COMMUNICATION STUDIES, THEATRE, and DANCE

Changes to the BS/BA degree requirements in Communication Studies

FROM: The communication studies program, which encompasses both communication theory and rhetorical arts, has two instructional goals. First, the program attempts to improve a student’s communication skills in developing messages that are clear, coherent, reasoned, ethical, and fluent. Course work in public speaking, group and interpersonal communication, and co-curricular activities in debate and individual events provide opportunities to acquire practical communication skills. Second, the program attempts to develop a student’s ability to analyze communication in different social, political, and organizational settings. Course work in rhetorical theory, history, and criticism focuses on the study of speech and language used to achieve practical ends. A major in communication studies would be appropriate for anyone who planned to enter a career that is communication-intensive, such as law, education, health professions, business, or government.

In addition to the general university and college requirements for the BA or BS degree, an undergraduate major in communication studies is required to take 37 hours of coursework in the Department of Communication Studies, Theatre, and Dance. All majors will complete 7 required hours and 15 hours in one of the division’s five academic tracks of legal communication, organizational communication, political communication, relational communication, or rhetorical studies. All communication studies majors will also complete 15 hours in communication studies electives.

Bachelor degree requirements
Communication studies required hours (7 credit hours)

To: The communication studies program, which encompasses both communication theory and rhetorical arts, has two instructional goals. First, the program attempts to improve a student’s communication skills in developing messages that are clear, coherent, reasoned, ethical, and fluent. Course work in public speaking, group and interpersonal communication, and co-curricular activities in debate and individual events provide opportunities to acquire practical communication skills. Second, the program attempts to develop a student’s ability to analyze communication in different social, political, and organizational settings. Course work in rhetorical theory, history, and criticism focuses on the study of speech and language used to achieve practical ends. A major in communication studies would be appropriate for anyone who planned to enter a career that is communication-intensive, such as law, education, health professions, business, or government.

In addition to the general university and college requirements for the BA or BS degree, an undergraduate major in communication studies is required to take 39 hours of coursework in the Department of Communication Studies, Theatre, and Dance. All majors will complete 7 required hours and 15 hours in one of the division’s five academic tracks of legal communication, organizational communication, political communication, relational communication, or rhetorical studies. All communication studies majors will also complete 15 hours in communication studies electives.

Bachelor degree requirements
Communication studies required hours (9 credit hours)
The above chart reflects the changes to our curriculum resulting from: dropping one course (COMM 080), changing one course (COMM 550) from 1 credit hour to three credit hours, and adding one course (COMM 551).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2009