

# COURSES FOR COMMUNICATION STUDIES

## Communication Studies Courses

### COM100 Rhetoric And Society

*HU*

Hours 3

The impact of public discourse on the ideas and issues of culture and history. Offered in the fall semester. HU designation for university core curriculum.

Humanities

### COM101 Principles Human Communication

*SB*

Hours 3

General introduction to communication studies as a way of understanding how humans coordinate social meaning and achieve communicative goals. The focus is on identifying the foundation of human communication and the functions of communication in everyday situations. Offered in the spring semester. SB designation for university core curriculum.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

### COM104 Forensics

Hours 1

per semester (may earn up to 6 hours toward COM major). The individual events program focuses on the preparation and presentation of various kinds of speeches and on the oral interpretation of literature. The debate program focuses on the research and practice of oral argument.

### COM121 Crit Decisn Makng Honors

*HU, UH*

Hours 3

Introductory course in thinking critically for the purpose of participating in the process of public decision making and understanding how discussion, argumentation, and persuasion function as communication forms for that process. HU designation for university core curriculum.

Humanities, University Honors

### COM122 Critical Decision Making

*HU*

Hours 3

Introductory course in thinking critically and speaking credibly for the purpose of participating in the process of public decision making and for responsible civic engagement. HU designation for university core curriculum.

Humanities

### COM123 Public Speaking

*HU*

Hours 3

Theory and practice of basic principles of public speaking, with emphasis on the compositional and presentational aspects of communication in formal speaking situations. This course may be offered as a lecture course with a performance lab. HU designation for university core curriculum.

Humanities

### COM124 Honors Public Speaking

*HU, UH*

Hours 3

This course is designed for students in the Honors College and is themed to emphasize a connection between leadership development and public speaking. Theory and practice of basic principles of public speaking are covered, while focusing on mastery of speech composition and performance in formal speaking situations.

Humanities, University Honors

### COM195 Special Topics for Freshmen

Hours 1-3

Freshman exploratory-application of readings and discussion to specific activity. Topics may vary.

### COM210 Oral Interpretn Literatr

*HU*

Hours 3

Beginning course in the oral interpretation of literature. The course covers principles and techniques of analyzing and presenting poetry, prose, and dramatic literature orally. HU designation for university core curriculum.

Humanities

### COM219 Honors Interpersonal Communication

*SB, UH*

Hours 3

This course offers a focused investigation of interpersonal communication in the evolution in close relationships. Firmly rooted in communication research and theory, this course examines the overlapping influences of the self, perception, emotion, verbal and nonverbal messages, and listening. Furthermore, the course examines positive and problematic communication in various types of relationships (romantic, family, friend, and workplace) in a diverse society. Students will be challenged to learn through engaged discussions, reflective writing, and systematic application of course concepts and theories to everyday life.

Social and Behavioral Sciences, University Honors

### COM220 Interpersonal Communication

*SB*

Hours 3

Study of verbal and nonverbal communication in the evolution of human relationships. SB designation for university core curriculum.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

**COM225 Small Group Communicatn**

Hours 3

Survey and application of basic group communication principles as related to task-oriented interpersonal, small-group, and large-group dynamics, within the context of complex organizations.

**COM250 Nonverbal Communication**

Hours 3

This course introduces the basic concepts related to the study of nonverbal communication and explores the application of nonverbal code information to specific communication contexts.

**COM270 Discourse of Sport: Theory and Practice**

Hours 3

Introduces students to the major concepts, theories, and methodological perspectives that Communication Studies scholars bring to the study of sport.

**COM295 Special Topics**

Hours 3

Reading and discussion in various areas of significance in communication studies. Topics will vary, but the course may be attempted only once.

