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# Communication

## Degrees

Associate in Arts Degree: Communication: Applied Communication Emphasis

Associate in Arts Degree: Communication: Communication Science Emphasis

## Program Description

Whatever their age, social position, or occupation, people communicate. In fact, we spend more time engaged in speaking and listening than virtually any other activity. Communication is as important as it is pervasive—success or failure often depends on how well we express ourselves and understand others. Recognizing this fact, the Communication Department offers a wide range of courses to help students become more skillful, aware communicators.

The department's curriculum focuses on communication in a variety of settings—interpersonal, small group, on-the-job, speaker-to-audience, via mass media, and between cultures and nations. In addition, instruction is available in argumentation, debate, communication theory and research methods.

Students enroll in Communication courses for a variety of reasons. Some have primarily academic motives and seek either an associate, baccalaureate, or advanced degree in Communication. Other students enroll to become more effective in their careers. Still others seek personal growth, recognizing the importance of skillful self-expression and understanding others in their own lives.

Surveys show that most employers rank effective communication at the top of desired skills. As a result, many organizations look favorably upon applicants with proven ability to speak and listen skillfully. While communication is important in virtually any career, certain fields and positions are especially well-suited for Communication graduates—management, public information, broadcasting, personnel training, sales and law, among others.

Students who choose the Communication Degree Program will also have the opportunity to gain knowledge about Communication careers by speaking to communication professionals at our annual "Meet the Pros" event. Students can also participate in our annual Lancaster Speech Showcase and participate

in community and global projects through their classes or by participating in the Intercultural Communication Club. Qualified students also have the opportunity to be part of Sigma Chi Eta, an honor society for students earning a 3.0 or higher in the major. Students can also choose to take classes in one of the many Study Abroad Program offered each year. Past study abroad programs include Italy, Australia, India and Rwanda, Africa.

## Department Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate ability to analyze and critically evaluate communication practices, messages and outcomes in various contexts (e.g., interpersonal, intercultural, small group, public and professional communication, and mass media).
2. Develop a repertoire of strategies for improved communication effectiveness and demonstrate the strategies in oral, written and/or presentation contexts.
3. Read, evaluate and report on communication research.
4. Recognize and articulate the benefits and challenges of diverse communicative practices of people living in a global/multicultural society.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the ethical dimensions of communication.

## Department Offices

*Division:* Social Sciences

*Department Chair:* Christina Kistler (BC-218, ext. 2571)

*Dean:* Alice Scharper (A-118, ext. 2354)

## Faculty and Offices

Christina Kistler, *Chair* (BC-218, ext. 2571)

Catherine Carroll (BC-117, ext. 2920)

Darin Garard (BC-102D, ext. 2997)

Sarah Hock (BC-102A, ext. 4395)

Carrie Hutchinson (BC-102B, ext. 4213)

Cameron Sublett (BC-102C, ext. 2428)

**Requirements for A.A. Degree—  
Communication: Applied  
Communication Emphasis**

The Associate Degree will be awarded upon completion of both department *and* college requirements.

**Department Requirements (18 units)**

- COMM 121 — Interpersonal Communication *or*  
COMM 121H — Interpersonal Communication,  
Honors *or*  
COMM 122 Mediated Interpersonal Communication .....3
- COMM 131 — Fundamentals of Public Speaking *or*  
COMM 131H — Fundamentals of Public  
Speaking, Honors .....3
- COMM 141 — Small Group Communication.....3
- COMM 161 — Business and Professional Communication *or*  
COMM 162 — Mediated Business and Professional  
Communication.....3

*Plus at least two (2) courses from the following:*

- COMM 101 — Introduction to Communication.....3
- COMM 151 — Intercultural Communication.....3
- COMM 171 — Mass Media and Society .....3
- COMM 235 — Argumentation and Debate.....3
- JOUR 101 — Reporting/Writing I .....3

**College Requirements**

For complete information, see “Graduation Requirements” in the *Catalog* Index.

**Requirements for A.A. Degree—  
Communication: Communication  
Science Emphasis**

The Associate Degree will be awarded upon completion of both department *and* college requirements.

