



COMMUNICATION STUDIES (COMM)

COMM 101 Communication in the 21st Century

Description: Introduction to the discipline of communication studies through a problem centered learning approach. How communication theory can be applied to solve everyday problems in public, professional, and private lives through learning how to advocate, negotiate, and relate.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Prerequisite for: COMM 400; COMM 440; COMM 452; COMM 464, WMNS 464; COMM 465; COMM 470; COMM 471; COMM 489; COMM 492

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

Course and Laboratory Fee: \$10

COMM 101H Honors: Communication in the 21st Century

Prerequisites: Credit toward the degree cannot be earned in both COMM 101 and COMM 101H.

Description: Introduction to the discipline of communication studies through a problem centered learning approach. How communication theory can be applied to solve everyday problems in public, professional, and private lives through learning how to advocate, negotiate, and relate.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Prerequisite for: COMM 400; COMM 440; COMM 452; COMM 464, WMNS 464; COMM 465; COMM 470; COMM 471; COMM 489; COMM 492

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 160 Practicing Intergroup Dialogue

Description: Engage in semi-structured face-to-face discussion groups about important and polarizing social issues.

Credit Hours: 1

Max credits per semester: 1

Max credits per degree: 1

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL/SPR

COMM 189H University Honors Seminar

Prerequisites: Admission to the University Honors Program or by invitation.

Notes: University Honors Seminar 189H is required of all students in the University Honors Program.

Description: Topic varies.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

COMM 192 Special Topics in Communication Studies

Description: Topics vary.

Credit Hours: 1-6

Min credits per semester: 1

Max credits per semester: 6

Max credits per degree: 6

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 194 Independent Study in Communication Studies

Prerequisites: Permission.

Description: Independent reading or research under direction of a faculty member.

Credit Hours: 1-3

Min credits per semester: 1

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 201 Social Scientific Research Methods in Communication Studies

Notes: Letter grade only.

Description: Introduction to social-scientific research methods in communication studies. Location, interpretation, and application of extant communication research.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Prerequisite for: COMM 489

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

Grading Option: Graded

Prerequisite for: COMM 489

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

Grading Option: Graded

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

Course and Laboratory Fee: \$10

COMM 209H Honors: Public Speaking

Prerequisites: Good standing in the University Honors Program or by invitation. Credit toward the degree cannot be earned in both COMM 209 and COMM 209H.

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

Grading Option: Graded

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

Grading Option: Graded

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

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

Grading Option: Graded

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

COMM 220 Communication, Advocacy, and Global Citizenship

Description: Overview of principles of advocacy and civic engagement. Emphasis on global considerations in local communities. Develop advocacy projects using narrative storytelling (e.g., photo voice, digital storytelling).

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded

Prerequisite for: BSAD 261; CSCE 488

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

Course and Laboratory Fee: \$10

COMM 290 University Speech and Debate Seminar

Prerequisites: Permission.

Notes: Limited to members of the intercollegiate forensics squad.

Tournaments from September through April.

Description: Intensive research, practice, and application of principles of argumentation and persuasion in intercollegiate debate, public address, and oral interpretation.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 6

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Offered: FALL/SPR

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

Experiential Learning: Creative Activity

COMM 297 Instructional Assistantship

Prerequisites: Permission.

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: 1-3

Min credits per semester: 1

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 6

Grading Option: Pass No Pass

COMM 310 Communication and Mentorship

Prerequisites: sophomore, junior, or senior standing

Description: Examination of theory and research around effective peer mentor communication, relationship building, and instructional practices and putting those into practice in real life situations working as mentors and trainers.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Offered: FALL/SPR

Experiential Learning: Student Teaching/Education Practicum

COMM 310H Honors: Communication and Mentorship

Prerequisites: Good standing in the University Honors Program, Communication Studies major or minor and permission. Credit toward the degree cannot be earned in COMM 310 and COMM 310H.

