

TELECOMMUNICATION MEDIA STUDIES - BA

Students with a passion for media, choose the Bachelor of Arts in Telecommunication Media Studies (TCMS). The BA in TCMS features a broad, liberal arts approach to media topics and is supported by classwork from across the College of Arts and Sciences, and beyond. The BA in TCMS requires study in communication technology skills, technology and communication, media history, research methods and media theory, and then branches out to permit choices among a number of TCMS electives in communication, film studies, journalism and business. The BA is a flexible, liberal arts, media-oriented degree and is supported by study of a foreign language.

Coursework for incoming Freshmen begins with a dedicated first semester experience which introduces them to the breadth of the field of Communication and of Media while also involving them in small groups and acquainting them with Texas A&M University, our resources and our opportunities. We also welcome Transfer students, meeting them where they are and integrating them into the Communication family.

A Bachelor of Arts degree in Telecommunication Media Studies serves well in a broad variety of careers. Our students may become social media experts, online marketers, broadcasters, producers, film makers, digital media specialists, industry leaders, government regulators, spokespeople, politicians, writers, artists, activists, and informed citizens. The curriculum is designed to educate citizens for a productive future in an ever-changing world, preparing students for media-related positions in business, government, non-profit organizations, and higher education.

TCMS-BA students will select a minor. They have the option to select a certificate in Global Media, Health Communication, Leadership and Conflict Management, Social Media, Strategic Communication or Communication, Diversity and Social Justice.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric	3
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences	
MATH 142	Business Calculus	
MATH 151	Engineering Mathematics I	
MATH 152	Engineering Mathematics II	
PHIL 240	Introduction to Logic	
STAT 201	Elementary Statistical Inference	
Foreign language ¹		4
Telecommunication elective ^{2,3}		4
Semester Credit Hours		14

Spring

COMM 230/	Communication Technology Skills	3
JOUR 230		
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 203	Public Speaking	

COMM 205	Communication for Technical Professions	
COMM 243	Argumentation and Debate	
ENGL 103	Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition	
ENGL 203	Writing about Literature ⁴	
ENGL 210	Technical and Professional Writing	
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences	
MATH 142	Business Calculus	
MATH 151	Engineering Mathematics I	
MATH 152	Engineering Mathematics II	
PHIL 240	Introduction to Logic	
STAT 201	Elementary Statistical Inference	
Foreign language ¹		4
Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture) ⁵		3
Semester Credit Hours		16

Second Year

Fall

COMM 330	Technology and Human Communication	3
ECON 202	Principles of Economics	3
Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts) ⁵		3
Foreign language ¹		3
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/arts-and-sciences/) ⁴		3
Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

Foreign language ¹		3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)		3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)		3
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/arts-and-sciences/) ⁴		3
Telecommunication elective ³		3
Semester Credit Hours		15

Third Year

Fall

COMM 308	Research Methods in Communication	3
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Minor ⁶		3
Minor ⁶		3
Telecommunication elective ^{2,3}		3
Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

COMM 350	Theories of Mediated Communication	3
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American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)	3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Minor ⁶	3
Telecommunication elective ³	3
Semester Credit Hours	15
Fourth Year	
Fall	
COMM 401-480 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/comm/)	3
Language, philosophy and culture or creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture) ⁵	3
Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences) ⁵	3
Minor ⁶	3
Telecommunication elective ³	2
General elective	1
Semester Credit Hours	15
Spring	
COMM 401 to 480 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/comm/)	3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)	3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Minor ⁶	3
Minor ⁶	3
Semester Credit Hours	15
Total Semester Credit Hours	120

¹ Complete 14 hours of a foreign language (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/arts-and-sciences/>) through the intermediate level. If you choose to enroll in a language you have studied previously without receiving college credit, you must first take a placement test. See academic advisor.

² First semester, first time in college students must take COMM 101 and COMM 291.

³ Select from: COMM 101-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/comm/>); CSCE 110, CSCE 206; ENGL 251/ FILM 251; FILM 251/ENGL 251; ISTM 250, ISTM 310, ISTM 315, ISTM 325, ISTM 425; ITSV 274; JOUR 102, JOUR 301/COMM 307; POLS 302, POLS 313; WGST 407/COMM 407.

⁴ ENGL 203 will count toward the Communication requirement or the Literature directed elective requirement, but not both.

⁵ COMM course may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

⁶ Minor to be selected from among approved university minors. Consult with advisor regarding how to declare desired minor. Courses fulfilling core curriculum requirements may apply to the minor and therefore

some of these courses may become electives. Minors will range between 15 and 18 hours.

Graduation requirements include 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a Core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. The required 6 hours may be met by courses satisfying other areas of a degree program. See your academic advisor for further information.

Students take 21 credit hours of the required program core courses and 12 credit hours of telecommunication elective courses for a total of 33 credit hours. At least 12 credits must be at the upper-division level. At least 12 credits must be taken in residence at Texas A&M University. Minimum grade of C in each course. No more than 3 credit hours of COMM 484; no more than 6 credit hours of COMM 485.

Teaching Certification

Students desiring certification to teach communication in secondary schools of Texas may either major in communication (College of Arts and Sciences) or in another field, but in either case, they must include the following courses in their degree plans:

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
COMM 203	Public Speaking	3
COMM 210	Group Communication and Discussion	3
COMM 243	Argumentation and Debate	3
COMM 301	Rhetoric in Western Thought	3
COMM 305	Theories of Communication	3
COMM 315	Interpersonal Communication	3
COMM 330	Technology and Human Communication	3
	or COMM 340 or Communication and Popular Culture	
	or COMM 435 or Rhetoric of Television and Film FILM 445	
COMM 350	Theories of Mediated Communication	3
PERF 407	Performing Literature	3
Total Semester Credit Hours		27

Additional education courses are required. More complete information on the requirements for teacher certification may be found in the College of Education and Human Development section under secondary teacher certification.