

Communication (COMM)

Courses

COMM 1001. FYE: Communication. 1 Hour.

A First Year Experience seminar designed to help students majoring in Communication and Media Studies adapt to college life and become integrated into Dixie State University and the Communication department. Students will refine academic skills, create and foster social networks, learn about college resources, explore different options available within the departments, and learn about career opportunities in our degree programs. Multiple listed with all other sections of First Year Experience (all 1001 courses, ENGR 1000). Students may only take one FYE course for credit. FA.

COMM 1010. Elements of Effective Communication. 3 Hours.

Introduction to the theory and practice of communicating in interpersonal, small group, organizational, and public presentation settings. Includes essential theories through practical experience, including language use, nonverbal communication, organizational structure and practices, persuasion, and public speaking. FA, SP, SU.

COMM 1020. Public Speaking. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors. For any student with an interest in improving public speaking skills by preparing, outlining, and presenting various types of speeches, including introductory, informational, persuasive, and others. Successful completers will be able to present an organized, well prepared speech. FA, SP, SU.

COMM 1050. Introduction to Communication Theory. 3 Hours.

Fulfills General Education Social & Behavioral Sciences requirement. Required of all Communication and Media Studies majors. Survey of basic issues, theories, and perspectives in the study of communication, including knowledge of the various contexts of human communication and how they differ from each other. Successful completers develop critical thinking and analytical skills; improve listening and observational skills; increase problem solving capabilities; gain insight into their own paradigms and the paradigms of others; and learn how to communicate effectively with others of varying beliefs and values in a variety of contexts. FA, SP.

COMM 1270. Critical Thinking and Communicating. 3 Hours.

Required for all Communication Studies majors, and is open to other interested students. The goal of this course is to examine fundamental elements of reasoning, apply intellectual standards, and develop intellectual traits. An important focus is given to the elements of thought that help us open other systems of thinking in other disciplines. How we think and respond to a variety of issues and situations is essential in problem solving, effective interpersonal communication building, engaging productively in our communities and civic life. FA, SP, SU.

COMM 2020R. Forensics Institute. 3 Hours.

For students enrolled in the Sun Country Forensics Institute summer workshop seeking to enhance their Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, and/or individual event debate knowledge and skills. Repeatable up to 6 credits subject to graduation restrictions. SU.

COMM 2110. Interpersonal Communication. 3 Hours.

Fulfills General Education Social & Behavioral Sciences requirement. Required of all Communication Studies majors. Focuses on communication skills in a wide range of interpersonal areas appropriate to business or personal relationships, and involving initiating, developing, maintaining, and controlling the deterioration of relationships, with emphasis on listening, assertiveness, supportive climates, conflict, power management, and disclosure. Introduces the special needs of intercultural communication, and prepares students to effectively express ideas in one-to-one settings. FA, SP, SU.

COMM 2120. Small Group Communication. 3 Hours.

Required for all Communication Studies majors, but open to all students interested in small group communication in familial, work, social, religious, civic, or educational environments. Covers the formal and unspoken rules of conduct, roles, and expectations of performance unique to each group, as well as how to function productively in small group settings. Reviews criteria for effective group decision making. FA, SP.

COMM 2700. Voice and Civility in Public Discourse. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors. Being two-part in purpose, this course first surveys theoretical frameworks for examining public discourse through lenses that identify the mass communication appeals used in democratic societies and capitalistic markets. Second, with the purpose of students developing their own civil voice as citizen-consumers through adopting a critical eye on public discourse, the course also utilizes a case study approach to understanding the rhetorical appeals in free speech, social movements, mass media, the news industry, advertising, art, entertainment, and popular culture. FA, SP.

COMM 2710. Communication Principles of Mentorship. 2 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Applied Leadership emphasis. Explores the role of communication in mentoring relationships to prepare students for mentoring roles. Applies practice and theory from a variety of core communication courses. Through experiential learning, students will employ mentoring skills and discover best practices for successful mentoring relationships. Further, students will identify how mentorship skills facilitates leadership skills relating to presentation, nonverbal communication, collaboration and persuasive strategies. FA, SP.

COMM 3010. Nonverbal Communication. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors and other students interested in the role behavior plays in the development and delivery of effective communicative acts and its consequences in an effort to increase students' behavior-related skills and applications in social contexts. Prerequisite: COMM 2110. FA.

COMM 3060. Communication Theory. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors. Develops awareness, understanding, and application of the complex theories and concepts inherent in the study of Communication. Focuses on theoretical, conceptual, and applied research and scholarship that investigates ways in which people communicate, the consequences of those interactions, and the application of those theories and concepts to everyday life. Prerequisite: COMM 1050. FA, SP.

COMM 3120. Family Communication. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and other interested students. Study of the complexities and influences of the family structure as representative of culture, including communication structure, interaction patterns, parenthood, abuse, conflict, family goals of finance and education, and dealing with rapid changes in restructuring due to people both entering and leaving the family unit, from the first meeting of partners to the final stages of life. Prerequisite: COMM 2110. FA.