**COM300 Human Communication Research**

W

Hours 3

Focus on how communication research can be used to answer practical questions related to human communication and the media. Emphasis is given to critical analysis and empirical research. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Prerequisite(s): COM 101

Writing

**COM301 Intro Rhetorical Theory**

Hours 3

Survey of the historical development of rhetorical theory from the classical period to the present.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 123

**COM310 Rhetorical Criticism**

W

Hours 3

Survey of critical approaches to rhetorical analysis of discourse. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100

Writing

**COM320 Truth, Ethics, and Deception**

Hours 3

An introduction to the major concepts, theories, and issues related to deceptive communication in a variety of arenas, such as relationships, the law, and the media. Students will learn about flaws in research on deception, how effective studies can be conducted, and will develop an enhanced ability to detect deception in everyday life.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101 or COM 219 or COM 220

**COM323 Advanced Public Speaking**

Hours 3

Advanced exploration of principles and models of contemporary public address.

Prerequisite(s): COM 104 or COM 121 or COM 122 or COM 123 or COM 124

**COM330 Family Communication: Strategies & Patterns of Interaction**

Hours 3

This course examines communication strategies and patterns of interaction in intimate and enduring family relationships, including marital, sibling, parent-child, grandparent, and in-law relationships.

**COM340 Rhetoric & Popular Culture**

Hours 3

An investigation of rhetorical constructions of social identities through cases of popular culture. Emphasis is on how mediated constructions come to reflect and reify dimensions of race/ethnicity, gender, class, sexualities, education, religion, abilities, and other subject positions.

**COM341 Rhetoric & Amer Politics**

W

Hours 3

Introduction to the structures and functions of written, spoken, and electronically mass-mediated political discourse in contemporary society. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Writing

**COM342 Rhetoric Social Protest**

W

Hours 3

Study of social protest discourse and how it functions rhetorically. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Writing

**COM348 Argumentation**

Hours 3

Theory and practice of argumentation, applying basic principles to both oral and written discourse.

**COM349 Practicum In Forensics**

Hours 3

Practical experience in establishing and administering forensic programs, preparing students for competitive forensics events, rendering critical judgments, and conducting forensics tournaments.

**COM350 Organizational Communication**

Hours 3

Theoretical approach to the study of human communication in the organization context. Emphasis is on predominant organizational communication theories and communication networks, as well as dyadic, small group, and public communication processes.

**COM352 Business Professional Communication**

Hours 3

Junior or Senior Standing. Application of self-presentation and interaction concepts and skills to the transition from undergraduate studies to professional life, including resume preparation and presentation, interviewing, and interaction management in business and professional settings.

**COM366 Visual Culture & Communication**

Hours 3

Provides an introduction to the critical understanding of visual images and their uses in a variety of rhetorical actions that humans perform in persuasion, informing, governing, remembering and authorizing public life and culture.

**COM380 Influence**

W

Hours 3

This course explores contemporary theories of influence and their implications for communication practice. Topics include power and influence, logical theory, rhetorical theory, cognitive persuasion theory, framing theory, social influence theory, and socially mediated influence dissemination. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Writing

**COM395 Special Topics**

Hours 3

Reading, research, and discussion in areas of significance. Topics vary. May count as an elective in the major only once.

**COM413 Communication & Diversity**

W

Hours 3

Study and analysis of issues of diversity as they relate to groups in society and in communication fields. Emphasis is on the media's treatment of various groups in society. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course. W designation for University core curriculum.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

Writing

**COM415 African American Rhetoric**

W

Hours 3

A historical-critical investigation of African American public discourse from the Revolutionary era to the present, exploring rhetorical strategies for social change and building community. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100

Writing

**COM421 Political Communication**

Hours 3

This course examines the content, processes, and effects of communication within the American political system. The course emphasizes the foundational theories and concepts central to political communication, as well as the complicated relationship between politics and media.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

**COM422 Communication and the Law**

Hours 3

This course introduces ancient rhetorical origins shared by communication and the practice of law and examines how contemporary communication theory informs the way legal systems work today. Students are given the opportunity to investigate a specific legal practice or phenomenon through the application of communication theory.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

**COM423 Practicum in Public Speaking Training**

Hours 3

Practical experience in public speaking consulting, helping clients clarify and craft effective messages, facilitate the recording and immediate feedback to cultivate dynamic delivery, and develop strategies to calm public speaking anxiety.

