

Communication Rhetoric Major

www.comm.pitt.edu/undergraduate

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The study of communication is one of the oldest and most contemporary fields. Communication majors examine questions about society, communication, and persuasion in ways that combine the best of the ancient liberal arts tradition with critical attention to the newest media technologies. Our faculty offer diverse perspectives on the role of communication, media, and rhetoric in our lives through courses such as persuasion, argument, interpersonal communication, political rhetoric, rhetoric of science, nonverbal communication, history of media, media criticism, and television and society.

Many of the Department of Communication's graduates hold important positions in industry, education, media, government, law, and other professions. An understanding of communication as a human activity, makes the department's graduates attractive candidates when seeking employment or obtaining admission to graduate programs.

Required courses for the Communication major

The Communication major requires the completion of 33 credits distributed as follows.

Core courses

These courses are prerequisites for the 1000-level courses.

COMMRC 0300 Communication Process

COMMRC 0310 Rhetorical Process

COMMRC 0320 Mass Communication Process

Skills courses

COMMRC 0520 Public Speaking and

One of the following

COMMRC 0500 Argument

COMMRC 0510 Debate

COMMRC 0530 Interpersonal Communication

COMMRC 0540 Discussion

COMMRC 0550 Speech Composition

Upper-level courses

Any six 1000-level courses listed on the back of this sheet.

Special project courses

These courses are **not** required. Only COMMRC 1710 can be counted toward the major.

COMMRC 1710 Senior Thesis in Communication ¹

COMMRC 1900 Communication Internship ²

COMMRC 1901 Independent Study ¹

¹ A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for enrollment in this course.

² A minimum GPA of 2.75 is required for enrollment in this course.

Declaring the major: Students must complete the core courses (COMMRC 0300, 0310, and 0320) with a C or better before declaring this major.

Grade requirements: A grade of C or better is required in each course that is to count toward the major. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option: No course that counts toward the major can be taken on an S/NC basis without the approval of the COMMRC advisor.

Writing (W) requirement: Students must complete at least one W-course in the major.

Related area: A minimum of 12 credits is required in any one Arts and Sciences department chosen in consultation with the major advisor. The completion of an official Arts and Sciences minor or an Arts and Sciences or UCIS certificate also satisfies this requirement.

Internships: The Department of Communication keeps a large file of undergraduate internship opportunities in a variety of communication related fields. Most students find internships at local radio and television stations, nonprofit agencies, and local businesses. We also list available positions related to event planning, marketing, public relations, promotions, advertising, and journalism. Many of our students choose to intern for credit, which requires them to attend three two hour meetings of the Communication Internship Seminar over the duration of the semester. Each interning student will complete a [Department of Communication Internship Agreement](#) form.

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Checklist for the Communication Rhetoric major

Core courses

- _____ COMMRC 0300
- _____ COMMRC 0310
- _____ COMMRC 0320

Skills courses

- _____ COMMRC 0520 **and**

One of the following

- _____ COMMRC 0500
- _____ COMMRC 0510
- _____ COMMRC 0530
- _____ COMMRC 0540
- _____ COMMRC 0550

Upper-level courses

Choose six of the following

- _____ COMMRC 1101
- _____ COMMRC 1102
- _____ COMMRC 1103
- _____ COMMRC 1104
- _____ COMMRC 1105
- _____ COMMRC 1106
- _____ COMMRC 1109
- _____ COMMRC 1110
- _____ COMMRC 1111
- _____ COMMRC 1112
- _____ COMMRC 1113
- _____ COMMRC 1114
- _____ COMMRC 1115
- _____ COMMRC 1116
- _____ COMMRC 1117
- _____ COMMRC 1118
- _____ COMMRC 1119
- _____ COMMRC 1120
- _____ COMMRC 1121
- _____ COMMRC 1122
- _____ COMMRC 1123
- _____ COMMRC 1125
- _____ COMMRC 1126
- _____ COMMRC 1142
- _____ COMMRC 1143
- _____ COMMRC 1145
- _____ COMMRC 1147
- _____ COMMRC 1148
- _____ COMMRC 1730
- _____ COMMRC 1731
- _____ COMMRC 1732
- _____ CSD 1020 *
- _____ LING 1000
- _____ LING 1263

* This course is offered by the School of Health and Rehabilitation Science.