COMMUNICATION STUDIES
(COMST)

Any experimental courses offered by COMST can be found at:
registrar.iastate.edu/faculty-staff/courses/explistings/ (http://
www.registrar.iastate.edu/faculty-staff/courses/explistings/)

Courses primarily for undergraduates:

COMST 101: Introduction to Communication Studies
(3-0) Cr. 3.
An introduction to communication theory, the development and functions
of communication, and a survey of verbal, nonverbal, interpersonal, small
group, organizational, and intercultural communication.

COMST 101L: Introduction to Communication Studies: Laboratory
(0-2) Cr. 1.
Prereq: Concurrent enrollment in COMST 101.
Laboratory component of COMST 101. Skill building, experiential
activities, and in-depth discussions relevant to the study of
communication.

COMST 104: Orientation to Communication Studies
(1-0) Cr. 1.
Prereq: Available only for Communication Studies majors
Orientation to Communication Studies discipline, program requirements
and career opportunities. Required of communication studies majors.
Offered on a satisfactory-fail basis only.

COMST 203: Introduction to Communication Research Methods
(3-0) Cr. 3.
Prereq: COMST 101
An introduction to analyzing and conducting communication research.
Provides an overview of quantitative and qualitative approaches to
communication research.

COMST 210: Communication and U.S. Diversity
(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.SS.
Introduction to the role of diversity in communication. Developing
competent communication with diverse social groups within
interpersonal and organizational contexts in the United States. Topics
may include structured reflection of one's role in diverse communication
experiences, cultural variations in communication mores, impacts of
racial/ethnic/gender identities on communication, workplace policies
regarding cultural diversity, the intersection of communication and
cultural privilege, communication practices that can reduce prejudice/
discrimination, and communication characteristics of advocates for
diversity.
Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement

COMST 211: Interpersonal Communication
(3-0) Cr. 3.
Application of major principles related to interpersonal communication
theories, concepts, and research. Emphasis on using interpersonal
communication skills effectively.

COMST 214: Professional Communication
(3-0) Cr. 3.
Communication theory and skill development in organizational settings.
Emphasis on interpersonal skill development, team and meeting
facilitation, informational interviewing, individual and team presentations,
and self-assessment.

COMST 218: Conflict Management
(3-0) Cr. 3.
Exploration of communication theories, principles and methods
associated with effective conflict management.

COMST 301: Human Communication Theory
(3-0) Cr. 3.
Prereq: COMST 101
Examination of the major theories related to human communication; with
particular emphasis on theories underlying interpersonal, small group,
organizational, and intercultural communication.

COMST 310: Intercultural Communication
(3-0) Cr. 3.
Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301
Examines the theories, principles and research on intercultural
communication to enhance cultural sensitivity and to recognize, accept,
and adapt to cultural diversity. Interactive assignments.
Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

COMST 311: Relational Communication
(3-0) Cr. 3.
Prereq: COMST 101, 102
Contemporary relational communication theories, concepts, and
research. Examines issues central to communication and its application
in interpersonal relationships.

COMST 313: Leadership Communication Theories
(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.
Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301
Investigation of theories, research and principles of leadership
communication. Exploration of the contexts in which leadership and
communication occurs, with emphasis on the connection between
communication and leadership and the dyadic linkage of leader and
follower.
COMST 314: Organizational Communication  
(3-0) Cr. 3.  
Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301  
Theory and research in organizational communication. Provides strategies for assessing and improving individual and organizational communication effectiveness. Addresses issues such as technology, diversity, work-life negotiation, emotional labor, conflict, socialization, and socially responsible organizations. Explores how organizational meaning is created and sustained through human communication.

COMST 317: Small Group Communication  
(3-0) Cr. 3.  
Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301  
Theory and research in small group communication; application to group decision-making and leadership. Includes communication analyses of groups and teams.

COMST 319: Communication Training and Development  
(3-0) Cr. 3.  
Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301  
Theories and approaches to communication training and development; includes adult learning theory. Emphasis on the design, presentation and assessment of communication skills in organizational contexts.

COMST 325: Nonverbal Communication  
(3-0) Cr. 3.  
Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301  
Approaches to studying nonverbal communication. Foci include topics such as emotion, gestures, gaze, use of space, and parsing intention in social interaction.

COMST 330: Computer Mediated Communication  
(3-0) Cr. 3.  
Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301  
Theories and approaches related to mediated communication in interpersonal and organizational settings. Focus on how new technology impacts human interaction and relationships.

COMST 384: Applied Organizational Communication  
(3-0) Cr. 3.  
Prereq: COMST 101, COMST 102 or equivalent course.  
Theory and research of micro-level organizational communication, including interpersonal and small group interactions taking place in a professional setting. Topics include interpersonal dynamics in such areas as conflict, generational communication, negotiation, superior/subordinate communication, external communication, and virtual communication. Not available for major credit.

COMST 404: Research Seminar  
(Dual-listed with COMST 504). (3-0) Cr. 3. Repeatable, maximum of 9 credits.  
Prereq: COMST 301 plus 3 additional communication studies classes from the following list: COMST 310, COMST 311, COMST 313, COMST 314, COMST 317, COMST 319, COMST 325, or COMST 330.  
Capstone communication studies course. Students develop an original research study linked to the study of communication. Data are collected and analyzed. Results are presented in a final research paper and a presentation.

COMST 450: Special Topics in Communication Studies  
(3-0) Cr. 3. Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits. F.S.  
Research and theory related to special topics and issues in communication studies.

COMST 450A: Special Topics in Communication Studies: General  
(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.  
Prereq: Junior standing or instructor permission  
Examines research, theories, and concepts relevant to general communication. Topics include studying the interpersonal, organizational, and mediated communication occurring in health care and public health settings, and understanding why effective communication contributes to positive health outcomes.

COMST 490: Independent Study  
Cr. 1-3. Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.  
Prereq: 9 credits in communication studies and junior classification  
Application must be submitted for approval the semester prior to the independent study.

COMST 491: Research Practicum  
Cr. arr. Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits. F.S.S.  
Prereq: COMST 203, COMST 301 plus permission of instructor.  
Providing research assistance on projects conducted by Communication Studies faculty.
COMST 497: Professional Internship
Cr. 1-3. Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.
Prereq: 12 hours in Communication Studies including COMST 203, COMST 301, and one other 300-level COMST class. Junior Classification. Application required.
100 hours of on-site professional work per credit hour plus completion of the academic requirement set by the internship committee. Application should be submitted in the term prior to the term in which the internship will be served. Internship cannot be used to meet degree requirement in Communication Studies.

Courses primarily for graduate students, open to qualified undergraduates:

COMST 504: Research Seminar
(Dual-listed with COMST 404). (3-0) Cr. 3. Repeatable, maximum of 9 credits.
Prereq: COMST 301 plus 3 additional communication studies classes from the following list: COMST 310, COMST 311, COMST 313, COMST 314, COMST 317, COMST 319, COMST 325, or COMST 330.
Capstone communication studies course. Students develop an original research study linked to the study of communication. Data are collected and analyzed. Results are presented in a final research paper and a presentation.

COMST 590: Special Topics
Cr. 1-4. Repeatable.
Application must be submitted for approval the semester prior to the independent study.