COMM 3130. Rhetoric and Public Communication. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors. This course is designed to give students an understanding of the role of communication at the foundation of democracy and its role in cultures' oratorical traditions, storytelling, and mass culture. Specific focus is given to speech during periods of history that led philosophers to conceptualize the art of effective communication. Students are introduced to classical and modern theories as well as contemporary theories of power and justice.

COMM 3150. Lying & Deception. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and other interested students. Addresses what research identifies as an increase in deception in all aspects of human affairs. Students will identify the differences between whole truths, half-truths, expedient momentary acts of deception, and how these acts inform culture, while exploring the consequences of deception in human affairs and the ethical violations that accompany these acts. Prerequisite: COMM 2110. FA.

COMM 3180. Provider & Patient Relations. 3 Hours.

For Communications Studies majors, and required in the Health Communication emphasis. Open to all majors preparing for health and wellness careers. An examination of effective theories, frameworks, techniques and interventions used to develop effective communication between health and wellness providers and their patients. FA.

COMM 3190. Intercultural Communication. 3 Hours.

Global and Cultural Perspectives course. Required of Human Communication majors, and open to other interested students. Designed to develop cross-cultural, global understanding, and sensitivity. Focuses on theoretical and conceptual immersion in extant cross-cultural research and scholarship. Includes in various forms and formats of media, culturally sensitive audience analysis, increased diversity sensitivity and understanding, as well as design and delivery of messages that are culturally sensitive via new media technologies. Prerequisite: COMM 2110. FA, SP.

COMM 3200. Community Health Communication. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Health Communication emphasis. Open to all majors preparing for health and wellness careers. An examination of effective theories, frameworks, and data used to develop effective community health communication strategies. FA, SP.

COMM 3230. Health Communication. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Health Communication emphasis. For healthcare practitioners, and for practitioners-in-training. A course to strengthen communication skills associated with overall success of the practitioner-patient interface. The communicative disconnect between healthcare practitioners and their patients has led to misunderstandings about health care and its applications that may impact patients' actual and perceived well-being. Research suggests that effective communication interactions between practitioners and patients can lead to more pro-active and involved patients, higher patient satisfaction, shorter administration of health care routines, and fewer medical malpractice lawsuits. Dual listed with HLOC 3230 (students may take only one course for credit). FA, SP.

COMM 3330. Negotiations & Bargaining. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Applied Leadership emphasis. Also for other interested students. Explores the processes and outcomes of negotiation and bargaining principles, theories, and related concepts by engaging in experiential opportunities where they apply those principles and gain skills in negotiation and bargaining in current social and professional settings. Includes professional guest speakers. Prerequisite: COMM 1270. SP.

COMM 3350. Interviewing. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and other interested students. Focuses upon dyadic communication conducted specifically for gathering information and seeking entrance into closed workplace, clubs, social, educational, or recreational groups. SP.

COMM 3400. Gender Communication. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and other interested students. Studies the verbal and nonverbal interactions between men and women to encourage the development of communication skills between genders so that interpersonal and professional interactions are more successful and effective. Prerequisite: COMM 2110. FA, SP.

COMM 3460. Content & Rhetorical Analysis. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors. Designed to enable students to be responsible consumers of public messages through introduction of the criticism of communication messages and media. Students will be introduced to the analysis of public address advertising, television, film, and literature as sites for critique. Introduces students to a range of methodological approaches to analyzing messages in linguistic and critical traditions.

COMM 3510. Ethics in Communication. 3 Hours.

Required of all Communication Studies majors, and open to other interested students. Requires students to become well-informed about communication strategies and skills that will develop an ethical sensitivity applicable to all walks of life through an intensive examination and evaluation of how well or how poorly ethical standards are formed, articulated, applied, and defended. Prerequisite: COMM 1010 OR COMM 2110. FA, SP.

COMM 3550. Theoretical Perspectives of Organizational Communication. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and other interested students. Examines organizational communication theories and concepts in detail, particularly with a view toward modern applications within a range of current professional settings in order to advance students' abilities to apply appropriate theories and concepts in analyses of organizations, human behavior, organizational policies, and their consequences. Prerequisite: COMM 1050.

COMM 3850. Organizational Communication and System Dynamics. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Applied Leadership emphasis. Focuses on complex processes inherent in organizations, including theoretical, conceptual, and applied research and scholarship that reviews why organizations succeed and why they fail, especially how organizations come to be, analysis of organizations to identify strengths and weaknesses, identification of successful personal roles. Offers insights into organizational structure and cross-communicative patterns within organizations as well as an understanding of organizations from a Systems Dynamics perspective. FA, SP.

COMM 3990. Seminar in Communication. 0.5-3 Hours.

For students wishing instruction that is not available through other regularly scheduled courses in this discipline. Occasionally, either students request some type of non-traditional instruction, or an unanticipated opportunity for instruction presents itself. This seminar course provides a variable credit context for these purposes. As requirements, this seminar course must first be pre-approved by the department chair; second, it must provide at least nine contact hours of lab or lecture for each credit offered; and third, it must include some academic project or paper (i.e., credit is not given for attendance alone). This course may include standard lectures, travel and field trips, guest speakers, laboratory exercises, or other nontraditional instruction methods. Note that this course is an elective and does not fulfill general education or program requirements. Fees may be required for some seminar courses and instructor permission will be optional at the request of the instructor.

