Communication (COMM)

Courses

COMM 102. Introduction to Communication. 3 Credits.
Introduces students to the discipline of Communication. Surveys a broad range of sub-disciplines, including social media, strategic communication, human interactions, newswriting, communication technology, media and communication policies, and digital media production. F,S,SS.

COMM 110. Fundamentals of Public Speaking. 3 Credits.
The theory and practice of public speaking with emphasis on content, organization, language, delivery, and critical evaluation of messages. Additional emphasis on student performance stressing original thinking, effective organization, and direct communication of ideas. F,S,SS.

COMM 200. Writing for New and Traditional Media. 3 Credits.
Introduction to the various styles and forms required to effectively write content for existing and emerging media platforms, including the fundamentals of public relations, advertising, and reporting. F,S,SS.

COMM 206. Digital Communication: Fundamentals. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the theory and practice of digital communication for print, online and mobile media. Course emphasis is on a holistic approach to digital design including both theoretical knowledge and software expertise. Course involves creating a series of portfolio-ready digital artifacts. F.

COMM 212. Interpersonal Communication. 3 Credits.
Introduces fundamental concepts of communication between individuals. Explores aspects of self expression and relationship communication. To give insights into the dynamics of interpersonal communication. To aid in the understanding of how people present themselves to other people, and how others perceive them in return. F,S,SS.

COMM 246. News Writing Fundamentals in the Online World. 3 Credits.
Professional techniques of news gathering, editing, source analysis, and information dissemination. Explores the potential for diverse and evolving technologies and platforms to deliver news content in a connected world. Prerequisites: COMM 200 or instructor consent. F,S.

COMM 294. Individual Research. 1-4 Credits.
Introductory experience as a research assistant on a research team. A total of 45 hours is required over the course of the semester/term per credit. Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor. Repeatable to 4 credits. S/U grading. F,S,SS.

COMM 305. Audio Production & Broadcasting. 3 Credits.
Investigates audio-related aspects of communication in digital sound production and broadcast dissemination. Beginning with the basic principles of audio, the course examines modern means of capturing, editing, and producing high-quality audio for the web and mobile devices, podcasting, and includes the use of a variety of software packages, plugins, and platforms. F.

COMM 310. Media and Diversity. 3 Credits.
Study of minority status within mass media organizations and in media content from historical, contemporary and speculative points of view. F.

COMM 313. Persuasion. 3 Credits.
An examination of principles and practices of persuasion and its influence across communication contexts. Emphasis will be placed on ethical standards and implications of persuasion and influence. F,S.

COMM 319. Digital Imaging Across Platforms. 3 Credits.
Introduces the history and practice of digital imaging for social media and communication industries, including introductory photographic principles, digital image capture devices, and software, apps, and workflows. Students learn to enhance/optimize digital images for transmission/broadcast to the web, social networks, and other platforms. F.S.

COMM 324. Feature and Opinion Writing. 3 Credits.
Investigative reporting and writing for traditional and new media using innovative research and source analysis techniques. Includes methods for informed opinion and commentary writing. Prerequisites: COMM 200 or consent of instructor. S.

COMM 326. Content Creation for Social Media. 3 Credits.
Focuses on writing, creating, and curating professional content for diverse social media platforms with the goal of engaging users, delivering messages and building relationships. Prerequisites: COMM 200 or consent of instructor. F,S.

COMM 328. Community Journalism. 3 Credits.
Considers the role that news media can play in enhancing community life. May focus on the role of print and broadcast journalism in Native American communities, on the role of weekly and broadcast media in small, rural towns or on broadcast and print media in cities. Provides an in-depth introduction to an assessment of efforts to determine how new forms of news media could provide innovative service for communities. Prerequisite: COMM 200 or consent of instructor. S.

COMM 339. Digital Video Production. 3 Credits.
This course offers an introduction to the theory and practice of modern digital video production utilizing a variety of production software techniques, industry best practices, and online/mobile technologies. F,S.

COMM 345. Social Media Strategy. 3 Credits.
This course focuses on scholarly and commercial aspects of social media strategy as a Communicative practice. In particular, course topics include a variety of social media driven outcomes including social activism, constituent engagement, outreach and advocacy, reputation management, analytics and optimization, and enhancing the quality and impact of message transmission in the social online environment. S.

COMM 346. Sports Communication. 3 Credits.
Introduces students to sports communication through an examination of athletics-related aspects of public relations, journalism, digital communication, organizational, and professional/executive communication. A significant component of the course focuses on aligning digital Communication technologies towards sports including digital imaging at games, sports writing, researching and reporting, web layout and presentation, public speaking/press releases etc. S.

