

B.S.C. COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Overview

The major in Communication Studies empowers students to acquire advanced skills in many areas involving human interaction, intercultural communication, advocacy, argumentation, relationship building, leadership, presentation (oral and written), critical thinking, research and writing. Students become familiar with the rich tradition of communication theory and research, investigate emerging knowledge about communication, and contribute to the growth of new understanding by developing and applying their research capabilities. Students also are challenged to employ their communication understanding and skills in meaningful ways through experimental learning, and professional and community involvement. Communication Studies blends a broad-based theoretical understanding of communication principles with specific and concrete applications to particular contexts.

Students are prepared for a variety of career options in health communication, business and the professions, politics and public advocacy, education, training and media, as well as further graduate and professional study in communication, law and other areas.

Curriculum Requirements for Communication Studies Track

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication	3
COS 220	Communication Theory	3
COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics	3
Advanced Writing and Communication Skills Requirement		
Select one of the following writing skills courses:		3
COS 210	Writing for Communication Studies	
COS 360	Speech Writing	
Select one of the following presentation skills courses:		3
COS 211	Public Speaking	
COS 333	Business Communication	
Select one of the following digital skills courses:		3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking	
CIM 103	Web Lab	
JMM 106	Visual Design	
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication	
15 credits in COS electives chosen with department advisor		15
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106	First-Year Writing II	3
or WRS 107	First-Year Writing II: STEM	
or ENG 106	Writing About Literature and Culture	
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
or JMM 285	Applied Statistics for Journalism and Media Management	
or STC 103	Statistical Reasoning for Strategic Communication	
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate		9
People & Society Cognate (9 credits) (fulfilled through the major)		
STEM Cognate		9
Additional Requirements		
Minor, Second Major and Electives		54
Total Credit Hours		120

Curriculum Requirements for Intercultural Track

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication	3
COS 220	Communication Theory	3
COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics	3
Advanced Writing and Communication Skills Requirement		
Select one of the following writing skills courses:		3
COS 210	Writing for Communication Studies	
COS 360	Speech Writing	
Select one of the following presentation skills courses:		3
COS 211	Public Speaking	
COS 333	Business Communication	
Select one of the following digital skills courses:		3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking	
CIM 103	Web Lab	
JMM 106	Visual Design	
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication	
Select 9 credits from the following Intercultural Track:		9
COS 112	Interpersonal Communication	
COS 318	Nonverbal Communication	
COS 343	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	
COS 345	Interracial Communication	
COS 545	Intercultural Communication: International Perspectives	
COS 546	Intercultural Communication: Domestic Perspectives	
6 credits of additional COS electives chosen with department advisor		6
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106	First-Year Writing II	3
or WRS 107	First-Year Writing II: STEM	
or ENG 106	Writing About Literature and Culture	
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
or JMM 285	Applied Statistics for Journalism and Media Management	
or STC 103	Statistical Reasoning for Strategic Communication	
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate		9
People & Society Cognate (9 credits) (fulfilled through the major)		
STEM Cognate		9
Additional Requirements		
Minor, Second Major and Electives		54
Total Credit Hours		120

Curriculum Requirements for Organizational Track

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication	3
COS 220	Communication Theory	3

COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics	3
Advanced Writing and Communication Skills Requirement		
Select one of the following writing skills courses:		3
COS 210	Writing for Communication Studies	
COS 360	Speech Writing	
Select one of the following presentation skills courses:		3
COS 211	Public Speaking	
COS 333	Business Communication	
Select one of the following digital skills courses:		3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking	
CIM 103	Web Lab	
JMM 106	Visual Design	
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication	
Select 9 credits from the following Organizational Track:		9
COS 212	Interview Skills	
COS 316	Small Group Communication	
COS 325	Communication in Health Organization	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 333	Business Communication	
COS 418	Organizational Communication	
6 credits of additional COS electives chosen with department advisor		6
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106	First-Year Writing II	3
or WRS 107	First-Year Writing II: STEM	
or ENG 106	Writing About Literature and Culture	
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
or JMM 285	Applied Statistics for Journalism and Media Management	
or STC 103	Statistical Reasoning for Strategic Communication	
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate		9
People & Society Cognate (9 credits) (fulfilled through the major)		
STEM Cognate		9
Additional Requirements		
Minor, Second Major and Electives		54
Total Credit Hours		120

Curriculum Requirements for Public Advocacy Track

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication	3
COS 220	Communication Theory	3
COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics	3
Advanced Writing and Communication Skills Requirement		
Select one of the following writing skills courses:		3
COS 210	Writing for Communication Studies	

