

## Associate in Arts Degree: Communication Studies

An Associate of Arts degree in Communication Studies seeks to provide students with a comprehensive knowledge of the complex and diverse nature of the communication process and a sharpened understanding of contexts within which humans use signs and symbols to create meaning. The degree focuses on the way[s] language and other symbolic systems are used interpersonally, within small group settings and in mass mediated formats. Courses will allow students to achieve three separate aims depending upon their academic goals. First, students will be well prepared to transfer to a four-year institution with a broad range of communication coursework completed. Second, students will be prepared for entry into a variety of careers—all of which require effective communication skills for working with diverse sets of people in an increasingly complex technological workplace. Careers including business, public relations, human resources, law [after law school], advertising arts, teaching, social & human services and entertainment industries are all suited for graduates of a Communication Studies degree. Finally, students who are interested in the field of Communication Studies but do not wish to complete a Baccalaureate degree in the discipline may pursue a terminal two-year course of study. Such study will prepare them to understand diverse communication messages and practice excellent communication skills in a variety of settings.

### Degree Student Learning Outcome:

Students will be able to:

-Develop and deliver informative and persuasive presentations using clear written and oral communication skills.

-Analyze theoretical concepts of communication and assess how each concept is utilized within various communication contexts.

### Program Requirements:

Units Required: 19 – 22

Three units from the following:

Units:

|             |                                          |     |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|-----|
| COMM-C1000  | Introduction to Public Speaking          | 3.0 |
| OR          |                                          |     |
| COMM-C1000H | Introduction to Public Speaking – Honors | 3.0 |
| OR          |                                          |     |
| COMM-120    | Small Group Communication                | 3.0 |

Plus three units from the following:

|          |                          |     |
|----------|--------------------------|-----|
| COMM-100 | Process of Communication | 3.0 |
|----------|--------------------------|-----|

Plus one to four units from the following:

|          |                     |           |
|----------|---------------------|-----------|
| COMM-150 | Oral Interpretation | 3.0       |
| OR       |                     |           |
| COMM-190 | Forensics           | 1.0 - 4.0 |

Plus three units from the following:

|          |                                      |     |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-----|
| COMM-225 | Strategies of Argumentation          | 3.0 |
| OR       |                                      |     |
| COMM-227 | Introduction to Rhetorical Criticism | 3.0 |

Plus nine units from the following:

|          |                                             |     |
|----------|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| COMM-235 | Communication of Aging, Health, and Society | 3.0 |
| COMM-246 | Interpersonal Communication                 | 3.0 |
| COMM-256 | Intercultural Communication                 | 3.0 |
| COMM-260 | Communication and Gender                    | 3.0 |
| COMM-270 | Communication and Leadership                | 3.0 |