COMM 4010. Persuasion. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Health Communication emphasis. Also open to other interested students. Develops awareness, understanding, and application of critical thinking and persuasive message design to achieve intended persuasive effects on specific audiences by focusing on rhetorical, conceptual, and applied research and scholarship that tracks both traditional as well as modern persuasive processes in both oral and written persuasive messages. Critical thinking skills are developed through analysis of audiences and positional arguments and their rhetorical construction. Prerequisite: COMM 1270. FA, SP.

COMM 4020. Integrated Oral Presentations. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and other interested students. Develops theory-based skills integrating public speaking with technology by expanding presentational skills and message impact through production and incorporation of electronic images. Successful completers will understand integrated delivery strategies and develop a technological foundation to support this sophisticated form of public speaking. Prerequisite: COMM 1020. FA.

COMM 4030. Applied Organizational Communication Research. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors. Examines modern research initiatives in organizational communication theories and concepts in detail, particularly with a view toward modern applications within a range of current professional settings. Students will design and implement original research emerging from case study. Successful completers will increase their abilities to apply appropriate theories and concepts in analyses of organizations, human behavior, organizational policies and their consequences. Prerequisite: COMM 4450.

COMM 4050. Leadership and High Performance Teams. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Applied Leadership emphasis. Open to other interested students. Emphasizes development of teamwork and the principles of high performance teams, including conceptualization and practice of the many types of leadership and their effective applications. Successful completers will increase skills and understanding of group processes and leadership dynamics within groups. Prerequisite: COMM 2120. SP.

COMM 4450. Communication Research. 3 Hours.

For Communication & Media Studies majors. Focuses on Communication-specific quantitative, qualitative, and critical research methodologies through a process of Communication research design and analysis. Prerequisite: COMM 3060 or MDIA 3060 (can be concurrently enrolled). FA, SP.

COMM 4490. Communication and Contemporary Public Issues. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors. An analysis of public issues that currently dominate communication including the impact of technology, philosophy, and ideas requiring application of rhetorical principles for more effective communication. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing.

COMM 4500. Human Communication and Conflict. 3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors, and required in the Applied Leadership emphasis. Explores the theoretical and conceptual foundations of conflict, primarily at the interpersonal, dyadic level, as well as the sources, types, and outcomes of their application. Successful completers will demonstrate an increase in source of conflict awareness and skill development in resolution techniques, as well as being able to apply this awareness and skill to their personal relationships with others. Prerequisite: COMM 1270. SP.

COMM 4890R. Directed Study. 1-3 Hours.

For Communication Studies majors with advanced standing who wish to pursue a specific focus of study related to their degree emphasis and/or research interest not otherwise available in the current Communication curriculum. Students are closely supervised by appropriate faculty in the design and successful completion of the course. The course is dependent upon a formal contractual arrangement with the faculty member that is submitted at the beginning of the semester in which coursework is undertaken, and is contingent upon the department chair's approval. Students meet with the faculty mentor each week and provide progress reports for feedback. Students are required meet the college requirement of 45 hours of work per credit. Variable credit 1.0 - 3.0. Repeatable up to 9 credits. Prerequisites: Communication major, and Instructor permission. FA, SP.

COMM 4900R. Communication Internship. 3 Hours.

Required for all Communication Studies & Media Studies majors. Designed to integrate students into professional communication environments to increase competencies and initiate networking. Potential environments include broadcast and feature motion picture production, corporate and business communication, public relations, journalism, etc. Repeatable up to 6 credits subject to graduation restrictions. Prerequisite: Instructor permission. FA, SP, SU.

COMM 4980. Senior Seminar. 4 Hours.

Required for all Communication Studies & Media Studies majors. Students complete a culminating scholarly project (research, production, etc.) to allow students to demonstrate competency in, and application of, communication knowledge and skills. Through the Capstone Project students will demonstrate the achievement of the Communication Department Learning Objectives. Students will work with an instructor to complete appropriate documentation of the project (for example, paper, peer reviewed presentation, public editorial approval, etc.). Prerequisite: COMM 4450 or Instructor permission. FA, SP, SU.

COMM 4990. Seminar in Communication. 0.5-3 Hours.

For students wishing instruction that is not available through other regularly scheduled courses in this discipline. Occasionally, either students request some type of non-traditional instruction, or an unanticipated opportunity for instruction presents itself. This seminar course provides a variable credit context for these purposes. As requirements, this seminar course must first be pre-approved by the department chair; second, it must provide at least nine contact hours of lab or lecture for each credit offered; and third, it must include some academic project or paper (i.e., credit is not given for attendance alone). This course may include standard lectures, travel and field trips, guest speakers, laboratory exercises, or other nontraditional instruction methods. Note that this course is an elective and does not fulfill general education or program requirements. Fees may be required for some seminar courses and instructor permission will be optional at the request of the instructor.