Scripps College of Communication
Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies (BSC)
Degree Code: BC5364

Program Description

The School of Communication Studies (COMS) offers a liberal education, emphasizing the scientific and artistic basis of communication. The School is firmly committed to providing quality instruction in the theoretical bases of human communication and the application of theory in specific contexts. The core courses combine theory and practice as students learn the historical and conceptual foundations of the field of communication. At the same time, the curriculum equips students with skills in speaking, writing, critical thinking, discussion, and problem solving. Students complete a rigorous academic program consisting of courses in theory, research methods, presentations, and engaged learning practica. Elective courses in the school complement the required courses and expand the students’ repertoire of competencies and skills. Enhancing the core and major courses are courses in a related area or minor, study of other cultures, and contemporary technology. Students’ choices lead to professional and pre-professional competence in such fields as training and human resources, law, politics and government, health advocacy, campaign implementation, and survey research. The major is designed to augment students’ lives and careers through a clearer understanding of the effects of communication and messages in their professional and personal lives.

Program Requirements

In addition to the General Education requirements and the 120 total hours specified by the University, all majors in the School of Communication Studies must complete (1) six core courses, (2) four theory courses, (3) two research methods course, (4) five elective courses in the school, (5) a minimum of 18 hours in a university minor or related area approved by the students’ academic advisor.

Opportunities Upon Graduation

Students completing the Bachelor of Science in Communication degree in the School of Communication Studies are prepared with transferable competency sets that enable them to work in a variety of organizations. The degree is perfect preparation for a career in corporate training, foreign service, law, politics, labor relations, human services, campaign management, event planning, account representation, sales, management, or survey research, to name just a few careers. All told, the major is designed to augment students’ lives and careers through a clearer understanding of the effects of communication and messages in their professional and personal lives.
## 1st Year – suggested course (31 credits)

- COMS 1020 Intro to Communication Studies 1
- COMS 1100 Comm Between Cultures 3
- COMS 1030 Public Speaking 3
- ENG 1510 Freshman Composition 3
- Tier II Social Science 3
- Tier II Applied Science 3
- Tier II Natural Science 3
- TIER II Fine Arts (2FA) 3
- TIER II (Student Choice) 3
- PSY 1010 General Psychology 3
- MATH 1200 College Algebra 4

## 2nd Year – suggested courses (30 credits)

- COMS 2350 Intro to Communication Theory 3
- COMS 2050* Techniques of Group Dynamics 3
- COMS 2060* Interpersonal Relationships 3
- COMS 2150* Argumentative Analysis 3

**Select two of the following**

- COMS 3400* Health Communication 3
- COMS 3500* Organizational Communication 3
- COMS 3600* Communication in Public Advocacy 3
- TIER II Cross Cultural (2CP) 3

Select 4 Electives 12

## 3rd Year – suggested courses (30 credits)

- COMS 3420* Field Research Methods 3
- COMS 3520* Empirical Research Applications 3
- COMS 3620* Rhetorical Analysis & Criticism 3

*Select two

- COMS Electives (See Advisor) 9
- Related Area or Minor 9
- Electives (If needed) 9

## 4th Year – suggested courses (29 credits)

- COMS 4800 Capstone Seminar in Communication 3
- Related Area or Minor 9
- COMS Electives (See Advisor) 6
- Electives (If needed) 12-17

## Graduation Requirements

- Communication Core: 16 credits
- Communication Theory: 12 credits
- Communication Research: 6 credits
- Communication Electives: 15 credits
- Related Area or Minor: 18 credits
- General Education Tier I: 9-10 credits
- General Education Tier II: 21 credits
- General Education Tier III: 3 credits
- Electives: approximately 27 credits