Description: Examination of theory and research around effective peer mentor communication, relationship building, and instructional practices and putting those into practice in real life situations working as mentors and trainers.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Offered: FALL/SPR

COMM 311 Intercultural and Intergroup Communication

Crosslisted with: ETHN 311

Description: Introduction to the theories and concepts of intercultural and intergroup communication. Communicative processes associated with social comparison, prejudice and discrimination, and social conflict in various relational and professional contexts.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity ACE 2 Communication Competence

Groups: CAS Diversity in the US

Experiential Learning: Community Engagement

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 315 The Empathy Project

Description: Exploration of empathy as a communicative process essential for dialogue. Topics include strategies for cultivating empathy in self, others and across differences and communicating empathy and compassion. Focus on how interpersonal communicative choices can transform relationships, organizations, and societal structures.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Offered: FALL

ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity

Groups: CAS Diversity in the US

Experiential Learning: Community Engagement

COMM 330 Freedom of Speech

Description: Surveys philosophical debates, legal precedents, historical case studies, and contemporary controversies in freedom of speech in the United States.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL

ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

COMM 333 The Rhetoric of the American Presidency

Description: Examination of the speeches and messages of the American presidents throughout history. Focus on presidents at war, presidents dispensing the duties of the office, and presidents in political crisis.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL

ACE: ACE 5 Humanities

COMM 335 Rhetorics of Race and Empire

Crosslisted with: ETHN 335

Description: Engages the global development of race from a rhetorical and communicative perspective in order to critically understand the role of race in public life today.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Offered: FALL

ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity

Groups: CAS Diversity in the US

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 357 Paranoia and Polarization in Digital Culture

Description: Examines the social and political implications of new forms of digital communication, including memes, algorithms, bots, artificial intelligence, image boards, and social networking

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL/SPR

COMM 360 Dialogue Across Difference

Description: Overview of process for developing, facilitating, and evaluating dialogue across difference. Includes semester-long engagement in intergroup dialogue.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL/SPR

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

Experiential Learning: Community Engagement

COMM 364 Communication, Medicine, and Health Equity

Description: Examines the differences across groups in health, illness, health care access, health equity 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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Groups: CAS Diversity in the US

COMM 365 Indigenous Communication

Crosslisted with: ETHN 365

Description: Introduces theories, concepts, and practices of Indigenous Communication from interdisciplinary perspectives. Emphasis on using Indigenous-centered frameworks to interrogate various phenomena relevant to the lives and realities of Indigenous peoples in North America.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded with Option

ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity

Groups: CAS Diversity in the US

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 372 Communication and Leadership

Description: Explores the communication behaviors that constitute leadership, preparing you to deal with problems encountered by leaders and engage the behaviors, understand the attributes, and develop the communication skills needed to lead effectively. Includes a critical analysis of the social, cultural, psychological, and emotional dynamics that shape leadership.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL/SPR

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Offered: FALL/SPR

COMM 374 Mental Health Communication: Communication, Stigma & (Dis)Connection

Description: Examination of how and why mental health is talked about on multiple levels (e.g. self-talk, interpersonal and family relationships, organizations, communities, policies) and how this communication relates to attitudes and behaviors about mental health.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL

ACE: ACE 2 Communication Competence

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

ACE: ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

COMM 380 Gender and Communication

Crosslisted with: WMNS 380

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

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

Grading Option: Graded

COMM 391 Learning Abroad

Prerequisites: Permission.

Description: Special topics through faculty-led education abroad program.

