

TELECOMMUNICATION MEDIA STUDIES - BS

This program is designed to educate students for a productive future in an ever-changing world, preparing them for media-related positions in business, government, non-profit organizations, and higher education.

Students who are fascinated by media and media applications choose the Bachelor of Science in Telecommunication Media Studies (TCMS). The BS in TCMS features a specialized study of telecommunication, media and quantitative systems. Students select communication courses that address media industries, law and policy, technology and society, media audiences, processes, and effects. The practice of media and acquisition of media skills are included. Students may customize this degree by selecting additional coursework to round out their particular media interests. The degree is supported with the study of research methods and quantitative concepts in statistics and research design.

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 Science degree in Telecommunication Media Studies works well in a broad variety of careers. Our students may become media designers, data analysts, digital media experts, online administrators, digital storytellers, content producers, filmmakers, digital media specialists, industry leaders, government officials, politicians, writers, artists, and informed citizens.

TCMS BS students will select a minor. They have the option to also select a certificate in Health Communication, Leadership and Conflict Management, Social Media, or Strategic Communication.

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	
American history (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)	3
Life and physical sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Telecommunication Media Studies elective ^{1,2,3}	4
Semester Credit Hours	16

Spring

COMM 230/ JOUR 230 Communication Technology Skills ²	3
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	
Government/Political science (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)	3
Language, philosophy and culture (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture) ⁴	3
Semester Credit Hours	15

Second Year

Fall

ECON 202 Principles of Economics	3
STAT 201 Elementary Statistical Inference or STAT 303 or Statistical Methods	3
Government/Political science (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)	3
Life and physical sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Telecommunication Media Studies elective ^{2,3}	3
Semester Credit Hours	15

Spring

ISTM 210 Fundamentals of Information Systems	3
Creative arts (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts) ⁴	3
Life and physical sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Social and behavioral sciences (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences) ⁴	3
Telecommunication Media Studies elective ³	3
Semester Credit Hours	15

Third Year

Fall

COMM 330 Technology and Human Communication ²	3
COMM 375 Media Audiences ²	3
Select 3 hours from:	3

ISTM 250	Business Programming Logic and Design	
SOCI 220	Methods of Social Research	
STAT 307	Sample Survey Techniques	
American history (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Minor ⁵		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Spring		
COMM 308	Research Methods in Communication ²	3
COMM 345	Media Industries ²	3
COMM 350	Theories of Mediated Communication ²	3
Minor ⁵		3
General elective ⁶		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Fourth Year		
Fall		
COMM 401-480 (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/comm/) ²		3
Telecommunication Media Studies elective ^{2,3}		2
Minor ⁵		3
Minor ⁵		3
General elective ⁶		3
Semester Credit Hours		14
Spring		
COMM 401-480 (https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/comm/) ²		3
Minor ⁵		3
Minor ⁵		3
General elective ⁶		3
General elective ⁶		3
Semester Credit Hours		15
Total Semester Credit Hours		120

catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/soms/) may be used towards general electives.

Graduation requirements include 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<https://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 24 credit hours of the required program core courses and 9-10 credit hours of telecommunication media studies 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.

¹ First semester, first time in college students must take COMM 101 and COMM 291.

² Must earn a grade of C or better.

³ Select from: COMM 100 to 499 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/comm/>) (except COMM 203, COMM 243), CSCE 110, CSCE 206; ISTM 250, ISTM 310, ISTM 315, ISTM 325; ITSV 274; JOUR 102, JOUR 301/COMM 307; MGMT 209, MGMT 309; WGST 407/COMM 407.

⁴ COMM course may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Select any 100-499 course not used elsewhere. Only 14 hours of KINE 199; AERS 100-499 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/military-sciences/aerospace-studies/#coursestext>); MLSC 100-499 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/mlsc/>); NVSC 100-499 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/military-sciences/naval-science/#coursestext>); SOMS 100-499 (<https://>