

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Communication is a discipline concerned with the study of how people use messages to generate meaning within and across various contexts, cultures, channels, and media. The discipline promotes the effective and ethical practice of human communication. Courses in communication examine the nature, use, and role of messages among individuals and within small groups, organizations, and society in whatever form they assume—oral, written, visual, mediated, and technological. While the roots of the study of communication trace back to the ancient arts of philosophy, rhetoric and aesthetics, its contemporary practices speak to the opportunities and dilemmas of participating in a globalized, mediated, and multicultural society.

Classes are organized into seven pathways: community service and public affairs, health communication, legal communication, media studies, strategic communication, political communication and government and critical toolbox courses. Across these pathways, students are encouraged to merge theoretical studies with practical applications, including service learning courses, travel study, internships, and social justice projects.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a shared advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas.advising@ucdenver.edu

Visit the CLAS Advising website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 1030

303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Communication Major Advising

[CLAS Major Advisor Contact Information](#)

Visit the program website [here](#)

Student Commons Building (SCB) 3014

303-315-1919

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 credit hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 30 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) credit hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS credit hours with letter grades at CU Denver

*The following are **maximum** credit hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:*

- 16 credit hours Pass/Fail
- 12 credit hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 credit hours of internship credit
- 8 credit hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major advisor to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Communication B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a minimum of 39 COMM credit hours.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 15 upper-division (3000-level and above) COMM credit hours.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of C- (1.7) in all courses that apply to the major and must achieve a minimum cumulative major GPA of 2.0. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to major requirements.
4. Students must complete a minimum of 18 COMM credit hours, 15 of which must be upper division, with CU Denver faculty.
5. Communication majors may complete up to six credit hours of COMM 3939 Internship.
6. A maximum of six credit hours of independent study courses may be applied to the major.
7. Students may transfer in up to 21 COMM credit hours.
8. In addition to required Communication courses, students are required to take seven elective courses (21 hours), which may consist of classes chosen from any combination of Communication Pathway and Inquiry and Analysis courses. See department for approved courses.

LYNXCONNECT RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about internship, study abroad, career, and research opportunities for this major? Visit the CU Denver LynxConnect, located in Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 339, and browse the LynxConnect [website](#) for more information.

Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
CLAS Graduation Requirements		CLAS Graduation Requirements
COMM Major Requirements	39	15 credit hours must be upper-division
COMM Required Courses		
COMM 1001 Presentations and Civic Life or COMM 2050 Professional Presentations	3	
COMM 1011 Communication and Communities	3	Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Behavioral Science
COMM 1021 Introduction to Media Studies	3	Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Behavioral Science
COMM 2020 Communication, Citizenship, and Social Justice	3	
COMM 2075 Researching and Writing in Comm	3	
COMM Major Electives	21	*See major advisor. Check individual courses for prerequisites. At least 12 credits must be upper-division.
COMM Exit Course	3	*See major advisor. Choose from: COMM 3939, 4040, 4051, 4430, 4500, 4525, 4550, 4558, 4660, 4688, 4700, or 4995. Check individual courses for prerequisites.
Estimated General Electives	41 - 47	General Elective credit hours will vary. Students are highly encouraged to explore and complete additional programs including certificates, minors, double-majors, and dual-degrees. Consult with CLAS Academic Advisor.
Total Minimum Credit Hours:	120	30 credit hours must be upper-division

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as certificates, minors, double-majors, or dual-degrees.

Year 1 - Fall	CRS
ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3
CU Denver Core Mathematics – MATH 2830 <i>recommended</i>	3
COMM 1011 ^C , 1021 ^C , or 2020	3
CU Denver Core Social Science	3
General Elective / First-Year Seminar	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 1 - Spring	CRS
ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
COMM 1011 ^C , 1021 ^C , or 2020	3
COMM 1001 or 2050	3
CU Denver Core Humanities	3
CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Science with lab	4
Total Credit Hours	16

Year 2 - Fall	CRS
COMM 1011 ^C , 1021 ^C , or 2020	3
COMM Major Elective	3
CU Denver Core Arts	3
CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Science without lab	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 2 - Spring	CRS
COMM 2075	3
COMM Major Elective	3
CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity ^M	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 3 - Fall	CRS
COMM Major Elective	3
CU Denver Core International Perspectives	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 3 - Spring	CRS
COMM Upper-Division Major Elective	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 4 - Fall	CRS
COMM Upper-Division Major Elective	3
COMM Upper-Division Major Elective	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year 4 - Spring	CRS
COMM Exit Course ^{PE or PR}	3
COMM Upper-Division Major Elective	3
Upper-Division General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	2
Total Credit Hours	14