

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Program Description

The Communication Studies department offers a wide variety of courses and special programs to meet the needs of our students. Whether you aspire to become a communication specialist, enhance your marketability in the workplace, or improve your people skills, our faculty and advisers can help you identify the right program to meet your needs. Coursework involves collaboration, presentation, listening, cross-cultural understanding, rhetorical analysis, argumentation, and professional communication. The program includes application of these foundational principles in a collaborative and supportive environment.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers rated oral communication as the highest among attributes necessary in achieving professional success. More and more businesses and occupations prefer to hire employees who possess strong communication skills. When evaluating applicants, four-year institutions look favorably upon students with strong backgrounds in communication. Effective communication skills assist in individual development and enhancement of human relations.

Learn more about the program on the [Communication Studies website](#).

Associate Degree for Transfer

This program also offers an Associate Degree for Transfer. Learn more and review the degree requirements on the [Communication Studies AA-T listing](#).

Program Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to identify patterns of communication in a variety of contexts.
- Students will be able to utilize appropriate methods of communication in critical thinking and/or communication situations.

Career Opportunities

Communication Studies students often find careers in mass media, corporate training, consulting, advertising/marketing, education, law, sales, human resources, healthcare, social media, government, telecommunications, social services, public relations, and political campaigning.

Award Type(s)

- AA = Associate in Arts Degree
- CA = Certificate of Achievement

Units Required

- Major: 30
- Certificate(s): 15-25

Additional Information

Note: If the student is interested in a concentration in either Rhetoric or Intercultural Communication, please see a Communication instructor for advisement.

Associate Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Units
English Proficiency		
Select one of the following:		
ENGL 1A	COMPOSITION & READING	5
ENGL 1AH	HONORS COMPOSITION & READING	5
ESLL 26	ADVANCED COMPOSITION & READING	5
or equivalent		
Mathematics Proficiency		
College-level math course at or above the level of Intermediate Algebra		

A minimum of 90 units is required¹ to include:

- Completion of one of the following general education patterns: Foothill General Education, CSU General Education Breadth Requirements or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)
- Core courses (15 units)
- Support courses (15 units)

¹ Additional elective course work may be necessary to meet the 90-unit minimum requirement for the associate degree.

Note: All courses pertaining to the major must be taken for a letter grade. In addition, a grade of "C" or better is required for all core and support courses used for the degree or certificates.

Core and Support Courses

Code	Title	Units
Core Courses		
COMM 1A	PUBLIC SPEAKING	5
or COMM 1AH	HONORS PUBLIC SPEAKING	
COMM 2	INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION	5
COMM 10	GENDER, COMMUNICATION & CULTURE	5
or COMM 12	INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION	
Support Courses		
Select 15 units from the following:		15
COMM 1B	ARGUMENTATION & PERSUASION	
COMM 3	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION STUDIES	
COMM 4	GROUP DISCUSSION	
COMM 5	MASS COMMUNICATION	
COMM 55	CAREER & LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION IN THE GLOBAL WORKPLACE	
Total Units		30

Certificate Requirements

Certificate of Achievement in Communication Studies II

- Units: 25

Code	Title	Units
Select 10 units from the following:		
COMM 1A	PUBLIC SPEAKING ¹	
or COMM 1AH	HONORS PUBLIC SPEAKING	
COMM 5	MASS COMMUNICATION ¹	

COMM 12	INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION ¹	
COMM 55	CAREER & LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION IN THE GLOBAL WORKPLACE ¹	
And 15 units from the following:		15
COMM 1A	PUBLIC SPEAKING ¹	
	or COMM 1AH HONORS PUBLIC SPEAKING	
COMM 1B	ARGUMENTATION & PERSUASION	
COMM 2	INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION	
COMM 3	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION STUDIES	
COMM 4	GROUP DISCUSSION	
COMM 5	MASS COMMUNICATION ¹	
COMM 10	GENDER, COMMUNICATION & CULTURE	
COMM 12	INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION ¹	
COMM 55	CAREER & LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION IN THE GLOBAL WORKPLACE ¹	
Total Units		25

¹ May be completed only once for credit to satisfy certificate requirements.

Certificate of Achievement in Communication Studies I

• Units: 15

Code	Title	Units
COMM 1A	PUBLIC SPEAKING ¹	5
	or COMM 1AH HONORS PUBLIC SPEAKING	
	or COMM 2 INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION	
And 10 units from the following:		10
COMM 1A	PUBLIC SPEAKING ¹	
	or COMM 1AH HONORS PUBLIC SPEAKING	
COMM 1B	ARGUMENTATION & PERSUASION	
COMM 2	INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION ¹	
COMM 3	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION STUDIES	
COMM 4	GROUP DISCUSSION	
COMM 5	MASS COMMUNICATION	
COMM 10	GENDER, COMMUNICATION & CULTURE	
COMM 12	INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION	
COMM 55	CAREER & LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION IN THE GLOBAL WORKPLACE	
Total Units		15

¹ May be completed only once for credit to satisfy certificate requirements