

COMMUNICATION STUDIES (BA)

Degree Requirements and Curriculum

In addition to the program requirements listed on this page, students must also satisfy requirements outlined in more detail in the Minimum Requirements for Graduation (https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/#generaleducationtext) section of this catalog, including:

- · 40 units of upper-division courses
- 2.0 GPA
- · Graduation Writing Requirements (GWR)
- U.S. Cultural Pluralism (USCP)

Note: No Major or Support courses may be selected as credit/no credit. In addition, no more than 12 units of cooperative or internship courses can count towards your degree requirements.

MAJOR COURSES COMS 1100 Introduction to the Communication Studies Major 2 Select from the following: (1C) 1 Public Speaking COMS 1101 Public Speaking in Digital Spaces COMS 2205 Rhetorical Studies 3 COMS 2206 Communication Theory 3 Select from the following: COMS 2208 COMS 2208 Performance, Literature, and Culture COMS 2210 Building Advocacy Skills 2 Select two from the following: 6 COMS 2213 Organizational Communication COMS 2214 Media Studies COMS 2215 Media Studies COMS 2216 Media Studies COMS 2217 Small Group Collaboration and Creativity Select from the following: 3 COMS 3313 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3316 Intercultural Communication (Upper-Division 4) (USCP)) 3 Select from the following: 3 COMS 3332 Media Criticias COMS 3332 Media Criticias COMS 3333 Media Criticias	Code	Title	Units
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COMS 1101 Public Speaking in Digital Spaces COMS 2205 Rhetorical Studies 3 COMS 2206 Communication Theory 3 Select from the following: 3 COMS 2208 Performance, Literature, and Culture COMS 2205 Building Advocacy Skills ² Select two from the following: 6 COMS 2211 Interpersonal Communication COMS 2213 Organizational Communication COMS 2215 Media Studies COMS 2217 Small Group Collaboration and Creativity Select from the following: 3 COMS 3312 Quantitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3316 Intercultural Communication ((Upper-Division 4) (USCP)) 3 Select from the following: (GWR) 3 COMS 3332 Rhetorical Criticism 3 COMS 3332 Rhetorical Criticism 1 COMS 4460 Undergraduate Seminar 1 COMS 4461 Senior Project 2 Focus Area Select from the following focus areas or any courses in the list below. 18 Culture,	COMS 1100	Introduction to the Communication Studies Major	2
COMS 1102 Public Speaking in Digital Spaces COMS 2205 Rhetorical Studies 3 COMS 2206 Communication Theory 3 Select from the following: 3 COMS 2208 Performance, Literature, and Culture COMS 2250 Building Advocacy Skills 2 Select two from the following: 6 COMS 2211 Interpersonal Communication COMS 2213 Organizational Communication COMS 2215 Media Studies COMS 2217 Small Group Collaboration and Creativity Select from the following: 3 COMS 3312 Quantitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3313 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3331 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3332 Rhetorical Criticism COMS 3333 Media Criticism COMS 3335 Media Criticism COMS 4460 Undergraduate Seminar 1 COMS 4461 Senior Project 2 Select from the following focus areas or any courses in the list below: 18	Select from the following: (1C) 1		3
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COMS 2208 Performance, Literature, and Culture COMS 2250 Building Advocacy Skills 2 Select two from the following: COMS 2211 Interpersonal Communication COMS 2213 Organizational Communication COMS 2215 Media Studies COMS 2217 Small Group Collaboration and Creativity Select from the following: COMS 3312 Quantitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3313 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3316 Intercultural Communication ((Upper-Division 4) (USCP)) 3 COMS 3316 Performance of Literature COMS 3332 Retorical Criticism COMS 3335 Media Criticism COMS 3385 Media Criticism COMS 4460 Undergraduate Seminar 1 COMS 4461 Senior Project 2 Focus Area Select from the following focus areas or any courses in the list below: COMS 3308 Group Performance of Literature COMS 3331 Contemporary Rhetorical Approaches COMS 3333 Race and Rhetoric COMS 3331 Speech and Debate Team 3 COMS 3352 Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team 3 COMS 3352 Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team 3 COMS 3404 Video Games and Society	COMS 2206	Communication Theory	3
COMS 2250 Building Advocacy Skills ² Select two from the following: 6 COMS 2211 Interpersonal Communication COMS 2213 Organizational Communication COMS 2216 Media Studies COMS 2217 Small Group Collaboration and Creativity Select from the following: Quantitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3312 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication Studies COMS 3316 Intercultural Communication ((Upper-Division 4) (USCP)) 3 Select from the following: (GWR) 3 COMS 3332 Rhetorical Criticism 3 COMS 3385 Media Criticism 1 COMS 4460 Undergraduate Seminar 1 COMS 4461 Senior Project 2 Focus Area Select from the following focus areas or any courses in the list below: 18 Culture, Identity, and Power 1 COMS 3330 Group Performance of Literature COMS 3331 Critical Cultural Studies and Communication COMS 3331 Contemporary Rhetorical Approaches COMS 3331 Contemporary Rhetorical Approaches COMS 3332 <t< td=""><td>Select from the following:</td><td></td><td>3</td></t<>	Select from the following:		3
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Culture, Identity, and Power COMS 3308 Group Performance of Literature COMS 3319 Critical Cultural Studies and Communication COMS 3320 Intergroup Communication COMS 3331 Contemporary Rhetorical Approaches COMS 3333 Race and Rhetoric COMS 3350 Advocacy Coaching and Consulting ² COMS 3351 Speech and Debate Team ³ COMS 3352 Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team ³ COMS/JOUR 3387 Sports Communication COMS 4404 Video Games and Society	Focus Area		
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COMS 3351 Speech and Debate Team ³ COMS 3352 Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team ³ COMS/JOUR 3387 Sports Communication COMS 4404 Video Games and Society	COMS 3333	Race and Rhetoric	
COMS 3352 Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team ³ COMS/JOUR 3387 Sports Communication COMS 4404 Video Games and Society	COMS 3350	Advocacy Coaching and Consulting ²	
COMS/JOUR 3387 Sports Communication COMS 4404 Video Games and Society	COMS 3351	Speech and Debate Team ³	
COMS 4404 Video Games and Society	COMS 3352	Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team ³	
·	COMS/JOUR 3387		
COMS 4418 Health Communication	COMS 4404	Video Games and Society	
	COMS 4418	Health Communication	