COS 360	Speech Writing	
Select one of the following presentation skills courses:		3
COS 211	Public Speaking	
COS 333	Business Communication	
Select one of the following digital skills courses:		3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking	
CIM 103	Web Lab	
JMM 106	Visual Design	
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication	
Select 9 credits from the following Public Advocacy Track:		9
COS 304	Intercollegiate Debate Theory and Practice	
COS 311	Advanced Oral Advocacy	
COS 314	The Power of Dialogue	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 336	Political Communication	
COS 354	Organizing for Action	
COS 377	Argumentation and Critical Thinking	
COS 472	Persuasion	
COS 473	Words that Shaped the World	
COS 474	Presidential Debates	
6 credits of additional COS electives chosen with department advisor		6
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106	First-Year Writing II	3
or WRS 107	First-Year Writing II: STEM	
or ENG 106	Writing About Literature and Culture	
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
or JMM 285	Applied Statistics for Journalism and Media Management	
or STC 103	Statistical Reasoning for Strategic Communication	
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate		9
People & Society Cognate (9 credits) (fulfilled through the major)		
STEM Cognate		9
Additional Requirements		
Minor, Second Major and Electives		54
Total Credit Hours		120

- * School of Communication students are required to complete a minimum of a minor (inside or outside of the school) in addition to their Communication major to graduate. For an optional 2nd major, please see your advisor.
- * School of Communication students must complete 6 credits of Written Communication Skills unless exempt based on SAT/ACT score or AP/IB exam, 3-6 credits of Mathematics, <http://www.miami.edu/cognates/> and the Advanced Writing and Communication Skills Proficiency requirement.

Upper Level Elective Requirement

36 credits at the 300 level or higher are required for graduation. These credits may be earned from your major, minor and/or second major, and electives.

Suggested Plan of Study for Communication Studies Track

Freshman Year			
Fall			Credit Hours
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication		3
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics		3
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I		3
Arts and Humanities Cognate			3
Minor or Second Major or Elective			3
		Credit Hours	15
Spring			
COS 220	Communication Theory		3
COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics		3
WRS 106, 107, or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II or First-Year Writing II: STEM or Writing About Literature and Culture		3
Arts and Humanities Cognate			3
STEM Cognate			3
		Credit Hours	15
Sophomore Year			
Fall			
COS 211 or 333	Public Speaking or Business Communication		3
Arts and Humanities Cognate			3
STEM Cognate			3
Minor or Second Major			3
Minor or Second Major or Elective			3
		Credit Hours	15
Spring			
COS 210 or 360	Writing for Communication Studies or Speech Writing		3
Select one of the following:			3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking		
CIM 103	Web Lab		
JMM 106	Visual Design		
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication		
COS Elective at the 300 level or above			3
STEM Cognate			3
Minor or Second Major			3
		Credit Hours	15
Junior Year			
Fall			
COS Elective at the 300 level or above			3
COS Elective at the 300 level or above			3
Minor or Second Major or Elective			3
Minor or Second Major or Elective			3
Minor or Second Major or Elective			3
		Credit Hours	15
Spring			
COS Elective at the 300 level or above			3
COS Elective at the 300 level or above			3
Minor or Second Major or Elective			3
Minor or Second Major or Elective			3

Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Senior Year		
Fall		
COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Total Credit Hours		120

Suggested Plan of Study for Intercultural Track

Freshman Year		
Fall		Credit Hours
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication	3
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 220	Communication Theory	3
COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics	3
WRS 106, 107, or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II or First-Year Writing II: STEM or Writing About Literature and Culture	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
STEM Cognate		3
Credit Hours		15
Sophomore Year		
Fall		
COS 211 or 333	Public Speaking or Business Communication	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
STEM Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 210 or 360	Writing for Communication Studies or Speech Writing	3
Select one of the following:		3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking	
CIM 103	Web Lab	

JMM 106	Visual Design	
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication	
Select one of the following:		3
COS 112	Interpersonal Communication	
COS 318	Nonverbal Communication	
COS 343	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	
COS 345	Interracial Communication	
COS 545	Intercultural Communication: International Perspectives	
COS 546	Intercultural Communication: Domestic Perspectives	
STEM Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major		3
Credit Hours		15
Junior Year		
Fall		
Select one of the following:		3
COS 112	Interpersonal Communication	
COS 318	Nonverbal Communication	
COS 343	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	
COS 345	Interracial Communication	
COS 545	Intercultural Communication: International Perspectives	
COS 546	Intercultural Communication: Domestic Perspectives	
COS Elective at the 300 level or above		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
Select one of the following:		3
COS 112	Interpersonal Communication	
COS 318	Nonverbal Communication	
COS 343	Introduction to Intercultural Communication	
COS 345	Interracial Communication	
COS 545	Intercultural Communication: International Perspectives	
COS 546	Intercultural Communication: Domestic Perspectives	
COS Elective at the 300 level or above		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Senior Year		
Fall		
COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3