**Department Requirements (19 units)**

- COMM 101 — Introduction to Communication.....3
- MATH 117 — Elementary Statistics *or*  
MATH 117H — Elementary Statistics, Honors *or*  
PSY 150 — Statistics for Behavioral Sciences.....4
- COMM 288 — Communication Research Methods .....3
- COMM 289 — Communication Theory .....3

*Plus at least two (2) courses from the following:*

- COMM 121 — Interpersonal Communication *or*  
COMM 121H — Interpersonal Communication,  
Honors *or*  
COMM 122 — Mediated Interpersonal Communication...3
- COMM 131 — Fundamentals of Public Speaking *or*  
COMM 131H — Fundamentals of Public Speaking,  
Honors .....3
- COMM 141 — Small Group Communication.....3
- COMM 151 — Intercultural Communication.....3
- COMM 171 — Mass Media and Society .....3
- COMM 235 — Argumentation and Debate.....3
- JOUR 101 — Reporting/Writing I .....3

**College Requirements**

For complete information, see “Graduation Requirements” in the *Catalog* Index.

**Planning a Program of Study**

The field of communication covers a wide range of topics. The major is designed to give students exposure to basic information in the discipline and provide the opportunity to focus on the areas that best suit their individual needs.

Students should consult with a departmental adviser and/or counselor when choosing both controlled and general electives in order to develop a program of study that is best suited to their specific needs. For example, requirements for the baccalaureate degree in Communication or Speech Communication vary from one institution to another. It is, therefore, essential to become familiar with the requirements of the institution a student plans to attend.

Not all Communication courses are offered every semester. Students should plan carefully so that all required courses are included in their program of study.

**Sample Program: Applied Communication Emphasis**

**First Year**

<i>Fall Semester</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>
COMM 101*	COMM 131*
COMM 121*	COMM 141*
General Ed. Course	Elective**
Amer. Inst. Req.	Elective**
General Ed. Course	General Ed. Course

**Second Year**

<i>Fall Semester</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>
COMM 161*	COMM 171*
COMM 151*	COMM 235
General Ed. Course	General Ed. Course
Elective**	Elective**
Elective**	Elective**

**Sample Program: Communication Science Emphasis****First Year**

<i>Fall Semester</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>
COMM 101*	COMM 171*
COMM 151*	COMM 141*
Amer. Inst. Req	General Ed. Course
General Ed. Course	Math 117*
Elective**	Elective**

**Second Year**

<i>Fall Semester</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>
COMM 289	COMM 288
COMM 131*	COMM 235
Elective**	Elective**
Elective **	Elective**
Elective**	Elective**

*\*May be taken either Fall or Spring Semester.*

*\*\*Electives allow students to focus on an area of special interest within the field of Communication — i.e. communication studies, rhetoric and public address, organizational communication and telecommunications. Consult with departmental adviser and/or counselor for further assistance.*

**Preparation for Transfer**

Course requirements for transfer vary depending upon the college or university a student wishes to attend. Therefore, it is *most important* for a student to consult with his/her counselor and departmental adviser before planning an academic program for transfer. Information sheets for majors, outlining transfer requirements, are available in the Transfer Center.

**Course Descriptions****COMM 100 — Oral Communication for ESL Students****(3) F, S — CSU***Course Advisories: ESL 122 or ESL 123 or ESL 124*

Introductory Communication course for students completing the ESL Level V component of course work. Study and development of communication skills necessary for adjustment and success in non-ESL courses. Includes communication in dyadic, group and public speaking activities. Learning principles of effective behavior in these settings, students participate in activities to reinforce learning of these skills.

**COMM 101 — Introduction to Communication (3) F, S — CSU, UC***Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Introduction to the field of communication, with emphasis on the history of communication study, theories important to all areas of communication, the contexts in which communication occurs, and the issues that must be faced by students of communication. Also serves as an introduction to the strands of communication study: interpersonal/small group, rhetoric, intercultural, organizational and mass communication.

**COMM 121 — Interpersonal Communication (3) F, S — CSU, UC\****Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Introduction to principles and skills of effective communication in interpersonal relationships. Study of verbal and non-verbal channels, person perception, conflict resolution, listening and communication barriers.

*(\*UC Transfer Limit: COMM 121, 121H and 122 combined: maximum credit, one course)*

**COMM 121H — Interpersonal Communication, Honors****(3) F, S — CSU, UC\***

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H  
Limitation on Enrollment: Acceptance into the Honors Program*

Introduction to the principles of effective communication in interpersonal relationships. Study of verbal and non-verbal channels, person perception, conflict resolution, listening and communication barriers. In-depth exploration of selected concepts.

