

# COMMUNICATION STUDIES (COMM)

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## 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

**Format:** LEC

**Prerequisite for:** COMM 400; COMM 412; COMM 440; COMM 452; COMM 454; COMM 465; COMM 470; COMM 471; COMM 485; COMM 486; COMM 487; COMM 495; COMM 498

**ACE:** ACE 2 Communication Competence

## COMM 101H Honors: 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

**Format:** LEC

**Prerequisite for:** COMM 465

**ACE:** ACE 2 Communication Competence

## COMM 109 Fundamentals of Human Communication

**Description:** Theory and practice in communication, including discussions and practical experiences in communication process, language, self-concept, perception, interviewing, group communication, audience analysis, public speaking, feedback, and listening.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Max credits per semester:** 3

**Max credits per degree:** 3

**Format:** LEC

**Prerequisite for:** NUTR 454

**ACE:** ACE 2 Communication Competence

## COMM 109H Honors: Fundamentals of Human Communication

**Prerequisites:** Good standing in the University Honors Program or by invitation.

**Description:** Theory and practice of varying human communication forms. Includes discussions and practical experiences in communication process, language, self-concept, perception, interviewing, group communication, audience analysis, public speaking, feedback, and listening. Students conduct evaluative critiques, engage in mock interviews and maintain process journals.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Max credits per semester:** 3

**Max credits per degree:** 3

**Format:** LEC

**Prerequisite for:** NUTR 454

**ACE:** ACE 2 Communication Competence

## 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

**Format:** LEC

**ACE:** ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

## 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 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

**Format:** LEC

**Prerequisite for:** COMM 495

## COMM 202 Rhetorical Research Methods in Communication Studies

**Notes:** Letter grade only.

**Description:** Introduction to the humanistic research tradition in communication studies with a focus on understanding and applying various critical approaches to the analysis of public discourse.

**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

**ACE:** ACE 7 Arts

**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 2 Communication Competence

**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 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 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

**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

**Prerequisite for:** CSCE 488

**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**

**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:** 1-6

**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 311 Intercultural Communication**

**Crosslisted with:** ETHN 311

**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 2 Communication Competence ACE 9 Global/Diversity

**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 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

**Format:** LEC

**Offered:** FALL

**ACE:** ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship

**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 360 Intergroup Dialogue**

**Prerequisites:** Permission

**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

**Format:** LEC

**Offered:** FALL/SPR

**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

**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**

**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

**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

**Prerequisite for:** COMM 485; COMM 486; COMM 487

**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:** 6

**Format:** RSC

**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](http://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.**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 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

**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