COMS 4420	Nonverbal Communication		
COMS 4421	Gender and Communication		
COMS 4428	Family Communication		
COMS 4430	The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication		
COMS 4435	Rhetoric and Social Change		
Media and Technology			
COMS 3317	Technology and Human Communication		
COMS 3384	Media Effects		
COMS 3386	Communication, Media, and Politics		
COMS/JOUR 3387	Sports Communication		
COMS/ISLA 3395	Science Communication		
COMS 4402	Rhetorics of Science, Technology, and Medicine		
COMS 4404	Video Games and Society		
COMS 4418	Health Communication		
COMS 4421	Gender and Communication		
COMS/BUS 4458	Solving Big World Challenges		
ISLA 3303	Values and Technology		
Persuasion and Social Influence			
COMS 2226	Applied Argumentation		
COMS 3301	Business and Professional Communication		
COMS 3302	Advanced Public Speaking		
COMS 3305	Persuasion		
COMS 3317	Technology and Human Communication		
COMS 3330	Classical Rhetoric		
COMS 3350	Advocacy Coaching and Consulting ²		
COMS 3351	Speech and Debate Team ³		
COMS 3352	Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team ³		
COMS 3384	Media Effects		
COMS 3386	Communication, Media, and Politics		
COMS 4418	Health Communication		
COMS 4420	Nonverbal Communication		
COMS 4435	Rhetoric and Social Change		
Politics, Advocacy, and Civic Engagement			
COMS 2226	Applied Argumentation		
COMS 3302	Advanced Public Speaking		
COMS 3305	Persuasion		
COMS 3308	Group Performance of Literature		
COMS 3319	Critical Cultural Studies and Communication		
COMS 3330	Classical Rhetoric		
COMS 3331	Contemporary Rhetorical Approaches		
COMS 3350	Advocacy Coaching and Consulting ²		
COMS 3351	Speech and Debate Team ³		
COMS 3352	Spanish-language Speech and Debate Team ³		
COMS 3384	Media Effects		
COMS 3386	Communication, Media, and Politics		
COMS 3390	Environmental Communication		
COMS 4402	Rhetorics of Science, Technology, and Medicine		
COMS 4435	Rhetoric and Social Change		
Relationships, Organizations, and Socialization			
COMS 3301	Business and Professional Communication		
COMS 3320	Intergroup Communication		
COMS 3333	Race and Rhetoric		



COMS/JOUR 3387	Sports Communication	
COMS 4413	Training and Development	
COMS 4420	Nonverbal Communication	
COMS 4421	Gender and Communication	
COMS 4428	Family Communication	
COMS 4430	The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication	
COMS/BUS 4458	Solving Big World Challenges	
COMS Electives		
Select any 3000-4000 level COMS courses 4,5		6
SUPPORT COURSES		
STAT 1110	Applied Statistical Concepts and Methods (2) ¹	3
GENERAL EDUCATION (GE)		
(See GE program requirements below)		37
FREE ELECTIVES		
Free Electives ^{6,7}		24
Total Units		120

- Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.
- Repeatable course; Major credit limited to 3 units.
- Repeatable course; Major credit limited to 6 units.
- Courses taken to meet the focus area requirement cannot be double-counted in the COMS Electives.
- A maximum of 3 units may be applied toward COMS electives: COMS 4400, COMS 4480, COMS 4485.
- Free electives may need to be at the 3000-4000 level to ensure completion of the required minimum of 40 units of upper-division.
- If a General Education (GE) course is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.

General Education (GE) Requirements

- 43 units required, 9 of which are specified in Major and/or Support.
- If any of the remaining 34 Units is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.
- See the complete GE course listing (https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/#generaleducationtext).
- A grade of C- or better is required in one course in each of the following GE Areas: 1A (English Composition), 1B (Critical Thinking), 1C (Oral Communication), and 2 (Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning).

Lower-Division General Education

Area 1	English Communication and Critical Thinking	
1A	Written Communication	3
1B	Critical Thinking	3
1C	Oral Communication (3 units in Major) ¹	0
Area 2	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning	
2	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (3 units in Support)	0
Area 3	Arts and Humanities	
3A	Arts	3
3B	Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English	3
Area 4	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.)	
4A	American Institutions (Title 5, Section 40404 Requirement)	3
4B	Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
Area 5	Physical and Life Sciences	
5A	Physical Sciences	3
5B	Life Sciences	3
5C	Laboratory (may be embedded in a 5A or 5B course)	1
Area 6	Ethnic Studies	







Total Units		34
Upper-Division 4	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.) (3 units in Major) ¹	0
Upper-Division 3	Arts and Humanities	3
Upper-Division 2/5	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning or Physical and Life Sciences	3
Upper-Division General Education		
6	Ethnic Studies	3

Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.