(\*UC Transfer Limit: COMM 121, 121H and 122 combined: maximum credit, one course)

**COMM 122 — Mediated Interpersonal Communication****(3) F, S — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H or 110GB*

**WARNING: ONLINE COURSE.** Does not fulfill the oral communication requirement for CSU admission nor does it satisfy IGETC Area 1C or CSU General Education Area A1. Introduction to the principles of interpersonal communication in mediated environments. Study of how media richness affects interpersonal perception, language and nonverbal communication, relational development and deterioration, and relational maintenance strategies.

(\*UC Transfer Limit: COMM 121, 121H and 122 combined: maximum credit, one course)

**COMM 131 — Fundamentals of Public Speaking****(3) F, S — CSU, UC\***

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Instruction in public speaking, stressing audience analysis, organization and support of ideas. Students prepare and deliver speeches on topics of current concern. Video-taped replays and instructor evaluation provide feedback on performance.

(\*UC Transfer Limit: COMM 131 and 131H combined: maximum credit, one course)

**COMM 131H — Fundamentals of Public Speaking, Honors****(3) F — CSU, UC\***

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H  
Limitation on Enrollment: Acceptance into the Honors Program*

Instruction in public speaking, stressing audience analysis, organization and support of ideas. Students prepare and deliver speeches on topics coordinated with other courses in the Honors Program.

(\*UC Transfer Limit: COMM 131 and 131H combined: maximum credit, one course)

**COMM 141 — Small Group Communication****(3) F, S — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Introduction to communication skills in task-oriented small groups. Includes focus on planning, participating in, and leading meetings; decision-making and problem-solving method; forms of discussion; and social dimensions. Small group projects.

**COMM 142 — Leadership Studies****(3) F, S — CSU**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Designed to prepare and train students for campus, community or work-related leadership roles. Students explore leadership theories, principles and skills, such as understanding personal leadership strengths, working with others, diversity, team building, effective communication, and making a difference. Practical application of concepts and skills emphasized.

**COMM 151 — Intercultural Communication****(3) F, S — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Provides an introduction to communication between people from different cultures. Focuses on the application of theory and research to intercultural communication. The topics and activities are designed to develop communication skills that improve competence in intercultural situations.

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**COMM 161 — Business and Professional Communication**

**(3) F, S — CSU**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Study of face-to-face and mediated communication on the job. Development of interpersonal skills, meeting management, interviewing and presentational speaking. Study of communication flow in organizations.

**COMM 162 — Mediated Business and Professional Communication**

**(3) F, S — CSU**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H or ENG 110GB*

WARNING: ONLINE COURSE. Does not fulfill the oral communication requirement for CSU admission nor does it satisfy CSU General Education Area A1. Study of communication on the job with a focus on mediated communication. Development of interpersonal skills, meeting management, interviewing and presentation design. Study of communication flow in organizations.

**COMM 171 — Mass Media and Society**

**(3) F, S — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Exploration of the history, effects and role of the mass media in U.S. The major forms of mass communication are studied (television, radio, film, newspapers and magazines). Study focuses on critical analysis of media messages, effects of media on the individual and society, and theories of communication. Students move beyond being “consumers” of media to “analysts” of media.

**COMM 235 — Argumentation and Debate**

**(3) S — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Develops skills of inquiry and advocacy, including critical analysis and rules of evidence. Practice in using, planning, delivering and refuting arguments in a variety of extemporaneous formats.

**COMM 288 — Communication Research Methods**

**(3) S — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: MATH 107 and Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

*Course Advisories: COMM 101*

Introduction to the theoretical and practical concerns underlying procedures most commonly used in communication research. Students evaluate findings of communication research and understand research methods. Serves as preparation for advanced coursework in communication.

**COMM 289 — Communication Theory**

**(3) F — CSU, UC**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

Introduction to major theories of human communication, designed to give students a critical understanding of key themes in the field and to show how theories illuminate the nature of human interaction. Designed to prepare students for upper division coursework in communication.

**COMM 295 — Internship in Communication**

**(2-4) F, S — CSU**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

*Limitation on Enrollment: Completion of two courses in the Communication Department at SBCC prior to enrolling in Internship course*

*Five to 10 hours weekly on-the-job experience*

Structured internship program in which students gain experience with community organizations related to the discipline.

**COMM 299 — Independent Study in Communication**

**(1-4) F, S — CSU**

*Skills Advisories: Eligibility for ENG 110 or ENG 110H*

*Limitation on Enrollment: Six units of Communication courses completed with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Minimum of 12 units of coursework completed at SBCC with GPA of at least 3.0.*

For complete information, see “Independent Study” in the *Catalog Index*.

*(\*UC Transfer Limit: COMM 299 computed as Independent Studies; please see counselor)*