Credit Hours: 1-6

Min credits per semester: 1

Max credits per semester: 6

Max credits per degree: 6

Grading Option: Graded with Option

Experiential Learning: Education Abroad

**COMM 392 Special Topics in Communication Studies****Description:** Topic varies.**Credit Hours:** 1-6**Min credits per semester:** 1**Max credits per semester:** 6**Max credits per degree:** 6**Grading Option:** Graded with Option**COMM 394 Independent Study in Communication Studies****Prerequisites:** Permission.**Description:** Independent reading or research under direction of a faculty member.**Credit Hours:** 1-3**Min credits per semester:** 1**Max credits per semester:** 3**Max credits per degree:** 6**Grading Option:** Graded with Option**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**Grading Option:** Pass No Pass**COMM 398 Research Assistantship in Communication Studies****Prerequisites:** Permission.**Notes:** Pass/No Pass only.**Description:** Structured research assistant experience 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:** 6**Grading Option:** Pass No Pass**Experiential Learning:** Research**COMM 400 Rhetorical Theory****Prerequisites:** COMM 101 or COMM 101H**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**Grading Option:** Graded with Option**COMM 430 Political Communication****Crosslisted with:** POLS 430**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**Grading Option:** Graded with Option**COMM 440 Rhetoric of Sports and Games****Prerequisites:** COMM 101 or COMM 101H**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**Grading Option:** Graded with Option**COMM 452 Media and Culture****Prerequisites:** COMM 101 or COMM 101H**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**Grading Option:** Graded with Option**COMM 456 Communicating Global Health****Prerequisites:** 3 hours of COMM, SOCI, GLST, ANTH, HMED, WMNS, or ETHN**Description:** Exploration of health and strategic communication theories that underpin health messages, campaigns, and interventions. Topics include scholarship on critical cultural communication, public health, and participatory and development communication, along with the role of colonialism and its influence on the practices, structures, and processes of global health communication.**Credit Hours:** 3**Max credits per semester:** 3**Max credits per degree:** 3**Grading Option:** Graded**COMM 462 Feminist Media Studies****Crosslisted with:** FILM 462, WMNS 462**Description:** Explores how messages conveyed by television, film, stand-up comedy, and social media shape viewers' ideas and attitudes about feminism and contribute to both normative and emerging cultural beliefs about gender and sexuality.**Credit Hours:** 3**Max credits per semester:** 3**Max credits per degree:** 3**Grading Option:** Graded**Offered:** SPRING**COMM 464 Communication and Consent****Crosslisted with:** WMNS 464**Prerequisites:** COMM 101 or COMM 101H**Description:** Examination of consent from multiple perspectives: interpersonal relationships, healthcare, social media posting, informed consent, etc. to gain a deeper understanding of how consent uniquely works within these contexts, and how to practice clear verbal requests and allocations of consent.**Credit Hours:** 3**Max credits per semester:** 3**Max credits per degree:** 3**Grading Option:** Graded with Option

COMM 465 Communication and Social Identity

Prerequisites: COMM 101 or COMM 101H

Description: Overview of theories of communication and social identity. Focus on identity and social categorization, language use and attitudes, and intergroup contact.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

Offered: FALL/SPR

Groups: CAS Diversity in the US

COMM 470 Interpersonal Communication Theory

Prerequisites: COMM 101 or COMM 101H

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 471 The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication

Prerequisites: COMM 101 or COMM 101H

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

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 482 Voices of Dissent and Activism

Description: Explores the advocacy efforts of groups seeking social and political change outside of mainstream political institutions. Analysis of social protest rhetoric—including letters, manifestos, speeches, performance, and artwork—to understand how activists have used communication to advocate for social change. Also focuses on the African American civil rights movement to understand how movement leaders and members used discursive means to alter democratic notions of citizenship, opportunity, and community. Additional movements of study may include the suffrage movement, GLBTQ and AIDS awareness movements, anti-globalization, and environmental movements.

Credit Hours: 3

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 3

Grading Option: Graded

COMM 489 Communication Studies Capstone

Prerequisites: COMM 101 or COMM 101H, 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

Grading Option: Graded

ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product

COMM 492 Special Topics in Communication Studies

Prerequisites: COMM 101

Description: Topic varies.

Credit Hours: 1-6

Min credits per semester: 1

Max credits per semester: 6

Max credits per degree: 6

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 499 Undergraduate Thesis

Prerequisites: Permission.

Description: Independent research leading to a thesis.

Credit Hours: 1-3

Min credits per semester: 1

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 6

Grading Option: Graded with Option

COMM 499H Honors Undergraduate Thesis

Prerequisites: Permission. Credit toward the degree cannot be earned in both COMM 499 and COMM 499H.

Description: Independent research leading to a thesis.

Credit Hours: 1-3

Min credits per semester: 1

Max credits per semester: 3

Max credits per degree: 6

Grading Option: Graded with Option