COMM 352. Writing for Advertising & Public Relations. 3 Credits.
Intensive practice in preparing, planning and writing the materials used in public relations, with a special emphasis on engaging the media as well as internal and external target audiences. Prerequisites: COMM 200 or consent of instructor. F,S.

COMM 360. Communicating Science. 3 Credits.
This class is designed for upper-division students in the physical, biological, social, health and engineering sciences interested in science communication. It combines findings from research into information processing with best practices in media production to build student competency in communicating about science, scientific discoveries and the scientific process to general audiences through various media, as well as more specific audiences, such as funding organizations and policymakers. Students end the semester by producing a piece of science communication for a course-created website. Prerequisite: Junior or senior status (60+hours). F.

COMM 374. Principles of Strategic Communication. 3 Credits.
This course introduces the fundamental theories, concepts, and applications of strategic communication to critically analyze its social influence and meet organizational goals. F.

COMM 380. Health Communication. 3 Credits.
Introduces theories and practices of health communication. Explores health communication with interpersonal sources (e.g., physicians other providers), groups (e.g., support groups healthcare organizations), and effective communication through mass media and digital/social media channels. F.

COMM 394. Readings/Projects in Communication. 1-6 Credits.
Individual projects or directed study related to topics, issues, or activities in communication. Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor. Repeatable to 6 credits. F,S,SS.

COMM 401. Organizational Communication. 3 Credits.
Analysis of communication behavior in formally structured relationships as it relates to the organization and to individuals. Special attention given to organizational style, status, trust and conflict-management. Informal communication networks and rumor are studied. S.

COMM 402. Intercultural/International Communication. 3 Credits.
This course will provide an overview of the study of intercultural and international communication. Topics addressed will include: history, literature, and culture of specific groups including racial, religious, and ethnic issues that affect communication patterns and outcomes. S.

COMM 404. Advertising and Society. 3 Credits.
Examines and evaluates the social, ethical and economic aspects of advertising. Attention is given to appraising the effects of advertising on the consumer and competition. F.
COMM 405. Social Implications of the Information Society. 3 Credits.
Considers and evaluates different perspectives on the information society, ranging from humanistic and Neomarxist critiques to the optimistic scenarios of some futurists. Examines the implications of new means of creating, storing, manipulating and disseminating information. Discussion of whether or not the potential benefits will be realized. S.

COMM 406. Future of Communication Technology. 3 Credits.
Evaluates different perspectives on the future of communication technology, ranging from utopian through dystopian views of the impact of communication technologies on modern society. Examines the implications of new means of creating, storing, manipulating and disseminating/communicating information, and analysis of whether potential benefits may be realized. This course is also offered for graduate credit. F.S.

COMM 410. Senior Capstone in Communication. 3 Credits.
Provides students with the opportunity to enrich their knowledge of communication and hone their analytic, research, and writing skills. Students will create content that are relevant to their desired professions or career paths and test its effectiveness by conducting appropriate research. Prerequisites: COMM 102, COMM 110, COMM 200, and at least 75 credits completed. F.S.SS.

COMM 430. AD/PR Campaigns. 3 Credits.
Provides students an opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills in strategic communication to a real-client situation. The essentials of developing and executing a campaign are covered, including market and audience research, positioning, traditional and social media strategies, budgeting, public relations programs, creative strategies, actual execution, and evaluation of the campaign. S.

COMM 451. Risk and Crisis Communication. 3 Credits.
This course explores identifying risks to organizational goals and key stakeholders, and communicating effectively during crisis events to maintain organizational legitimacy. Risk and crisis key theories and concepts, applications and analysis are addressed. Prerequisite: COMM 200 or consent of instructor. S.

COMM 493. Instructional Experiences in Communication. 2 Credits.
Students will receive training and practical experiences in providing instruction in communication at the collegiate level. Such experiences include serving as an undergraduate teaching assistant or tutor for Communication courses with a faculty mentor. Prerequisites: Junior or senior status, "A" in course they are serving, minimum overall GPA of 3.0 or higher, and permission of instructor. Repeatable to 8 credits. S/U grading. F.S.SS.

COMM 494. Advanced Individual Research. 1-4 Credits.
Advanced experience as a research assistant on a research team. A total of 45 hours is required over the course of the semester per credit. Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor. Repeatable to 8 credits. S/U grading. F.S.SS.

COMM 497. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
Supervised experience consistent with student's career objectives. Formal application in advance of internship needs department approval. Prerequisites: Consent of Instructor. Repeatable to 6 credits. S/U grading. F.S.SS.

COMM 499. Special Topics. 1-3 Credits.
Selected topics in communication that allow students to study specific communication issues and/or topics that are not covered by regular department offerings. Repeatable to 6 credits. Repeatable to 6 credits. On demand.

COMM 501. Theoretical Perpectives in Communication. 3 Credits.
Course provides a conceptual and historical overview of Communication Studies, paying special attention to questions of epistemology. F.

