



# Communication Rhetoric Major

[www.Comm.Pitt.edu/Undergraduate](http://www.Comm.Pitt.edu/Undergraduate)

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The study of communication is one of the oldest and most contemporary fields. Communication majors examine questions about society, communication, and persuasion in ways that combine the best of the ancient liberal arts tradition with critical attention to the newest media technologies. Our faculty offer diverse perspectives on the role of communication, media, and rhetoric in our lives through courses such as persuasion, argument, interpersonal communication, political rhetoric, rhetoric of science, nonverbal communication, history of media, media criticism, and television and society.

Many of the Department of Communication's graduates hold important positions in industry, education, media, government, law, and other professions. An understanding of communication as a human activity, makes the department's graduates attractive candidates when seeking employment or obtaining admission to graduate programs.

## Required courses for the Communication major

The Communication major requires the completion of 33 credits distributed as follows.

### Core courses

These courses are prerequisites for the 1000-level courses.

COMMRC 0300 Communication Process

COMMRC 0310 Rhetorical Process

COMMRC 0320 Mass Communication Process

### Skills courses

COMMRC 0520 Public Speaking and

### One of the following courses

COMMRC 0500 Argument

COMMRC 0510 Debate

COMMRC 0530 Interpersonal Communication

COMMRC 0540 Discussion

COMMRC 0550 Speech Composition

COMMRC 0575 Introduction to Radio Production

### Upper-level courses

Any six 1000-level courses listed on the back of this sheet.

### Special project courses

These courses are not required. Only COMMRC 1710 can be counted toward the major.

COMMRC 1710 Senior Thesis in Communication <sup>1</sup>

COMMRC 1900 Communication Internship <sup>2</sup>

COMMRC 1901 Independent Study <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for enrollment in this course.

<sup>2</sup> A minimum GPA of 2.75 is required for enrollment in this course.

## Grade requirements

A grade of C or better is required in each course that is to count toward the major. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

## Satisfactory/No Credit option

No course that counts toward the major can be taken on an S/NC basis without the approval of the COMMRC advisor.

## Writing (W) requirement

Students must complete at least one W-course in the major.

## Internships

The Department of Communication keeps a large file of undergraduate internship opportunities in a variety of communication related fields. Most students find internships at local radio and television stations, nonprofit agencies, and local businesses. We also list available positions related to event planning, marketing, public relations, promotions, advertising, and journalism. Many of our students choose to intern for credit, which requires them to attend three two-hour meetings of the Communication Internship Seminar over the duration of the semester. Each interning student will complete a [Department of Communication Internship Agreement](#) form.

## Advising

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## Checklist for the Communication Rhetoric major

### Core courses

- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0300 Communication Process
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0310 Rhetorical Process
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0320 Mass Communication Process

### Skills courses

- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0520 Public Speaking and

### One of the following courses

- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0500 Argument
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0510 Debate
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0530 Interpersonal Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0540 Discussion
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0550 Speech Composition
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 0575 Introduction to Radio Production

### Upper-level courses

#### Choose six of the following

- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1101 Evidence
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1102 Organizational Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1103 Rhetoric and Culture
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1104 Political Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1105 Television and Society
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1106 Small Group Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1109 Nonverbal Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1110 Theories of Interpersonal Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1111 Theories of Persuasion
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1112 Theories of Rhetoric
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1114 Freedom of Speech and Press
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1115 African American Rhetoric
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1116 Rhetoric of Cynicism and Counter Culture
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1117 20th Century Public Argument
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1119 Presidential Rhetoric 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1120 Rhetoric of the Cold War
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1121 History of Mass Media
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1122 Media Criticism
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1123 Rhetorical Criticism
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1125 Media Theory
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1126 Media and Consumer Culture
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1143 Knowledge, Power, and Desire
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1147 Rhetoric of Science
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1148 Rhetoric of Human Rights
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1730 Special Topics in Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1731 Special Topics in Rhetoric
- \_\_\_\_\_ COMMRC 1732 Special Topics in Mass Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ LING 1000 Introduction to Linguistics
- \_\_\_\_\_ LING 1263 Cross-Cultural Communication
- \_\_\_\_\_ CSD 1020 Nature of Language \*

\* This course is offered by the School of Health and Rehabilitation Science.