Prerequisite(s): COM 123, completion of 60 or more university credits, and the approval of The Speaking Studio director.

**COM424 Communication & Forensics Pedagogy**

Hours 3

This class explores the relationship between forensics and academia, investigating the placement of competitive forensic activities within specific academic departments, the development of strong, competitive programs through responsible coaching, and the application of forensics experience beyond the competitive environment.

**COM425 Gender & Political Communication**

Hours 3

Study of the impact of gender on political communication activities. Topics include gender differences in political messages and voter orientation, masculine ideals of leadership, women's roles and advancement in the political sphere, and media representations.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

**COM430 The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication**

Hours 3

This course explores what happens in negative communicative interactions, including such "dark side" behaviors as secrets, deception, infidelity, narcissism, bullying, and relational violence, and what we can do to shield against them.

Prerequisite(s): COM 220 or COM 320

**COM436 Independent Study**

Hours 1-3

This course is designed to allow eligible students to pursue independent projects or research under the direction of a faculty member. Students will be required to make a formal presentation of their work, as necessary to earning academic credit. If eligible, students may secure permission for this type of work only once.

**COM440 Honors Seminar in Communication Studies**

UH

Hours 3

A seminar-style course designed for Honors College students to investigate issues in communication studies theory and research. Students who are majors are encouraged to produce original research and to share their work to professional or community audiences.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

University Honors

**COM450 Adv Organization Communication**

W

Hours 3

Advanced course focusing on current trends and issues in organizational communication. Course content will center on a variety of topics designated important to the conceptualization and successful operation of organizations. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Prerequisite(s): COM 350

Writing

**COM455 Leadership & Strategic Communication**

Hours 3

This course focuses on the methodology and development of skills essential to leadership and strategic communication. It examines personal qualities that guide the most effective leaders and covers foundational principles of leadership communication.

**COM460 Group Leadership**

Hours 3

This course introduces several theoretical and applied leadership perspectives for developing effective communication in leading and working with diverse groups. The course is designed to help students critically examine how leadership theory and practice work across a multitude of organizational contexts. Students are exposed to contemporary professionals across various career sectors to examine how everyday leaders approach influencing individuals, groups and organizations.

**COM462 Theories Of Persuasion**

Hours 3

Critical review of social influence theories and practice in the area of persuasion and human action. Special emphasis is given to the application of the theories in interpersonal and organizational communication contexts.

**COM463 Relational Communication**

W

Hours 3

Focused investigation of communication in close personal relationships, with primary emphasis on contemporary concepts and theories of romantic relationships and friendships. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course. W designation for university core curriculum.

Prerequisite(s): COM 219 or COM 220

Writing

**COM465 Intercultural Communication**

W

Hours 3

Survey and analysis of major concepts, theories, and research dealing with communication between people of different cultural backgrounds in multicultural and international settings. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

Writing

**COM467 Seminar in Public Address**

Hours 3

A topical consideration of individual case studies from public discourse, designed to probe problems of the nature of the audience, the ethics of persuasion, and the power of public advocacy in mass society. Topics will vary, but the course may be attempted only once.

**COM469 Communication & Gender**

Hours 3

Explores the role of communication in the construction of gender. Covers theories of gender construction, as well as the roles of gender and communication in various relational contexts. (This is an approved course for the minor in women's studies.).

