

Communication Studies: Rhetoric & Public Communication Option
Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Communication Studies

The Rhetoric & Public Communication track within the Communication studies major prepares graduates



for all things **ADVOCACY**. Whether majors hope to pursue careers in local, state, or national politics, non-profit administration and outreach, or seek advance degrees in law or the humanities, our students will gain all the skills needed to succeed in their chosen path by completing course work in the Communication Studies, Rhetoric & Public Communication major. Courses offered in the Rhetoric & Public Communication track provide students with the opportunity to develop and strengthen oral and written communication skills crucial to success in any advocacy setting. Classes like Communication & Publics, Modern Presidency, Argumentation & Debate, and Persuasion and Rhetorical Theory offer ample opportunities to develop the research, argumentation, intercultural competency, presentational speaking, and academic and speech writing necessary for all types of advocacy positions as well as post-graduate education. In addition, our frequent rotation of special topic courses allows students to develop a deeper understand of contemporary topics like conservative rhetoric, the role of emotional appeals in politics, and contemporary social movements.

In addition to providing students the tools to participate meaningfully in social and political life, the Rhetoric & Public Communication track only requires 34 classroom hours. This means that the Rhetoric & Public Communication track is the perfect double major for those students who want to increase their competitiveness on the job market or in graduate school applications. Majors also benefit from the department's active membership in the National Communication Association and national honor societies.

Becoming Career Ready...

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

/ Students are engaged throughout the communication studies curriculum to develop oral, written, visual communication, listening, management, marketing and leadership skills.

/ Communication Studies students are encouraged to become members of student organizations, COMMrades and Lambda Pi Eta, for service and networking opportunities or to try out for Southeast's award-winning debate team.

/ 100% of Southeast programs offer real-world experience. Communication Studies students earn this experience through an optional internship or practicum experience. Upperclassmen have opportunities to oversee public events while earning course credit.

/ 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.

Transfer and Dual Credit Students

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

Internship & Employment Opportunities of Recent Graduates

- Our recent graduates have secured employment in a wide variety of settings, including
 - Caterpillar
 - Children's 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
- Recent majors have interned 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
 - Patty Long Catering, Inc.
 - 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

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: Rhetoric & Public 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)

RHETORIC & PUBLIC COMMUNICATION OPTION
Choose 9 hours:

- ___ SC 310 Speechwriting (3)
- ___ SC 314 Argumentation & Public Deliberation (3)
- ___ SC 482 Special Problems in Communication (3)
- ___ UI 320 Modern Presidency (3)
- ___ UI 504 Leaders of Social Change (3)

Choose 6 hours from:

- ___ SC 215 Intercultural Communication (3)
- ___ SC 301 Foundations of Health Communication (3)
- ___ SC 310 Speechwriting (3)*
- ___ SC 314 Argumentation & Public Deliberation (3)
- ___ SC 316 Gender Communication (3)*
- ___ SC 360 Experiential Communications Projects (1-3)
- ___ SC 420 Rock-n-Roll & Rebellion (3)**
- ___ SC 482 Special Problems in Communication (3)*
- ___ SC 496 Practicum in Communication Studies (3)
- ___ UI 320 Modern Presidency (3)*
- ___ UI 423 Political Communication (3)
- ___ UI 504 Leaders of Social Change (3)*

*if not taken above

**if not taken in the core

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	SC200/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	SC360	1-3	SC200/General Education	3
	Comm Studies Elective	3	SC314/SC310	3
	General Education	3	Comm Studies Elective	3
	General Education	3	Minor course	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	Total	13-15	Total	16-18
<i>(consider taking a summer or intersession course)</i>				
THIRD YEAR	SC420/SC491	3	Comm Studies Elective	3
	Comm Studies Elective	3	Minor Course	3
	Minor Course	3	Elective	3
	General Education	3	Elective	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	Total	15	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	17	Total	12-14

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