COMMUNICATION STUDIES

IMPACT through Communication

The bachelor's degree in Communication Studies provides instruction in both the theories of human communication and the application of those theories in a variety of contexts, including interpersonal relationships, small group interaction, organizations, cultural interaction, and media. Specific topics students explore include:

- Intercultural Communication
- Debate
- Family Communication
- Film and Video Documentary
- Health Care Provider Communication
- Rhetoric
- Public Communication

Because we pursue so many diverse interests, there is a place for anyone with a curiosity about communication's effect upon our daily lives and the way we as responsible communicators impact the world around us. Students graduate with talents and knowledge that serve them well in any personal, community, and professional setting.

SKILLS

Students acquire a wide range of knowledge and skills that prepare them for life after graduation including:

- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Ability to recognize group communication dynamics and resolve conflict
- Practice in problem solving and reasoning
- Greater understanding of people from many cultures
- Understanding of how to adapt messages to different people and contexts
- Appreciation of theatre arts
- Critical understanding of the relationship between media and society

MINOR

A Communication Studies minor allows you to expand your education in an area that complements your major or professional training. The department offers minors in:

(15 credit hours/5 courses)

- Communication Arts
- Organizational Communication
- Media Studies
- Theatre
- Rhetorical Studies

MAJOR

The major in Communication Studies requires a minimum of 33 credit hours. Requirements include:

- Core Courses (9 hours/3 courses)
  These classes are required and are the first classes you must take:
  G100 Intro to Communication Studies
  G201 Intro to Communication Theory
  G310 Intro to Communication Research

- Research/Capstone Experience (3 hours)

- Elective courses (21 hours/7 courses)

Selected in consultation with your faculty academic advisor

- At least 15 credit hours in the major must be taken at the 300 level or above.
- Students must complete at least 3 credit hours in three of the four areas which are designated by the prefixes C, M, R, & T (General Communication Studies, Media, Rhetoric, & Theatre).
- No more than 12 credit hours may be transferred from another institution.
- At least 21 hours must be taken in the Department of Communication Studies at IUPUI.
- A "C" or better must be earned in all major coursework.

Please see the IUPUI Bulletin online for a complete description of requirements.

CERTIFICATES

Communication Studies offers two certificates:

- The Undergraduate Certificate in Theatre and Performance is designed to develop competencies in the analysis, creation, and production of performance with a particular focus on small group and solo performance in the urban context.

- The undergraduate Certificate in Human Communication in a Mediated World is offered completely online, and allows students to: understand and apply traditional and mediated communication theories to organizational, intercultural, interpersonal,

persuasive, and mass media communication contexts. Students also learn to understand and apply appropriate communication tools and processes appropriately and effectively in computer-mediated environments.

INTERNSHIPS

A wide variety of internships in business, the nonprofit sector, and government are available to students who meet the qualifying criteria. Students use internships to apply communication theories learned in the classroom in on-the-job learning experiences. Alumni and employers endorse the internship as a useful part of the academic experience. Internships may be completed for academic credit, or simply for the experience.

CAREERS

A degree in Communication Studies provides a pathway to exciting careers in advertising, education, media, performing arts, business, international relations, law, health, social services, and many more. Select options are:

- Public Relations
- Community Affairs
- Sales
- Theatre Educator
- Management
- News Director
- Film Editor
- Health Counselor
- Corporate Trainer
- Communication Director
- Media Analyst
- Foreign Relations
- Labor Negotiator
- Philanthropic Manager
- Patient Advocate

ADVANCED EDUCATION

A bachelor's degree in communication studies is ideal for students considering M.A. and Ph.D. options. The degree prepares students for law school, graduate studies in health professions, and graduate work in communication-related fields. At IUPUI, the department offers a Master of Arts in Applied Communication and a Ph.D. in health communication.

CONTACT US

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