



# COMMUNICATION STUDIES College of Humanities and Social Sciences

#### **OVERVIEW**

Communication Studies prepares students for professional success and meaningful life experience with skills and competencies of ethical and effective communication. The curriculum cultivates career-ready practices and strengths, including critical thinking and problem solving, research and presentational skills, leadership and teamwork, relationship building, digital literacy, and global and intercultural awareness. Communication Studies graduates excel in a variety of industries and professions with their abilities to lead, influence, and relate to diverse communities and audiences.

### **DEGREES & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Degrees

Communication Studies, Bachelor of Science (BS)
Professional Communication, Graduate Certificate
Communication Education, Graduate Certificate
Communication Studies, Master of Arts (MA)
Communication Studies, Master of Science (MS)
Forensics in Communication, Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
Communication and Composition, Master of Science (MS)
Cross-Disciplinary Studies, Master of Science (MS)

#### Minors:

Communication Studies, Minor Interdisciplinary Communications, Minor Advocacy, Minor Health Communication, Minor

#### Careers

The degree prepares students for entry-level positions in a variety of professions, including sales, marketing, customer service, training and development, public relations, human resources, and student affairs. Our alums are represented in a wide range of industries, such as sports & entertainment, healthcare, law, finance, education, private business and nonprofit sector. The degree also prepares students for graduate degrees in areas such as communication, law, business, and counseling.

#### Partnership Center:

We offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Studies to students in the Twin Cities metro area at the Partnership Center located at

Normandale Community College. Our Twin Cities Communication Studies program is ideally suited to students who possess a two-year degree, or have completed the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, and want to complete a four-year degree from Minnesota State University, Mankato without leaving the Twin Cities

#### QUALITY OF OUR PROGRAM

#### Faculty:

We have 12 full-time faculty and 19 graduate teaching assistants.

Communication Studies faculty maintain an active record of scholarly achievements and present research at national, regional and international conventions and academic publications. They have been awarded professional development and professional research grants.

#### STUDENT EXPERIENCE

#### Faculty/Student Ratio:

Public speaking classes are capped at 1:25. Most upper-division classes have enrollments between 1:20 and 1:25 students.

#### Student/Faculty Collaboration:

Our faculty routinely work with undergraduate students to develop research projects for presentations at local, state, regional and national conferences.

#### Study Abroad:

We are committed to providing students with opportunities to study and experience communication in other social, cultural, and economic contexts. Students have the opportunity to take part in study abroad courses every other year.

#### Scholarships:

Firstyear talent grant scholarships are available for students with a background in competitive speech who wish to compete on the Speech & Debate Team. The Department also awards scholarships to returning students based on academic merit and need.

#### Organizations:

Speech & Debate Team: Nationally ranked, the Speech & Debate Team is one of the oldest student organizations at Minnesota State Mankato. Students (regardless of major) have the opportunity to compete in intercollegiate forensics, including public speaking, interpretation, and debate.

Lambda Pi Eta: Our department is an affiliate of Lambda Pi Eta which is the official honor society of the National Communication Association.

#### Internships:

Students are encouraged to take part in professional internships for credit. Students have completed internships in sales, promotion, public relations, management, marketing, education, and counseling.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

#### Department of Communication Studies

Minnesota State University, Mankato 230 Armstrong Hall Mankato, MN 56001

#### Phone

507-389-2213 (V) 800-627-3529 or 711 (MRS/TTY)

#### Website

hss.mnsu.edu/commstudies

## SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR CURRICULUM (COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES, BS)

First Year (Fall)	First Year (Spring)
ENG 101 Composition (3) CMST 102 Public Speaking (3) General Education Goal Area 5 (4) General Education Goal Area 6 (3) General Education Goal Area 3 with lab (3) FYEX 100 First Year Experience (0-1) (optional)	General Education Goal Area 4 (3) General Education Goal Area 2 - CMST 101W (4) General Education Goal Area 5 (3) General Education Goal Area 3 (3) General Education Goal Area 6 (3)
Second Year (Fall)	Second Year (Spring)
CMST 203 Intercultural Communication (4) General Education Goal Area 8 (3) General Education Goal Area 9 (3) General Education Goal Area 10 (3) General Education Goal Area 11 (2-3)	CMST 301 Communication Studies: Approaches & Perspectives (4) CMST Skills Course Elective or Foundation (4) Course in minor Remaining General Education course
Third Year (Fall)	Third Year (Spring)
CMST 302 Argumentation (4) CMST 306 Communication Research Methods (4) Minor course (3-4) Minor course (3-4)	CMST Skills elective or foundation (4) CMST Analysis Elective (4) Minor course (3-4) Minor course (3-4)
Fourth Year (Fall)	Fourth Year (Spring)
CMST Unrestricted elective (4) CMST Unrestricted elective (4) Minor course (3-4) Minor course (3-4)	CMST 485W Senior Seminar (4) Minor course (3-4) Minor course (3-4) Minor course (3-4)

For additional information about course requirements, please visit hss.mnsu.edu/commstudies

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Placement & Occupational Outlook for Majors are available at www.mnsu.edu/cdc/ (Click on Resources and then Graduate Statistics)

