

COMMUNICATION STUDIES (COMST)

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 102: Introduction to Interpersonal Communication

(3-0) Cr. 3.

Application of communication principles, theory, and research to the process of interpersonal communication; includes verbal and nonverbal communication, listening, and conflict management. Particular emphasis given to using communication to manage interpersonal relationships.

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 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: Studies in Interpersonal Communication

(3-0) Cr. 3.

Prereq: COMST 102, COMST 203, COMST 301

This class focuses on studies of contemporary interpersonal communication concepts and theories. Emphasis on research that examines issues central to communication 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 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.SS.

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.