

COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES-BA OR BS

THIS IS A **GENERAL** CURRICULUM GUIDE AND IS NOT APPLICABLE TO EVERY STUDENT. IT IS IMPORTANT TO MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR.

Communications Studies major (45 credits)

School of Communications Core (9 credits)

- **COM 101 Concepts of Communication** (3)
- **COM 201 Speech** (3)
- **COM 295 Communication Theory** (3)
Prerequisite: COM 101

Capstone (3 credits)

- **COM 495 Issues in Communications** (3)
Prerequisite: Senior Standing

Communication Studies Core (24 credits)

At least 12 credits of Communication Studies Core courses must be at the 300 level or above; the 18 credits must be unduplicated

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — COM 202 Critical Interpretation (SWS) (3) <u>OR</u> — COM 203 Argument & Analysis (SWS)(3) — Communication Studies Core ____ (3) — Communication Studies Core ____ (3) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — COM 498 Senior Thesis/Project or COM 490 Internship (1-6) — Communication Studies Core ____ (3) (300-level or above) — Communication Studies Core ____ (3) (300-level or above) — Communication Studies Core ____ (3) (300-level or above) — Communication Studies Core ____ (3) (300-level or above) |
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Communication Studies Core options

COM 202 Critical Interpretation (SWS)
COM 203 Argument & Analysis (SWS)
COM 209 Health Communication Systems
COM 210 Nonverbal Communication
COM 215 Story Making (SWS)
COM 220 Media Literacy
COM 301 Interpersonal Communication

COM 302 Small Group Communication
COM 303 Debate
COM 320 Vision and Culture
COM 371 Media and Society
COM 372 Global Communications
COM 376 Communication Policy and Law

COM 378 Intercultural Communication
COM 380 Special Topics
COM 399 Independent Studies
COM 438 Communications Ethics
COM 477 History of Communications Technologies

- **Communications Studies Core options may include more than one COM 380, and may include no more than 3 credits in COM 399. Up to 6 COM 490 (Internship) credits allowed in the Core/Major.**

Electives (9 credits)

Complete 9 credits of any of the following courses or other advisor-approved course(s)

Electives _____, _____, _____ (9)

Advertising and Public Relations

CAP 209 Fundamentals of Advertising
CAP 219 Fundamentals of Public Relations
CAP 321 Media Relations Writing

Multimedia Journalism

CMJ 184 Television Media Production
CMJ 236 News in Society
CMJ 256 News Reporting (SWS)
CMJ 284 Broadcast News I
CMJ 290 Journalism History
CMJ 316 News Editing and Graphics

Health Communications

CAP 219 Fundamentals of Public Relations
COM 209 Health Communication Systems
COM 410 Senior Seminar in Health Com

Theatre

THE 151 Acting I: Improvisation
THE 161 Theatre Production
THE 162 Play Analysis
THE 261 Stagecraft I
THE 362 Production Dramaturgy
THE 371 Theatre History I
THE 372 The Modern Theatre

Film and Video

FVP 123 Media Production Modes
FVP 125 Media Production I
FVP 225 Film Culture
FVP 373 Issues of Representation
FVP 376 Latin American Cinema

Photography

PHO 171 Photography I (4)
PHO 172 Photography II
PHO 175 Understanding Still Photography
PHO 266 History of Photography I
PHO 272 Digital Photography I
PHO 279 Color Photography I

***Courses cannot count for both Elective credits and Communications Studies Core credits. COM prefix courses not otherwise applied to the major may be eligible for substitutions as elective course credits, pending faculty advisor approval. Other courses may qualify for application to the major but may not be listed, see your faculty advisor.**

Degree: choose one (B.A. or B.S.)

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Third semester proficiency (201 level) is required for the B.A. degree. This may be fulfilled through language placement (<http://www.gvsu.edu/mlj/language-placement-the-opi-108.htm>) or by completing the courses listed below:

- **Language 101*** (4)
- **Language 102*** (4) (*150 is a hybrid of 101 & 102 and is recommended for students with previous language background; students may move into Language 201 after completing Language 150)
- **Language 201** (4)

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

- **STA 215 Introduction to Statistics** (3)
Prerequisite: MTH 110 or equivalent
- **COM 275 Foundations of Communication Research** (3)
Prerequisites: COM 101
- **COM 375 Communication Research** (3)
Prerequisite: STA 215 and COM 275

Sample Plan

Year One COM 101 (3) COM 201 (3) BA or BS Course (3-4) WRT 130 ¹ or 150 (4) MTH 110 (4)	Year Three COM Studies Core (3) COM Studies Core (3) COM Studies Core (3) COM Elective (3) BA or BS Course (3-4)	*Students must complete a total of two courses with an SWS attribute *Students should complete an average of 30 credits per year to earn the required 120 credits to graduate within a 4 year time span *The block tuition rate is for 12-15 credits. You will pay additional tuition for any credits over 15
Year Two COM 295 (3) COM 202 or 203 (3) COM Studies Core (3) COM Elective (3) COM Elective (3) BA or BS Course (3-4)	Year Four COM Studies Core (3) COM 495 (3) COM 498 or COM 490 (1-6)	

¹ WRT 120 is a prerequisite for WRT 130. Students should take WRT 120 in the fall semester and then take WRT 130 in the winter semester of their first year. Students who self-place into WRT 150 should normally take this course in the winter semester of their first year. Students will not need to take WRT 150 if they have earned credit for the course through AP/Dual Enrollment. A grade of C or better is required in WRT 150 in order to satisfy the WRT 150 requirement at GVSU.

Guide for Declaring the Communication Studies Major

1. Log into myBanner from the GVSU homepage
2. Once logged in select "Student", "Student Records", and then, "Change Major"
3. Click on the "Change Major 1/Program" box
4. Click on the down arrow in the box next to "New Major 1/Program," from here scroll down and choose "Communication Studies-BA" **OR** "Communication Studies-BS" depending on your degree
5. Click "Submit" and then "Change to New Program"

General Education Overlap

General Education Categories fulfilled by the Communication Studies major:	
Mathematical Sciences: STA 215, if selecting the B.S. degree Arts Category: option of selecting FVP 225 or CTH 161 in the Elective Area of the Communication Studies major	Philosophy and Literature: option of selecting COM 202 in the Communication Studies Core Identity Issue: option of selecting COM 438 in the Communication Studies Core Supplemental Writing Skills: option of selecting COM 202, or 203, or 215 in the Communication Studies Core