

Communication Studies

The Communication Studies Major

www.commstudies.las.iastate.edu

The Communication Studies Program focuses on human communication, exploring the ways humans create and negotiate meaning. Communication Studies majors master a focused course of inquiry into interpersonal processes as they create and sustain relationships and impact individuals, groups, and organizations. The Communication Studies curriculum builds primarily on social science traditions in developing a liberal arts education emphasizing human communication. Students in the Communication Studies major study applied communication theory and research in interpersonal, small group, organizational, intercultural, and other contexts.

The Communication Studies (ComSt) major teaches students how to think critically, giving them the ability to examine complex communication issues, and develop and implement strategies grounded in evidence-based research. This prepares students for careers in business and industry and graduate education. Students majoring in ComSt will find their career opportunities enhanced in professions requiring applied communication expertise, e.g., human resource management, public relations, training and development, sales management, recruitment, event planning, sales, management, organizational development, business communication, law, and international and intercultural relations.

ComSt majors must earn at least 120 credits, with 45 credits at the 300-400 levels, and a minimum of 33 credits in ComSt.

Communication Proficiency Requirement

To meet the University's Communication Proficiency requirement students are required to take:

ENGL 150	Critical Thinking and Communication	3
ENGL 250	Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition	3
or ENGL 250H	Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition: Honors	
Plus one of the following:		3
ENGL 302	Business Communication	
ENGL 309	Report and Proposal Writing	
ENGL 314	Technical Communication	
ENGL 415	Business and Technical Editing	

An average of C- is required in ENGL 150 Critical Thinking and Communication, ENGL 250 Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition (or ENGL 250H Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition, Honors), and this additional writing course.

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Core Requirements (15 credits)

COMST 101	Introduction to Communication Studies	3
COMST 102	Introduction to Interpersonal Communication	3
COMST 203	Introduction to Communication Research Methods	3
COMST 301	Human Communication Theory	3
Plus one of the following:		3
COMST 214	Professional Communication	
COMST 218	Conflict Management	

Total Credits 15

Upper Division Requirements (15 credits). Select five courses from the following

COMST 310	Intercultural Communication	3
COMST 311	Studies in Interpersonal Communication	3
COMST 313	Leadership Communication Theories	3
COMST 314	Organizational Communication	3
COMST 317	Small Group Communication	3
COMST 319	Communication Training and Development	3
COMST 325	Nonverbal Communication	3
COMST 330	Computer Mediated Communication	3
Total Credits		15

Capstone Course Requirement (3 credits)

COMST 404	Research Seminar	3
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Credits in COMST 384 Applied Organizational Communication, may not be applied toward the upper division requirements.

In accordance with college requirements, an overall average in Communication Studies courses of C (2.0) or better is required.

Enhancement Requirement (4 credits)

COM S 103	Computer Applications	4
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Additional Recommended Courses

STAT 101	Principles of Statistics	4
COMST 450	Special Topics in Communication Studies	3

The Communication Studies Minor (18 credits)

The requirements for a minor in ComSt may be fulfilled by credit in:

COMST 101	Introduction to Communication Studies	3
COMST 102	Introduction to Interpersonal Communication	3
COMST 203	Introduction to Communication Research Methods	3
COMST 301	Human Communication Theory	3
Plus six credits in 300-level ComSt courses.		6

Credits in COMST 384 Applied Organizational Communication, may not be applied toward the minor. Students must earn an overall average of C (2.0) or better in all courses taken for the minor.

Total Credits 18