

COMMUNICATION STUDIES - BA

Excellence in communication is a key to personal and professional success. At St. Kate's communication studies major provides a student with theoretical understanding and practical skill in intercultural communication, advanced public speaking and argumentation skills, and media theory and applied practice. The curriculum offers students the opportunity to develop their powers of clear explanation and persuasion, which are the keys to success for professional communicators.

As a Communication Studies major, students are required to complete internships. Students intern in the communications offices of major corporations and at small businesses, nonprofits, government agencies, advertising and public relations agencies, and radio and television stations and networks. Recent internship sites include Best Buy, BI Performance Services, Dynamark Corporation, Ecolab, Green Tree Financial, Medtronic, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, KMSP-TV, KDWB radio station, and the St. Paul Heritage and Festival Foundation.

This program prepares students for successful careers in fields as diverse as government, law, business, public engagement and advocacy, ministry, and teaching. Graduates are employed in personnel, human relations, human resources, volunteer coordination, organizational consulting, public relations, promotion and advertising, management, sales and a wide range of other positions within organizations. Students also regularly go onto graduate programs in law, business, and leadership. In order to assist students in choosing a career path that most suits their interests, career exploration is "baked into" many courses beginning with the intro level, into the intermediate, and culminating in senior seminar.

Communication studies majors demonstrate extraordinary leadership skills, activism and student involvement. For example, three out of four recent presidents of the senate (St. Kate's student government organization) have been communication or communication studies majors. Students who display a commitment to the field and an excellent academic record are inducted yearly into Lambda Pi Eta, the National Communication Association's student honor society.

Through a combination of theoretical analysis, research, practical application and personal assessment, students will hone their communication skills. A special emphasis on communication ethics throughout the curriculum recognizes a commitment to ethical as well as effective leadership.

This major is one of two communications majors in the country that requires students to take a leadership communication course. This unique course provides opportunities for extensive self-assessment and delves into issues such as ethics, leadership style and personal strengths, all with a focus on women's leadership and following.

See also: Majors in Community Engagement (<https://catalog.stkate.edu/undergraduate/humanities-arts-sciences/communication-studies/communication-studies-community-engagement-ba/>) as well as **Digital Media and Social Influence** (<https://catalog.stkate.edu/undergraduate/humanities-arts-sciences/communication-studies/digital-media-social-influence-ba/>)

This major is available in the College for Women only.

Curriculum

The major in communication studies requires completion of at least 32 credits:

Code	Title	Credits
COMM 1000W	Communication Strategies for Social Justice	4
COMM 1030	Speaking to Lead and Influence	4
COMM 2050	Media, Culture and Society	4
COMM 3070W	Gender and Rhetoric	4
COMM 3100	Communicating across Cultures, Identities and Differences	4
COMM 4600	Leadership and the Art of Persuasion	4
COMM 4850	Senior Seminar	4
One additional 4000-level course		4
Total Credits		32

Communication studies majors satisfy the Writing Requirement for Majors by completing COMM 1000W Communication Strategies for Social Justice and COMM 3070W Gender and Rhetoric. They complete the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Writing Requirement with two other writing-intensive courses (CORE 1000W The Reflective Woman and CORE 3990W Global Search for Justice).

Four-Year Plan

Code	Title	Credits
Fall Term		
COMM 1000W	Communication Strategies for Social Justice	4
Spring Term		
COMM 1030	Speaking to Lead and Influence	4
Fall Term		
Spring Term		
COMM 2050	Media, Culture and Society	4
Fall Term		
COMM 3070W	Gender and Rhetoric	4
Spring Term		
COMM 3100	Communicating across Cultures, Identities and Differences	4
One COMM elective		4
Fall Term		
COMM 4600	Leadership and the Art of Persuasion	4
COMM 4850	Senior Seminar	4
Total Credits		32

Three-Year Plan

Code	Title	Credits
Fall Term		
COMM 1000W	Communication Strategies for Social Justice	4
Spring Term		
COMM 1030	Speaking to Lead and Influence	4
COMM 2050	Media, Culture and Society	4
Fall Term		
COMM 3070W	Gender and Rhetoric	4

Spring Term		
COMM 3100	Communicating across Cultures, Identities and Differences	4
One COMM elective		4
Fall Term		
COMM 4600	Leadership and the Art of Persuasion	4
COMM 4850	Senior Seminar	4
Total Credits		32