

Communication Studies: Relational Communication Option

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Communication Studies

Employers responding to National Association of Colleges and Employers surveys consistently



NATIONAL
COMMUNICATION
ASSOCIATION

express the need for graduates with strengths in communication, leadership, and critical thinking. The Relational Communication track within the Communication Studies major provides graduates with tools critical to communicating effectively in an ever-changing global workplace. Students can expect to develop a practical skillset including oral and public presentation skills, advanced research and writing skills, conflict mediation techniques, and strategies for effective interpersonal and relational communication. In addition, students will learn to facilitate group work, develop critical thinking skills, and develop an understanding of communication's impact of communication on social change and influence.

Course content is key for majors pursuing careers in marketing, management, sales, human resources, advertising and public relations, as well as fundraising, community outreach, nonprofit administration, and health care management. Students pursuing majors in psychology, counseling, social work, and ministry work will benefit from developing an adaptable interpersonal skillset, and those in majors focused on educational settings (including parks/recreation and history/anthropology) will benefit from learning techniques in effective audience analysis, presentation skills, and an enhanced understanding of diverse populations.

Classes like Interpersonal Communication, Relational Communication, Small Group Communication, and The Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication offer opportunities to develop the research, intercultural competency, relational communication ability, and academic writing and oral communication skills necessary for professional positions and post-graduate education. Experiential learning projects and internships develop problem-solving and leadership skills through practical experiences.

In addition to providing students the tools to participate meaningfully in social and work life, the Relational Communication track only requires 34 classroom hours. The Relational Communication track is the perfect double major for those students who want to increase their competitiveness in the job market or in graduate school applications.

Becoming Career Ready...

/ Faculty work closely with students in small-class settings in state-of-the-art facilities in Academic Hall.

/ Students develop oral, written, interpersonal, and visual communication as well as, listening, management, marketing and leadership skills.

/ Students organizations, Collegiate Communication Organization and Lambda Pi Eta (National Honor Society) offer leadership opportunities.

/ 100% of Southeast programs offer real-world experience. Our majors gain experience through an internship or practicum experience.

/ The path to a successful career starts with you! You can maximize your career development by working closely with Career Services and Southeast faculty – they are here to help you connect your passions, interests and skills to jobs and opportunities in the field. Career Services provides professional career counseling and coaching, resume critiques, practice interviews, job search strategies, career events, networking opportunities and more.

Internship & Employment Opportunities of Recent Graduates

- Graduates have the opportunity to secure employment in a wide variety of settings, including
 - Caterpillar
 - Childrens' Charity of St. Louis
 - Cintas
 - Enterprise Rent-A-Car
 - LDiscovery
 - Maritz Motivation Solutions
 - Missouri House of Representatives
 - National Communication Association
 - Roberts, Wooten, & Zimmer: Attorneys at Law
 - Timberland
 - Transportation Security Administration
 - U.S. Bancorp
- Majors have the opportunity to intern in various settings, including
 - Disney World
 - AT&T Mobility
 - Classic Contracting, LLC
 - Farmers Insurance Group
 - Fleishman-Hillard
 - Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
 - KRCU: A National Public Radio affiliate
 - National Baseball Hall of Fame
 - Office of Prosecuting Attorney (Cape Girardeau)
 - Panama Canal Authority
 - Enterprise Rent-A-Car
 - Republic Services, Inc.
 - Veteran's Affairs Medical Center

Graduate Programs of Recent Graduates

Our majors have gained entrance to notable graduate programs and law schools, including

Ball State University

- Clemson University
- DePaul University
- Duke University
- Indiana University
- Northwestern University
- Saint Louis University
- University of Arkansas
- University of Central Florida
- University of Illinois
- University of Mississippi
- University of Missouri
- Washington University

Transfer and Dual Credit Students

If you have dual credit or transfer credit, please visit our transfer course equivalencies guide at semo.edu/transfercredit

To learn more
 Office of Admissions
 (573) 651-2590
admissions@semo.edu
semo.edu

To explore
 the College of Humanities and
 Social Sciences online, visit
semo.edu/hss

For advising
 Center for Academic Advising
semo.edu/advising

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This is a guide based on the 2021-2022 Undergraduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students will meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their individual progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

Communication Studies: Relational Communication Option – 34 hour major – Minor required

Required Courses:

- ___ SC 001 Exit Interview (0)
- ___ SC 105 Fundamentals of Oral Communication (3)
- ___ SC 155 Fundamentals of Interpersonal Communication (3)
- ___ SC 200 Communication and Publics (3)
- ___ SC 360 Experiential Comm Projects (1-3)
- ___ UI 425 Persuasion (3)

Choose one course:

- ___ SC 314 Argumentation & Problem Solving (3)
- ___ SC 320 Group Comm & Decision-Making (3)

Choose one course:

- ___ SC 420 Rock-n-Roll & Rebellion (3)
- ___ SC 491 Investigating Communication Studies (3)

RELATIONAL COMMUNICATION OPTION

Choose 9 hours:

- ___ SC 301 Foundations of Health Communication (3)
- ___ SC 316 Gender Communication (3)
- ___ SC 355 Relational Communication Strategies (3)
- ___ SC 406 Negotiation & Conflict Management (3)
- ___ SC 490 Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication (3)

Choose 6 Hours from:

- ___ SC 215 Intercultural Communication (3)
- ___ SC 301 Foundations of Health Communication (3)*
- ___ SC 316 Gender Communication (3)*
- ___ SC 335 Interviewing (3)
- ___ SC 355 Relational Communication Strategies (3)*
- ___ SC 360 Experiential Communications Projects (1-3)
- ___ SC 406 Negotiation & Conflict Management (3)*
- ___ SC 482 Special Topics in Comm Studies (3)
- ___ SC 483 Internship in Speech Comm (3)
- ___ SC 496 Practicum in Communication Studies (3)
- ___ SC 490 Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication (3)*
- ___ UI 345 Nonverbal Communication (3)

*if not taken above

General Education Requirements – some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in major program

- Social and Behavioral Sciences – 6 hours
- Constitution Requirement – 3 hours
- Written Communication – 6 hours
- Oral Communication – 3 hours
- Natural Sciences – 7 hours (from two disciplines, one to include a lab)
- Mathematics – 3 hours
- Humanities & Fine Arts – 9 hours (from at least two disciplines)
- Additional requirements – 5 hours (to include UI100 for native students)
- Civics examination

SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

	Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
	Course #	Hrs	Course #	Hrs
FIRST YEAR	UI100	1	SC105/SC155	3
	EN100	3	General Education	3
	SC105/SC155	3	General Education	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	Total	13	Total	15
SECOND YEAR	Comm Studies Elective	3	SC200	3
	General Education	3	SC360	1-3
	General Education	3	Comm Studies Elective	3
	General Education	3	Comm Studies Elective	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	Minor Course	3	Minor Course	3
Total	18	Total	16-18	
<i>(consider taking a summer or intersession course)</i>				
THIRD YEAR	SC314/SC320	3	SC420/SC491	3
	Comm Studies Elective	3	Comm Studies Elective	3
	Elective	3	Minor Course	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Elective	0-2	Elective	3
Total	12-14	Total	15	
FOURTH YEAR	UI425	3	SC 001	0
	Minor Course	3	Comm Studies Elective	3
	Elective	3	Minor Course	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
Total	15	Total	15	

Degree requirements for all students: a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of the General Education program, and completion of 39 senior division hours (300-599). Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or Degree Works for additional graduation requirements for your program.

Revised
2/26/2021