**COM480 Propaganda**

Hours 3

This course explores contemporary theories and techniques of propaganda and their implications for communication practice.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

**COM490 Field Exp. in Comm. Studies**

Hours 3

Supervised field experience in communication studies. Must meet departmental requirements for eligibility to be approved for this course.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

**COM495 Special Topics**

Hours 3

Reading, research, and discussion in areas of significance. Topics vary. May count as an elective in the major only once.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 or COM 101

**COM499 Capstone Seminar**

Hours 3

This course is for majors only. It gives advanced students an opportunity to integrate and synthesize knowledge, reflect on the value of the major, and apply coursework to career and life goals.

Prerequisite(s): COM 100 and COM 310; or COM 101 and COM 300

**COM500 Intro Graduate Studies**

Hours 1

The primary goal is to orient new graduate students to the expectations and procedures of graduate study in the department. Topics covered include developing the plan of study, thesis prospectus, comprehensive examination, and choosing advisors and committees.

**COM501 Introduction to Teaching Public Speaking**

Hours 1

The primary goal of this course is to facilitate the instruction of COM 123 Public Speaking. Graduate students enrolled in this course will provide lesson plans for their classes and discuss options for improving classroom learning.

**COM505 Introduction to Teaching in Communication Studies**

Hours 1

The primary goal of this course is to facilitate the instruction of general education courses in Communication Studies. Graduate students enrolled in this course will provide lesson plans for their classes and discuss options for improving classroom learning.

**COM510 Comprehensive Examination Preparation**

Hours 3

This course is designed for graduate students in their final semester of study who have chosen to complete the comprehensive examination as their capstone experience for the degree.

**COM513 Communication & Diversity**

Hours 3

Study and analysis of issues of diversity as they relate to groups in society and in communication fields. Emphasis is on the media's treatment of various groups in society. Approved as a communication and culture elective.

**COM515 African American Rhetoric**

Hours 3

A historical-critical investigation of African American public discourse from the Revolutionary era to the present, exploring rhetorical strategies for social change and building community.

**COM521 Political Communication**

Hours 3

An exploration of rhetorical, media, and cross-disciplinary theories and literature related to political communication as expressed in campaigns and institutional governance.

**COM522 Communication and the Law**

Hours 3

This course introduces ancient rhetorical origins shared by communication and the practice of law and examines how contemporary communication theory informs the way legal systems work today. Students are given the opportunity to investigate a specific legal practice or phenomenon through the application of communication theory.

**COM524 Communication & Forensics Pedagogy**

Hours 3

This class explores the relationship between forensics and academia, investigating the placement of competitive forensic activities within specific academic departments, the development of strong, competitive programs through responsible coaching, and the application of forensics experience beyond the competitive environment.

**COM525 Gender & Political Comm**

Hours 3

Study of the impact of gender on political communication activities. Topics include gender differences in political messages and voter orientation, masculine ideals of leadership, women's roles and advancement in the political sphere, and media representations.

**COM536 Independent Study**

Hours 1-3

Individualized research under graduate faculty supervision. Students who want to include this course in their Plans of Study to complete degree requirements must secure official approval from their faculty advisor and the department. No more than three hours of independent study may be applied toward degree requirements for the M.A. in Communication Studies.

**COM541 Contemp Rhetorical Theory**

Hours 3

A survey of major contributions to rhetorical theory from the 20th century up to the present.

**COM545 Classical Rhetorical Theory**

Hours 3

A systematic inquiry into the development of Greek and Roman rhetorical theory during the classical period (ca. 480 B.C.E. 400 C.E.).

**COM548 Sem Rhetorical Criticism**

Hours 3

An examination of various methodological perspectives of rhetorical criticism. Specifically, the course aims to familiarize students with both traditional and alternative critical methods and to encourage students to perceive the rhetorical dimensions of all manner of public discourse, ranging from speeches, advertising, film, popular music to discursive forms in new media and the Internet.

**COM550 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication**

Hours 3

An introduction to qualitative research methods in communication, including data collection and analysis. The goals of the course are to provide exposure to a broad array of qualitative methods, help students learn to use some of these methods, and to help them to understand the role of research in our field. The course is designed to help student actually conduct research, resulting in two conference-worthy papers.

