

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

Communication is concerned with the most distinct human characteristics: the use of spoken language and the use of media to communicate information, maintain social contact, and influence others. The Department of Communication at Texas A&M University offers four undergraduate degrees, two minors, six certificates, a dedicated first semester experience for freshmen and for transfer students, an internship program, and optional study abroad trips and field trips that when combined to meet a student's interests provide unique approaches to acquiring the knowledge and the marketable skills needed to describe, interpret, evaluate and transform the world around us through the use of communication and media.

We offer students the following:

Majors

- Communication BA – requires a minor
- Telecommunication Media Studies BA/BS – requires a minor
- University Studies - Journalism Studies BA – requires two minors

Minors

- Communication
- Journalism

Certificates

- Communication, Diversity and Social Justice
- Communication and Global Media
- Communication Leadership and Conflict Management
- Health Communication
- Social Media (majors only)
- Strategic Communication (majors only)

Many students select a major and a minor (two minors for Journalism Studies students) in order to customize their choices of classes. Other students choose a major, a minor and then pattern their courses to pursue a certificate. Honors students may participate in the well-established and well-respected COMM-Honors program. ***Academic Advisors are on hand to assist students in refining their pathway to their future.***

Career options abound. While some students choose advanced degrees in communication, law, business, or religion, many go straight into the work world to pursue careers in a vast array of areas. Typical choices include positions in strategic communication, public relations, marketing, advertising, promotions and sales, training and human resources, social media, journalism, digital communication, leadership and management, health fields related to communication, organizations and public policy, communication media, sports communication, entertainment and related areas of business, industry, government, and non-profit organizations.

Degree requirements depending on the path chosen may include the study of rhetorical and communication theories, media theories, media history, media industries, media writing, the study of communication research methods, and the use of those theories, research methods and skills in a variety of communication and media contexts. Such contexts include health communication, intercultural communication,

interpersonal communication, mass media and new communication technologies, journalism, organizational communication, political rhetoric, religious communication, sports communication and others. Students use their communication and media skills to become leaders in all areas of business, social and political life.

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Honors Program

The Department of Communication has a well-established Honors plan and strong linkages to the University honors program. Honors courses are available in all areas of Communication. In addition, students may graduate with honors in Communication noted on the transcript. Honor students may also choose individualized instruction through COMM 497, and through honors contracting. Students interested in the Department's Honors Program should contact the Communication Undergraduate Studies Office.

Undergraduate Courses

The Department of Communication offers courses in many areas of the discipline: Health Communication, Media Studies, Organizational Communication, Rhetoric and Public Affairs, Journalism, Leadership and Civic Dialogue, Communication and Diversity, Social Media, Strategic Communication and Digital Communication, Media Literacy with significant focus in Intercultural and International communication across each area.

Certificates

The Department of Communication offers six certificates. While these certificates are *optional*, they permit a student to focus studies in one of six areas. The certificate is also noted on the student's transcript. The certificates in Communication and Global Media, in Communication Leadership and Conflict Management, in Health Communication and in Communication, Diversity and Social Justice are open to students in the Department of Communication and in any major across the University. The certificates in Strategic Communication and in Social Media are offered to students majoring in Communication, Telecommunication Media Studies or University Studies-Journalism Studies only.

Faculty

Aschenbeck, Stacy H, Instructional Assistant Professor
Communication
MA, Texas State University, 1999

Barge, James K, Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Kansas, 1985

Blanton, Hart C, Professor
Communication
PHD, Princeton University, 1994

Braman, Sandra, Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities, 1988

Burkart, Patrick C, Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Texas, 2000

Burton, Thomas, Lecturer
Communication
BS, University of Florida, 1982

Campbell, Heidi A, Professor
Communication
PHD, The University of Edinburgh, 2002

Conrad, Charles R, Professor
Communication
PHD, Kansas University, 1972

Coombs, William T, Professor
Communication
PHD, Purdue University, 1990

Crick, Nathan A, Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Pittsburgh, 2005

