Communication Studies
Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Communication studies majors develop skills that make them “most likely to succeed.” The Wall Street Journal reports that leaders in corporations and industry consistently rank communication skills among the most needed in the workplace. They identify communication deficiencies as extremely common among employees and responsible for significant problems with efficiency, productivity and safety. As a result, communication studies majors enter the workforce with an edge, having highly developed communication skills. These skills allow them positive recognition and upward mobility as they excel on the job.

The skills developed simultaneously serve the individual and society. Although many majors train with a specific career in mind, the technical and relational skills associated with the major transfer to a variety of careers, enabling graduates to thrive in today’s marketplace where most professionals can expect to change careers several times. At the same time, training in communication studies provides students the tools to participate meaningfully in social and political life. 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.

/ Communication Studies graduates work in sales, marketing, consumer relations and human resources. Examples of job titles include telemarketer, speechwriter, technical/business writer, corporate trainer, political campaign manager and human resources specialist.

/ 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, Jimmy’s Friends and Lambda Pi Eta for service and networking opportunities.

/ Students are poised to try out for Southeast’s award-winning debate team or to become a tutor in the department’s speaker’s resource center. Upperclassmen have opportunities to oversee public events while earning course credit.

/ 100% of Southeast programs offer real-world experience. Communication Studies students earn this experience through an optional 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**

- 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

**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
Communication Studies
Bachelor of Arts (BA)

This is a guide based on the 2019-2020 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 – 30 hour major – Minor required**

- SC 001 Exit Interview (0)
- SC 105 Fundamentals of Oral Communication (3)
- SC 155 Fundamentals of Interpersonal Communication (3)
- SC 200 Advanced Public Speaking (3)
- SC 320 Group Communication & Decision Making (3)
- UI 345 Nonverbal Communication (3)
- UI 425 Persuasion (3)
- SC 560 Organizational Communication (3)

Choose 15 Hours From:

- SC 215 Intercultural Communication (3)
- SC 301 Foundations of Health Communication (3)
- SC 310 Speechwriting (3)
- SC 314 Argumentation and Problem Solving (3)
- SC 330 Corporate and Professional Communication (3)
- SC 335 Interviewing (3)
- SC 355 Relational Communication Strategies (3)
- SC 360 Experiential Communication Projects (1, 2, or 3)
- SC 406 Negotiation & Conflict Management (3)
- SC 483 Independent Study (3)
- SC 482 Special Problems in Communication Studies (3)
- SC 483 Internship in Speech Communication (3)
- SC 510 Leadership and Teambuilding (3)
- SC 560 Organizational Communication (3)
- UI 301 Managerial Communication (3)
- UI 320 Modern Presidency (3)
- UI 423 Political Communication (3)
- UI 425 Persuasion (3)
- UI 504 Leaders of Social Change (3)

**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

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<th></th>
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(consider taking a summer or intersession course)

**THIRD YEAR**

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**FOURTH YEAR**

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*Consider taking SC 483: Internship

**Degree requirements for all students:** a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of the General Education program, completion of 39 senior division hours (300-599), Writing Proficiency Exam (WP003). Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or Degree Works for additional graduation requirements for your program.