

Communication Studies AA-T (CSU 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 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 Baccalaureate 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. [The Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act \(SB 1440\)](#).

Program SLO: Develop and deliver informative and persuasive presentations using 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](#).

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

| Course | Title | Units | Major and GE Courses |
|---|--|--------------|---|
| COMS 105/105H | Fundamentals of Public Speaking (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Major Course and Area A1 |
| Group 2 Major Course Department Recommends: COMS 100 | Choose any course from Group 2 listed below Department Recommends Process of Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Major Course - (dept recommends COMS 100 and meets Area E) |
| *College-level Math Department Recommends MATH 140 | Choose any college-level math course from CSU GE Area B4 (FA, WI, SP, SU) - Department Recommends Statistics | 3-5 | Area B4 |
| ENGL 101/101H | English Composition (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 4 | Area A2 |
| Lifelong Learning Course | Choose any 3-unit course from the CSU GE Area Ecategory (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Area E (if don't take COMS 100) |
| Term Total: | | 16-18 | |

*Check transfer school information to determine which math course is appropriate.

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)

| 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 Course |
| Group 2 Major Course | Choose any course from Group 2 listed below (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Major Course |
| **Critical Thinking Course – Department Recommends COMS 225 OR COMS 227 | Choose any course from CSU GE Area A3 (FA, WI, SP, SU) – <i>Department Recommends: Argumentation (FA, SP) to also meet a Group 1 Major Course OR Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism (FA, SP) to also meet a Group 3 Major Course.</i> | 3 | Area A3 (COMS 225 OR 227 may also apply towards a Group 1 or 3 Major Course) |
| Life Science Course | Choose one course from CSU GE Area B2 (if not taking the corresponding lab, will need to add a lab to the Physical Science course) (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3-4 | Area B2 (and B3) |
| 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 and Area D (Social Science) |
| Term Total: | | 15-16 | |

****Some CSU's will require a second semester of English Composition.**

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 Course |
| Arts Course – <i>Department Recommends COMS 150</i> | Choose any course from CSU GE Area C1 (FA, WI, SP, SU) - <i>Department Recommends Oral Interpretation (FA, SP)</i> | 3 | Area C1 – (COMS 150, counts toward Group 2 Major Course & GE Area C1) |
| Physical Science Course | Choose one course from CSU GE Area B1 (if not taking the corresponding lab, will need to add a lab to the Physical Science course) (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3-4 | Area B1 (and B3) |
| American Institutions Course | Complete second course in chosen option – (note: must take both classes within one option) (FA, WI, SP, SU) - <i>see table below</i> | 3 | American Institutions and Area C2 |
| CSU Elective | Choose any course that is CSU transferable (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Elective |
| Term Total: | | 15-16 | |

Fourth Semester (47-60 units)

| Course | Title | Units | Major and GE Courses |
|---|---|-----------|----------------------|
| Group 3 Major Course <i>Department Recommends a COMS Course</i> | Choose any course from Group 3 listed below (FA, WI, SP, SU) –<i>Department Recommends a Communication Studies course not yet taken from Group 3</i> | 3 | Major Course |
| Arts or Humanities Course | Choose one course from CSU GE Area C1 or C2 (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Area C1 or C2 |
| Social Science | Choose one course from CSU GE Area D (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Area D |
| Ethnic Studies | Choose one course from CSU GE Area F (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 | Area F |
| CSU Elective | Choose any course that is CSU transferable (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 2+ | Elective |
| Term Total: | | 14 | |

Students are encouraged to take additional Communication courses to fulfill elective credits.

Total Units: 60+

Group 1 – Need six units from the following:

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| COMS 120 | Small Group Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 |
| COMS 225 | Strategies of Argumentation (FA, SP) | 3 |
| COMS 246 | Interpersonal Communication (FA, SP) | 3 |

Group 2 – Need six to seven units from the following:

| | | |
|----------|--|-----|
| COMS 100 | Process of Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 |
| COMS 150 | Oral Interpretation (FA, SP) | 3 |
| COMS 190 | Forensics (FA, SP) | 1-4 |
| COMS 256 | Intercultural Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 |
| MEA 100 | Mass Media Communication (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 |

Group 3 – Need 3 units from the following:

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| COMS 227 | Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism (FA, SP) | 3 |
| COMS 235 | Intergenerational Communication (offered every other spring term) | 3 |
| COMS 260 | Communication and Gender (FA, SP, SU) | 3 |
| COMS 270 | Communication and Leadership (FA) | 3 |
| ANTHRO 103/103H | Cultural Anthropology (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 |
| PSYCH 101/101H | Introduction to Psychology (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 |
| SOCI 101/101H | Introduction to Sociology (FA, WI, SP, SU) | 3 |

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

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

Counseling Resources

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

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

CSU General Education Guide: <https://www.canyons.edu/student-services/counseling/transfer/index.php>

CSU/UC Articulation Agreements: www.assist.org

Cal State University: www.calstate.edu

A Degree with a Guarantee: <https://adegreewithaguarantee.com/en-us/>

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

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

Sigma Chi Eta Honor Society: 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

Career Resources

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

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

Bureau of Labor and Statistics: 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.icahdq.org>

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

Updated 8/6/2021 CY 2021/2022

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

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

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