

# Communication Studies AA (Associates GE Track)

+If you have completed coursework at another college and/or are starting in a semester other than a Fall term, please follow up with the Counseling Department to determine if this sequence is appropriate for your academic and career goals.

**Program Description:** An Associate of Arts degree in Communication Studies seeks to provide students with a comprehensive knowledge of the complex and diverse nature of the communication process and a sharpened understanding of contexts within which humans use signs and symbols to create meaning. The degree focuses on the way(s) language and other symbolic systems are used interpersonally within small group settings and in mass mediated formats. Courses will allow students to achieve three separate aims depending upon their academic goals. First, students will be well prepared to transfer to a four-year institution with a broad range of communication coursework completed. Second, students will be prepared for entry into a variety of careers, all of which require effective communication skills for working with diverse sets of people in an increasingly complex technological workplace. Careers including business, public relations, human resources, law (after law school), advertising arts, teaching, social & human services and entertainment industries are all suited for graduates of a Communication Studies degree. Finally, students who are interested in the field of Communication Studies but do not wish to complete a bachelor's degree in the discipline may pursue a two-year course of study. Such study will prepare them to understand diverse communication messages and practice excellent communication skills in a variety of settings.

**Program SLO:** Develop and deliver informative and persuasive presentations using clear written and oral communication skills. - Analyze theoretical concepts of communication and assess how each concept is utilized within various communication contexts.

**Important Transfer Information:** The sequence listed below, may not meet all your transfer admissions requirements. Connect with a counselor to develop an individual student education plan through the Counseling Department @ <https://www.canyons.edu/counseling> or (661) 362-3288/(661) 362-3811.

Major courses are sequenced and **BOLDED** based on recommendations by the [Communication Studies Department](#).

NOTE: Many communication courses will also satisfy CSU GE requirements.

**First Semester (3-16 units) FA = Fall; WI = Winter; SP = Spring; SU = Summer**

Course	Title	Units	Major and GE Courses
<b>COMS 105 OR COMS 105H OR COMS 120</b>	<b>Fundamentals of Public Speaking (FA, WI, SP, SU) OR Public Speaking Honors (FA, SP) OR Small Group Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Major and GE Area C</b>
<b>Coms 100</b>	<b>Process of Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Major</b>
Communication and Analytical Thinking- Department Recommends Math 140	Choose any math course from COC GE Area Dii (FA, WI, SP, SU) – Department Recommends Statistics to also meet the Mathematics Competency Requirement	3-5	Area Dii & Math Competency
ENGL 101/101H	English Composition (FA, WI, SP, SU)	4	Area Di
Physical Education and Wellness	HLHSCI 100 - Health Education (FA, WI, SP, SU) HLHSCI 150 - Nutrition (FA, SP, SU) HLHSCI 243* Women and Health (FA, SP)	3	Area F
	<b>Term Total:</b>	<b>16-18</b>	

\*Check the [Honors website](#) for most recent course offerings. Must be enrolled in the Honors program to take courses, see below

## Second Semester (17-31 units)

Updated 03/16/2021

Course	Title	Units	Major and GE Courses
COMS 150 or COMS 190	Oral Interpretation (FA, SP) or Forensics (FA, SP)	3 OR 1-4	Major
COMS 225 or COMS 227	Strategies of Argumentation (FA, SP) or Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism (FA, SP)	3	Major
Natural Sciences Course	Choose one course from COC GE Area A ( <i>lab not required</i> ) (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Area A
American Institutions Course – Choose Option I or II	Complete first course in chosen option – (note: must take both classes within one option) (FA, WI, SP, SU) – <i>see table below</i>	3	American Institutions Area E
Elective Course	Choose any course that is an associate degree applicable course (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Elective
<b>Term Total:</b>		<b>15-16</b>	

### Third Semester (32-46 units)

Course	Title	Units	Major and GE Courses
Group 1 Major Course	Choose any course from Group 1 listed below (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Major
Group 1 Major Course	Choose any course from Group 1 listed below (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Major
Social Science Course	Choose one course from COC GE Area B (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3-4	Area B
American Institutions Course	Complete second course in chosen option – (note: must take both classes within one option) (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	American Institutions Area E
Elective Course	Choose any course that is an associate degree applicable course (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Elective
<b>Term Total:</b>		<b>15-16</b>	

