: 3  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 3  
Format: LEC  
ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product

COMM 498 Special Topics in Communication Studies  
Prerequisites: COMM 101  
Notes: Topic varies. Topic announced prior to registration.  
Credit Hours: 1-12  
Min credits per semester: 1  
Max credits per semester: 12  
Max credits per degree: 12  
Format: LEC

COMM 499H Honors Course  
Prerequisites: Permission.  
Credit Hours: 1-3  
Min credits per semester: 1  
Max credits per semester: 3  
Max credits per degree: 6  
Format: IND

PLEASE NOTE
This document represents a sample 4-year plan for degree completion with this major. Actual course selection and sequence may vary and should be discussed individually with your college or department academic advisor. Advisors also can help you plan other experiences to enrich your undergraduate education such as internships, education abroad, undergraduate research, learning communities, and service learning and community-based learning.

Communication Studies (B.A.)

Icon Legend: Critical

14 HR TERM 1

Comm Studies Core

complete COMM 101

3hr
C

COMM 101 is ideally completed in the first term of enrollment. It becomes critical to your success in the major if not completed by the third term of enrollment. COMM 101 will fulfill the ACE 2 requirement.
Communication Studies

ACE 1 Written Texts
complete 1 from ACE1
3hr

ACE 5 Humanities
complete 1 from ACE5
3hr

CDR E: Language
recommend 1 or more courses
5hr

If not complete, choose a language course according to your placement and proficiency. CDR E is met after 4th level (202) of most languages.

14 HR TERM 2
Comm Studies Intro
complete 1 from COMM 109, COMM 205, COMM 209, COMM 212, COMM 220, COMM 286, COMM 295
3hr

Completion of this COMM course will fulfill the CDR D requirement.

CDR A: Writing
complete 1 from ACE1
3hr

Complete an additional course approved as ACE 1.

ACE 6 Social Sciences
complete 1 from ACE6
3hr

CDR E: Language
recommend 1 or more courses
5hr

If not complete, choose a language course according to your placement and proficiency. CDR E is met after 4th level (202) of most languages.

16 HR TERM 3
Research/Rhetorical Meth
complete either COMM 201 or COMM 202
3hr

COMM 201 or 202 is ideally completed in the third term of enrollment. It becomes critical to your success in the major if not completed by the fifth term of enrollment.

Foundation Course
complete 1 from COMM 250, COMM 271, COMM 283
3hr

CDR B: Math/Sci w/Lab
complete 1 from Approved Science Courses
3hr

Complete an approved course from a Math or Science discipline with a lab: ASTR, BIOC, BIOS, CHEM, CSCE, GEOL, LIFE, MATH, METR, PHYS, STAT (select ANTH or GEOG allowed).

CDR B: Lab
complete 1 from ASCLAB1
1hr

Complete an approved lab associated with a course from a Math or Science discipline: BIOS, CHEM, GEOL, LIFE, METR, PHYS (select ANTH or GEOG allowed).

CDR C: Humanities
complete 1 from Any Arabic Course at the 300 Level, Any Classics Course, Any Czech Course at the 300 Level, Any Czech Course at the 400 Level, Any English Course, FREN 282, Any French Course at the 300 Level, Any French Course at the 400 Level, GERM 282, Any German Course at the 300 Level, Any German Course at the 400 Level, Any Greek Course at the 300 Level, Any Greek Course at the 400 Level, Any Hebrew Course at the 300 Level, Any History Course, Any Japanese Course at the 300 Level, Any Latin Course at the 300 Level, Any Latin Course at the 400 Level, Any Philosophy Course, Any Religious Studies Course at any Level, Any Russian Course at the 300 Level, Any Russian Course at the 400 Level, SPAN 264, SPAN 265, Any Spanish Course at the 300 Level, Any Spanish Course at the 400 Level
3hr

Complete an approved course from a Humanities discipline: ARAB, CLAS, CZEC, ENGL, FILM, FREN, GERM, GREK, HEBR, HIST, JAPN, LATN, PHIL, RELG, RUSS, SPAN.

CDR E: Language
recommend 1 or more courses
3hr
If not complete, choose a language course according to your placement and proficiency. CDR E is met after 4th level (202) of most languages.