COMM 505. Concepts in Quantitative Communication Research. 3 Credits.
In the two-part 505/506 course, students focus on honing their understanding of the quantitative/qualitative paradigm in Communication research. While this course section focuses on the various methods that fall under the labels of quantitative, both portions of the course seek to identify possible points of connection and resistance across the spectrum of methodological choices and require participation in Communication Program colloquium series. F, odd years.

COMM 506. Concepts in Qualitative Communication Research. 3 Credits.
In the two-part 505/506 course, students focus on honing their understanding of the quantitative/qualitative paradigm in Communication research. While this course section focuses on the various methods that fall under the labels of qualitative, both portions of the course seek to identify possible points of connection and resistance across the spectrum of methodological choices and require participation in Communication Program colloquium series. F, even years.

COMM 512. Communication Ethics, Law, and Regulation. 3 Credits.
Focuses on the ethical foundations of media law and communication public policy.

COMM 515. International and Intercultural Narrative Communication. 3 Credits.
This course examines narration or narrative communication within and between cultures and nations. Narration and communication theory and practice are explored for content and used as method. Assessing narrative communication in terms of international and intercultural comprehension and acceptance is addressed. On demand.

COMM 525. Interpersonal Relations and Communication. 3 Credits.
Face-to-face and mediated transactions between two people or people in small groups in diverse settings. Deals with inquiry, conflict management, interpersonal sensitivity, individuality, and conformity.

COMM 528. Intercultural Global Conflict. 3 Credits.
Communication patterns and processes can both facilitate conflict and terrorism as well as reduce discord and violence. Communication and conflict theory and research are examined in a global context with implications for terrorism, insurgency, and violence. Intergroup communication as well as communication strategies for mitigating discord and enhancing violence reduction are considered. On demand.

COMM 530. Gender, Culture, and Communication. 3 Credits.
An examination of how males and females from different cultural, ethnic and national backgrounds use, and are portrayed by, communication institutions and processes. Covers issues of representation, identity and difference.

COMM 533. Communication and International Development. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to theoretical foundations of historical and contemporary issues in communication, media, information and international development. 21st century dynamic geopolitical processes are studied in relation to the issues of state-building, modernization, dependency, and globalization. On demand.

COMM 535. Intercultural Communication. 3 Credits.
This course incorporates critical conceptualizations of identity, "the Other", and multiculturalism. It explores theoretical reflections of the symbolic systems of unfamiliar cultures, and the emergence of mutual understanding.

COMM 538. International Media. 3 Credits.
This course provides a comparison of media systems, media flows, and communication among countries. Both theoretical and ethnographic perspectives are considered by examining global media patterns and local flows through particular cultures around the world. The theoretical approaches of hybridism and post-colonialism are applied. On demand.

COMM 540. Communication and Organizations. 3 Credits.
Examines the general communication processes and dynamics within and among organizations and explores the dynamics in network organizations, with a particular focus on communication in interpersonal groups and inter-organizational working teams. Theories of power and politics in and among organizations, as well as decision-making, conflict management, and strategic communication are explored.

COMM 543. International and Intercultural Indigenous Communication. 3 Credits.
This course examines communication within and between indigenous and non-indigenous people internationally, interculturally, and interlinguistically. Ramifications and conceptualizations related to comprehension and acceptance in communicating within and between indigenous people in international and intercultural settings is addressed. On demand.

COMM 549. Communication Technologies, Society, & Diversity. 3 Credits.
A critical study of theoretical components of the so-called "Information Society," which addresses the interaction of communication technologies with individuals, communities, economies, and cultures. This course focuses on aspects of technological change, new patterns of global connectedness, and their implications for emerging global paradigms. On demand.
COMM 550. International and Global Communication. 3 Credits.
An analysis of international media, comparative telecommunications systems and globalization. Covers issues such as transnational communication, global journalism, satellite broadcasting and communication in diplomacy and international affairs.

COMM 570. Seminar in Communication. 3 Credits.
In-depth studies in specific communication areas such as relational communication, rhetoric and public discourse, intercultural/international communication. May be repeated for credit with change of topic (up to 15 hours). Repeatable to 15 credits.

COMM 591. Individual Readings and Research. 3 Credits.
Directed readings and research in speech communication and mass communication topics and issues. May be repeated to a total of 12 credits. 3 credit limit per semester. Repeatable to 12 credits.

COMM 996. Continuing Enrollment. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable. S/U grading.

COMM 997. Independent Study. 2 Credits.

COMM 998. Thesis. 1-4 Credits.
4 credits required for thesis option. Repeatable to 9 credits.

COMM 999. Dissertation. 1-15 Credits.
Repeatable to a maximum of 15 credits. Repeatable to 15 credits.