### Fourth Semester (48-60 units)

Course	Title	Units	Major and GE Courses
Group 1 Major Course	Choose any course from Group 1 listed below (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Major
Diversity Requirement	Choose one course from the GE list of diversity courses (FA, WI, SP, SU) – <i>Department Recommends: COMS 235, 256 or 260</i>	3	Diversity Requirement
Elective Course- <i>Department Recommends COMS courses</i>	Choose any course that is an associate degree applicable course (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Elective
Elective Course- <i>Department Recommends COMS courses</i>	Choose any course that is an associate degree applicable course (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3	Elective
Elective Course- <i>Department Recommends COMS courses</i>	Choose any course that is an associate degree applicable course (FA, WI, SP, SU)	2+	Elective
<b>Term Total:</b>		<b>14</b>	

**Total Units: 60+**

**NOTE: Many COMS courses also satisfy GE, resulting in additional elective units needed to meet the 60 minimum units required**

#### Group 1 – Need three courses from this area (9 units)

COMS 235*	Intergenerational Communication (offered on a rotating cycle every other spring)	3
COMS 246	Interpersonal Communication (FA, SP)	3
COMS 256*	Intercultural Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU)	3
COMS 260*	Communication and Gender (FA, SP, SU)	3
COMS 270	Communication and Leadership (FA)	3

COMS Courses with an (\*) indication may also meet the AA Diversity GE

**American Institutions Requirement** – Select one of the options below and complete a total of 6 units

<b>Option 1</b>	One course from the following: Economics 170/170H, History 111/111H, History 112/112H, History 120/120H, or History 130 <b>AND</b> Political Science 150/150H (FA, WI, SP, SU)
<b>Option 2</b>	History 111/111H <b>AND</b> History 112/112H (FA, WI, SP, SU)

**Counselor Notes** This sequence does not meet transfer admissions requirements. Additional courses for transfer general education will be needed, as well as courses for a transfer major. Please follow up with the Counseling Department for additional information @ <https://www.canyons.edu/counseling>.

### Counseling Resources

Communications Department: <https://www.canyons.edu/academics/communications/>

Counseling Department: <https://www.canyons.edu/student-services/counseling/>

COC Honors Program: <https://www.canyons.edu/academics/honors/index.php>

Associate General Education Guide:

<https://www.canyons.edu/student-services/counseling/degrees/generaled.php>

Communication Studies Club: <https://www.canyons.edu/academics/communications/comclub/index.php>

COC Speech Team: <https://www.canyons.edu/academics/communications/speechteam/index.php>

Sigma Chi Eta Honor Society: [sigmachieta@canyons.edu](mailto:sigmachieta@canyons.edu)

Honors Program: <https://www.canyons.edu/academics/honors/index.php>

Petition for Associate Degree: Check the [student calendar](#) for term-specific submission deadlines. Summer graduation associate degree petitions are due by April 1st for your name to appear in the spring commencement pamphlet. The petition form must be reviewed with a counselor and may be found here:

[https://www.canyons.edu/\\_resources/documents/student-services/admissions/Petition\\_for\\_Associate\\_Degree\\_and\\_Certificate\\_of\\_Achievement.pdf](https://www.canyons.edu/_resources/documents/student-services/admissions/Petition_for_Associate_Degree_and_Certificate_of_Achievement.pdf)

### Career Resources

California Career Zone: <https://www.cacareerzone.org/>

O\*Net Online: <https://www.onetonline.org/>

Bureau of Labor and Statistics: [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)

Professional Associations:

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication: <http://www.aejmc.org>

Broadcast Education Association: <https://www.beaweb.org>

Far West Popular Culture Association: <https://fwpca.org>

International Association for Relationship Research (IARR): <http://www.iarr.org>

International Communication Association: <https://www.icaheadq.org>

National Communication Association: <https://www.natcom.org>

Public Relations Society of America: <https://www.prsa.org>

Rhetoric Society of America: <https://rhetoricsociety.org>

Western States Communication Association: <https://www.westcomm.org>