Donaldson, David, Lecturer
Communication
JD, The University of Texas School of Law, 1976

Dorsey, Leroy G, Professor
Communication
PHD, Indiana University, 1993

Dubriwny, Tasha N, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Georgia, 2005

Dunaway, Johanna L, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, Rice University, 2006

Gammon, Angelique, Instructional Assistant Professor
Communication
BA, Texas A&M University, 1982

Goidel, Robert K, Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Kentucky, 1993

Guajardo, Jonathan, Lecturer
Communication
MA, University of the Incarnate Word, 2014

Havens, Jessica M, Lecturer
Communication
MA, Colgate University, 2012

Heatly, Kyra, Lecturer
Communication
MA, Texas Tech University, 2019

Henson, Bryce, Visiting Assistant Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Illinois, 2016

Holladay, Sherry J, Professor
Communication
PHD, Purdue University, 1992

Ito, Miwa, Lecturer
Communication
MS, North Dakota State University, 2014

La Pastina, Antonio C, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, The University of Texas - Austin, 1999

Lopez, Joseph, Associate Professor of the Practice
Communication
PHD, The University of Texas at Austin, 2010

Lueck, Jennifer A, Assistant Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Minnesota, 2016

Means Coleman, Robin Renee, Professor
Communication
PHD, Bowling Green State University, 1996

Mercieca, Jennifer R, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign, 2003

Miller, Jeremy R, Lecturer
Communication
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2012

Munson, David N, Lecturer
Communication
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2018

Parish, Nancy B, Instructional Assistant Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Florida, 2013

Poirot, Kristan A, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Georgia, 2004

Ramasubramanian, Srividya, Professor
Communication
PHD, Pennsylvania State University, 2004

Rice, Dale, Instructional Associate Professor
Communication
BA, Syracuse University, 1973

Rold, Michael F, Lecturer
Communication
PHD, Louisiana State University, 2014

Rowe, Sara M, Lecturer
Communication
MA, Texas A&M University, 2012

Song, Xiaofei, Lecturer
Communication
PHD, Washington State University, 2019

Stephenson, Michael, Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Kentucky, 1999

Street Jr, Richard L, Professor
Communication
PHD, The University of Texas at Austin, 1980

Street, Nancy A, Instructional Professor
Communication
MA, University of Texas, 1980

Sumpter, Randall S, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Texas, 1996

Tang, Lu, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Southern California, 2007

Tarvin, David T, Senior Lecturer
Communication
PHD, Louisiana State University, 2013

Wallis, Cara J, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, University of Southern California, 2008

Wesner, Kylene J, Instructional Assistant Professor
Communication
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2014

Wolfe, Anna W, Associate Professor
Communication
PHD, Ohio University, 2013

Majors

- Bachelor of Arts in Communication (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/ba/>)
- Bachelor of Arts in Telecommunication Media Studies (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/telecommunication-media-studies-ba/>)
- Bachelor of Arts in University Studies, Journalism Studies Concentration (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/journalism-university-studies-ba/>)
- Bachelor of Science in Communication (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/bs/>)

- Bachelor of Science in Telecommunication Media Studies (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/telecommunication-media-studies-bs/>)

Minors

- Communication Minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/minor/>)
- Journalism Minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/journalism-minor/>)

Certificates

- Communication, Diversity and Social Justice Certificate (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/communication-diversity-social-justice-certificate/>)
- Communication and Global Media Certificate (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/communication-global-media-certificate/>)
- Communication Leadership and Conflict Management Certificate (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/communication-leadership-conflict-management-certificate/>)
- Health Communication Certificate (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/health-communication-certificate-health-campaign-policy-track/>)
- Social Media Certificate (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/social-media-certificate/>)
- Strategic Communication Certificate (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/communication/strategic-communication-certificate/>)