16 HR TERM 4

Foundation Course

complete 1 from COMM 250, COMM 271, COMM 283

Adv Comm Studies

complete either Any Communications Course at the 300 Level or Any Communications Course at the 400 Level

Completion of a 300 level or above COMM course becomes critical to your success in the major if not completed by the fifth term of enrollment.

ACE 3 Math/Statistics

complete 1 from ACE3

CDR E: Language

recommend 1 or more courses

If not complete, choose a language course according to your placement and proficiency. CDR E is met after 4th level (202) of most languages.

Electives

complete Any Course

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

15 HR TERM 6

Adv Comm Studies

complete either Any Communications Course at the 300 Level or Any Communications Course at the 400 Level

3hr

Complete an approved 300 or 400 level COMM course.

Adv Comm Studies (400)

complete Any Communications Course at the 400 Level

3hr

Complete an approved 400 level COMM course.

ACE 8 Ethical Principles

complete 1 from ACE8

Electives

complete Any Course

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

15 HR TERM 7

Adv Comm Studies

complete Any Communications Course at the 400 Level

6hr

Complete approved 300 or 400 level COMM courses.

ACE 4 Sciences

Complete an approved 400 level COMM course.

ACE 9 Global/Human Divers
complete 1 from ACE9

Electives

complete Any Course

9hr

In consultation with your advisor, select elective courses or courses that meet a 2nd major, minor, sci-base or upper level requirement.

15 HR TERM 8

Comm Senior Capstone

complete either ACE7 or COMM 495

3hr

COMM 495 will fulfill the ACE 10 requirement.

ACE 7 Arts

complete 1 from ACE7

3hr

CDR P: Additional Breadth

recommend 1 or more courses

3hr

Complete an approved additional courses from CDR B, CDR C, or CDR D that is outside of the discipline of your primary major.

Electives

complete Any Course

6hr

- Listen actively and facilitate individual and group communication
- Present information and research to large and small groups
- Examine and address social problems, and implement creative solutions
- Advocate for marginalized or underrepresented groups
- Offer empathetic, sensitive, and patient interactions with others
- Motivate others to achieve common goals
- Coordinate people, activities, and event details
- Develop strong sense of self-awareness

Jobs of Recent Graduates

- Human Resources Generalist, City of Lincoln - Lincoln NE
- Communications & Outreach Specialist, NET TV - Lincoln NE
- Truman Fellow/Policy Analyst, U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services - Washington DC
- Director of CEO Communications, Back to the Bible - Lincoln NE
- Web Design and Marketing, Simplified Office Solutions - Omaha NE
- Program Director, Fremont Public Schools - Fremont NE
- Account Manager/Marketing Consultant, Three Eagles Communications - Lincoln NE
- Behavioural Health Specialist, Children's Respite Care Center - Omaha NE
- Investment Specialist, Merrill Edge - Phoenix AZ
- Sales Operations Coordinator, Healthcare - Lincoln NE

Internships

- Medical Sales Associate, Kile & Associates -
- Education Intern, Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo - Omaha NE
- United Way Midlands Intern, United Way - Omaha NE
- Sports Analytics Intern, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
- Intern- People Services, Nelnet - Lincoln NE
- Family Support Worker, Pathfinder Family Social Services - Lincoln NE
- Marketing Intern, Hudl - Lincoln NE
- Executive HR Intern, Target - Omaha NE
- Sales Representative, University Directories - Lincoln NE
- Women's Advocate Intern, Friendship Home - Lincoln NE

Grad Schools

- Ph.D Communication Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
- JD, Boston College - Chestnut Hill MA
- Doctorate of Physical Therapy, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Omaha NE
- Higher Education - Student Access and Success, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor MI
- Public Administration, University of Kansas - Lawrence KS
- Masters in Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Omaha NE
- Accelerated Nursing Program, Nebraska Methodist College - Omaha NE
- Doctor of Chiropractic, Cleveland College of Chiropractic - Overland Park KS
- Master of School Psychology, University of Nebraska at Omaha - Omaha NE

Career Information

The following represents a sample of the internships, jobs and graduate school programs that current students and recent graduates have reported.

Transferable Skills

- Understand human interactions and behaviors in multiple environments
- Use various qualitative and quantitative research methodologies
• Occupational Therapy, Nebraska Methodist College - Omaha NE