

Monmouth College Department of Communication Studies

Overview of the Communication Major and Minor Requirements

The Department of Communication Studies (COMM) offers a Communication major that provides the opportunity to focus on Communication or Media or both. In addition to coursework, internships and practical experience in one or both of these areas, a COMM Studies student will discover the interrelationship of elements involved in all successful communication exchanges--e.g. audience analysis, message content, delivery options and context adaptations. COMM majors may work in corporate communication, human resources, organizational training, in public relations or marketing, in radio, television or other media, just to name a few of the career possibilities. All of these involve the need to understand and develop useful communication skills and strategies.

A major in Communication consists of 9.5 to 10.5 course credits of work in COMM courses, including

- 2 courses of 100/200 level workshop, one quarter credit each
- COMM 230 – Introduction to Communication Studies, 1 course credit
- COMM 261 – Mass Media and Society, 1 course credit
- COMM 321 and 421 – Junior and Senior Colloquium, one half course credit each
- COMM 491 – Senior Seminar in Freedom of Expression and Communication Ethics, 1 course credit
- An independent study, one course credit or internship (with or without course credit), and
- Departmental acceptance of a senior web-based electronic portfolio.

In addition, majors must complete courses in the following options:

- Either COMM 231 (Interpersonal Communication) or COMM 235 (Small Group Communication), 1 course credit
- Two courses selected from COMM 333 (Organizational Communication), COMM 335 (Argumentation), COMM 337 (Communication Criticism) and COMM 339 (Persuasion); 1 course credit each
- One course selected from COMM 260 (Introduction to Journalism), COMM 269 (Introduction to Multi-media Production) or PUBR 363 (Media and PR Writing), 1 course credit

NOTE CAREFULLY: Some required courses have pre-requisites that must be taken in advance. Plan for that!! Students are strongly encouraged to discuss their future plans with a faculty member in the Communication Studies Department and consider taking additional elective courses that will further their career plans.

Required Courses for the Communication Minor (*for students not seeking a major in Communication; 4.25 credits*):

- *One of the following two courses:* (1 course credit)
 - COMM 231 Interpersonal Communication
 - COMM 235 Small Group Communication
- *Two of the following four courses:* (1 course credit each)
 - COMM 333 Organizational Communication
 - COMM 335 Argumentation
 - COMM 337 Communication Criticism
 - COMM 339 Persuasion
- One additional Communication course elective, (1 course credit)
- At least .25 credits in workshop courses at the 100 or 200 level.

Required Courses for the Media Minor (*for students not seeking a major in Communication; 4.25 credits*):

- COMM 261 Mass Media and Modern Society, 1 course credit
- COMM 269 Introduction to Multi-Media Production, 1 course credit
- PUBR 363 Media and Public Relations Writing, 1 course credit
- PUBR 367 Layout and Design, 1 course credit
- At least .25 credits in workshop courses from COMM 115, 116, 214, 215 or 216.

Required Courses for the Journalism Minor (a minimum of 5.25 credits)

- COMM 260 – Introduction to Journalism: Reporting and Writing, 1 course credit
- PUBR 363 – Media and Public Relations Writing, 1 course credit
- PUBR 367 – Layout & Design, 1 course credit
- An approved internship (or COMM 495/6) (0-2 course credits)
- At least .25 credits in workshop courses from COMM 116 or 214 or 216
- Two elective course credits, neither of which is in a student’s major department or which counts toward the major, selected from the list below (or approved by the journalism coordinator):

ARTD 236 – Photography

BUSI 105 – Introduction to Commerce

BUSI 307 – Marketing

COMM 261 – Mass Media and Modern Society

COMM 491 – Seminar in Freedom of Expression
and Communication Ethics

ECON 200 – Principles of Economics

ECON 340 – Economics and Law

ENGL 301 – Advanced Composition

HIST 112 – U.S. History 1900- Present

HIST 122 – Latin American History II

HIST 319 – History of the Contemporary World

MATH 106 – Statistics

PHIL 201 – Critical Thinking

PHIL 207 – Ethics

POLS 311 – Parties and Elections

POLS 333 – US Foreign Policy