**COM551 Instructional Communication: Theories & Practice**

Hours 3

This course explores the theories, research, and practice that identify communication skills and competencies in the educational setting.

**COM555 Conflict and Negotiation**

Hours 3

Negotiation is fundamentally a communicative activity. The main objective of this course is to understand processes of formal conflict management in mixed motive settings. Students will apply negotiation theory and skills to simulated negotiation cases that include buyer-seller transactions, negotiating through an agent or mediator, salary negotiations, deal making, resolution of workplace disputes, multiparty negotiations, international and intercultural negotiations, and ethical decision making and communication in negotiation. The skills and theory introduced in this course will help students manage integrative and distributive aspects of the negotiation process to achieve individual and collective goals.

**COM560 Group Leadership**

Hours 3

An advanced study of small-group behavior, examining in detail theories of leadership as they relate to problem solving in group situations.

**COM561 Human Communication Theory**

Hours 3

A detailed review of selected theories of speech communication with a focus on the critical examination of the foundation of social scientific theories.

**COM562 Theories Of Persuasion**

Hours 3

A critical review of social-influence theories in the area of persuasion and human action.

**COM563 Relational Communication**

Hours 3

Focused investigation of communication in close personal relationships, with primary emphasis on contemporary concepts and theories of romantic relationships and friendships.

**COM565 Intercultural Communication**

Hours 3

Survey and analysis of major concepts, theories, and research dealing with communication between people of different cultural backgrounds in multicultural and international settings.

**COM567 Seminar in Public Address**

Hours 3

A topical consideration of individual case studies from public discourse, designed to probe problems of the nature of the audience, the ethics of persuasion, and the power of public advocacy in mass society. Topics may vary.

**COM569 Communication & Gender**

Hours 3

Explores the role of communication in the construction of gender. Covers feminist theoretical approaches in communication and other disciplines, the intersections of gender with other marginalities, and the role of gender in various communication contexts. Approved as a communication and cultural diversity elective.

**COM570 Foundations in Health Communication**

Hours 3

This course focuses on the foundations for studying communication occurring in the professional and everyday practices of health and healing, including patient-provider relationships, health education, health care organizations, health and the body, and other political, cultural, and material forces that influence how we make sense of health.

**COM571 Sem Organizatn Communctn**

Hours 3

An introductory examination of historical and contemporary issues in organizational communication scholarship from a variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives.

**COM572 Org Assessment/Intervent**

Hours 3

Examines the theoretical issues inherent in the study of organizational communication, the primary factors requiring assessment and intervention, the impact of on-going changes and new information techniques, current challenges facing the organizational consultant, and the practical application of communication processes for improving organizations.

**COM573 Methods of Community Engagement**

Hours 3

This course studies the communicative processes and strategies for engaging with community stakeholders through research and experiential learning. Students are placed in an environment to practice application of these methods, to learn firsthand the effects of engagement communication models, and to experience the community building possible through careful communication.

**COM575 Technology, Culture, and Human Communication**

Hours 3

Study of the complexity of technologically-mediated communication across cultures. This course combines literature and concepts from intercultural communication with human communication and technology and addresses the challenges of interacting with others via technology, working in global virtual teams and organizations, and participating as a citizen and consumer in the technology age.

**COM578 Critical Autoethnography**

Hours 3

This course examines autoethnography as perspective, method, and content area, concentrating on writing as a method of knowing that privileges lived experience.

**COM590 Internship**

Hours 1-3

Proposal for supervised field experience in communication studies must be submitted and approved.

**COM595 Special Topics**

Hours 3

Topics vary by instructor.

**COM598 Professional or Creative Project**

Hours 3

MA students in Communication Studies who elect the Professional Plan II Option may earn 3 hours credit for completing a research or creative project.

**COM599 Thesis Research**

Hours 1-6

*No description available*