Minor or Second Major or Elective	3
Credit Hours	15
Total Credit Hours	120

Suggested Plan of Study for Organizational Track

Freshman Year		Credit Hours
Fall		
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication	3
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 220	Communication Theory	3
COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics	3
WRS 106, 107, or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II or First-Year Writing II: STEM or Writing About Literature and Culture	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
STEM Cognate		3
Credit Hours		15
Sophomore Year		
Fall		
COS 211 or 333	Public Speaking or Business Communication	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
STEM Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 210 or 360	Writing for Communication Studies or Speech Writing	3
Select one of the following:		3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking	
CIM 103	Web Lab	
JMM 106	Visual Design	
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication	
Select one of the following:		3
COS 212	Interview Skills	
COS 316	Small Group Communication	
COS 325	Communication in Health Organization	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 333	Business Communication	
COS 418	Organizational Communication	
STEM Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major		3
Credit Hours		15
Junior Year		
Fall		
Select one of the following:		3

COS 212	Interview Skills	
COS 316	Small Group Communication	
COS 325	Communication in Health Organization	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 333	Business Communication	
COS 418	Organizational Communication	
COS Elective at the 300 level or above		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
Select one of the following:		3
COS 212	Interview Skills	
COS 316	Small Group Communication	
COS 325	Communication in Health Organization	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 333	Business Communication	
COS 418	Organizational Communication	
COS Elective at the 300 level or above		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Senior Year		
Fall		
COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Total Credit Hours		120

Suggested Plan of Study for Public Advocacy Track

Freshman Year		
Fall		Credit Hours
COS 120	Exploring Human Communication	3
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 220	Communication Theory	3

COM 250	Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics	3
WRS 106, 107, or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II or First-Year Writing II: STEM or Writing About Literature and Culture	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
STEM Cognate		3
Credit Hours		15
Sophomore Year		
Fall		
COS 211 or 333	Public Speaking or Business Communication	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
STEM Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COS 210 or 360	Writing for Communication Studies or Speech Writing	3
Select one of the following:		3
CCA 151	Introduction to Digital Filmmaking	
CIM 103	Web Lab	
JMM 106	Visual Design	
STC 102	Graphic Design for Strategic Communication	
Select one of the following:		3
COS 304	Intercollegiate Debate Theory and Practice (Must take 3 times)	
COS 311	Advanced Oral Advocacy	
COS 314	The Power of Dialogue	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 336	Political Communication	
COS 354	Organizing for Action	
COS 377	Argumentation and Critical Thinking	
COS 472	Persuasion	
COS 473	Words that Shaped the World	
COS 474	Presidential Debates	
STEM Cognate		3
Minor or Second Major		3
Credit Hours		15
Junior Year		
Fall		
Select one of the following:		3
COS 304	Intercollegiate Debate Theory and Practice (Must take 3 times)	
COS 311	Advanced Oral Advocacy	
COS 314	The Power of Dialogue	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 336	Political Communication	
COS 354	Organizing for Action	
COS 377	Argumentation and Critical Thinking	
COS 472	Persuasion	
COS 473	Words that Shaped the World	
COS 474	Presidential Debates	
COS Elective at the 300 level or above		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3

Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
Spring		
Select one of the following:		3
COS 304	Intercollegiate Debate Theory and Practice (Must take 3 times)	
COS 311	Advanced Oral Advocacy	
COS 314	The Power of Dialogue	
COS 330	Conflict Management	
COS 336	Political Communication	
COS 354	Organizing for Action	
COS 377	Argumentation and Critical Thinking	
COS 472	Persuasion	
COS 473	Words that Shaped the World	
COS 474	Presidential Debates	
COS Elective at the 300 level or above		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
Senior Year		
Fall		
COS 355	Applied Communication Research Methods	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
Spring		
COS 479	Capstone for Communication Studies	3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
Minor or Second Major or Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15
	Total Credit Hours	120

Mission

Students in the Communication Studies (COS) Department explore the role of communication in personal and professional relationships. This program is rooted in research and theory promoting student development in advanced knowledge of human communication in specific contexts.

Goals

Program objectives provide students with an extensive understanding of communication principles, opportunity to develop oral and written communication skills, and application of critical analysis and research skills.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of advanced communication concepts and critical analysis of research.
- Students will demonstrate advanced writing skills.
- Students will demonstrate advanced presentational skills.
- Students will demonstrate application of communication and professional skills.