

School of Communication

Undergraduate Programs

Note: Any student who has earned 60 credit hours and has not achieved a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 will not be allowed to take courses in the school.

A strong liberal arts background is emphasized by the school. To ensure that communication majors attain this background, a significant portion of undergraduate course work is taken outside the field of communication.

All students intending to major in communication begin to take core courses during their freshman and sophomore years. During the freshman year COMM-100 Understanding Media is required for all students and COMM-200 Writing for Mass Communication is usually required during the sophomore year. Film and media arts majors also take COMM-105 during the freshman year, public communication majors take COMM-209 Communication and Society during the sophomore year, and journalism majors take COMM-320 Reporting following Writing for Mass Communication.

Students continue with one of the programs (print or broadcast journalism, public communication, film and media arts, or communication studies) and take a series of carefully chosen skills courses, and communication media studies courses which examine the history, current issues, and future of communication and the media. The ability to write correctly and clearly is stressed in all programs.

B.A. in Communication: Communication Studies

Admission to the Program

Formal admission to the major requires a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 (on a 4.00 scale). Students should declare their major by the end of the sophomore year and no earlier than the end of the freshman year.

Students who are unable to achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 and declare a major in communication are not allowed to take courses in the school after they have completed 60 hours of undergraduate credit.

University Requirements

- A total of 120 credit hours
- 6 credit hours of college writing
- 3 credit hours of college mathematics or the equivalent by examination

General Education Requirements

- A total of ten courses, consisting of one foundation course and one second-level course in an approved sequence from each of the five curricular areas
- No more than 6 credit hours may be taken in the same discipline

Concentrations

History of the Media, International Media, Media and Government, or Media and Society

Major Requirements

- A minimum of 36 and a maximum of 40 credit hours with grades of C or better within the School of Communication including core, media ethics and legal aspects, concentration, and media studies courses.
- Related course requirements taken outside the School of Communication with grades of C or better
- A minimum of 80 credit hours outside the field of communication, including 65 credit hours in the liberal arts and sciences, are required for the major.

Subject to the approval of an advisor, a maximum of 12 credit hours in communication transferred from another university may be substituted for required communication courses. Transfer students majoring in communication studies are required to graduate with a total of 80 credit hours outside the field of communication.

Related Course Requirements

Students must complete the following with grades of C or better:

- 3 credit hours in American history (HIST-xxx)
- 3 credit hours in economics (ECON-xxx)
- A minor or second major outside the School of Communication

Communication Course Requirements (36 credit hours)

Core Courses (15 credit hours)

- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- COMM-105 Visual Literacy 1:1 (3)
- COMM-200 Writing for Mass Communication (3)
- COMM-301 Public Relations (3)
- COMM-320 Reporting (3)

Media and Legal Ethics Courses (3 credit hours)

- One of the following:
COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3)
COMM-504 Journalism Ethics (3)
COMM-533 Ethical Persuasion (3)

History of the Media Concentration (18 credit hours)

- 18 credit hours from the following:
COMM-209 Communication and Society (3)
COMM-270 How the News Media Shaped History 2:2 (3)
COMM-275 Dissident Media: Voices from the Underground 4:2 (3)
COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
COMM-504 Journalism Ethics (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
COMM-505 History of Broadcast Journalism (3)
COMM-511 History of Documentary (3)
COMM-514 Censorship and the Media (3)
COMM-516 Topics in Film and Media Arts (3) with permission of the student's advisor
COMM-517 History of Cross-Cultural Cinema (3)
COMM-520 History of Animation (3)
COMM-527 History of Photography (3)
COMM-533 Ethical Persuasion (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
COMM-535 Special Topics in News Media (3) with permission of the student's advisor
COMM-547 Great Books in U.S. Journalism (3)
COMM-586 History of Czech Cinema (3) (Prague)
COMM-558 Survey of American Cinema (3)
COMM-599 Media, Technology and Society (3)
COMM-391 Internship (3)
or
COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)
an approved elective outside of SOC

International Media Concentration (18 credit hours)

- 18 credit hours from the following:
COMM-280 Contemporary Media in a Global Society 3:2 (3)
COMM-507 News Media in Britain (3) (London)
COMM-516 Topics in Film and Media Arts (3) with permission of the student's advisor
COMM-517 History of Cross-Cultural Cinema (3)
COMM-535 Special Topics in News Media (3) with permission of the student's advisor
COMM-539 International Public Relations (3)
COMM-546 Foreign Policy and the Press (3)
COMM-548 Global Journalism: Issues and Trends in the Twenty-First Century (3)
COMM-549 Topics in International Media (3)
COMM-585 Directing (3) (Prague)
COMM-391 Internship (3)
or
COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)
an approved elective outside of SOC
- **Media and Government Concentration (18 credit hours)**
• 18 credit hours from the following:
COMM-270 How the News Media Shaped History 2:2 (3)
COMM-275 Dissident Media: Voices from the Underground 4:2 (3)
COMM-327 The PR Presidency (3)
COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
COMM-504 Journalism Ethics (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
COMM-508 The Media and Government (3)
COMM-509 Politics and the Media (3)
COMM-514 Censorship and the Media (3)
COMM-515 Media, Children, and Society (3)
COMM-516 Topics in Film and Media Arts (3) with permission of the student's advisor
COMM-531 Political Communication (3)
COMM-533 Ethical Persuasion (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
COMM-535 Special Topics in News Media (3) with permission of the student's advisor
COMM-391 Internship (3)
or
COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)
an approved elective outside of SOC

Media and Society Concentration (18 credit hours)

- 18 credit hours from the following:
 - COMM-209 Communication and Society (3)
 - COMM-270 How the News Media Shaped History 2:2 (3)
 - COMM-275 Dissident Media: Voices from the Underground 4:2 (3)
 - COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
 - COMM-504 Journalism Ethics (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
 - COMM-510 Women in Journalism (3)
 - COMM-511 History of Documentary (3)
 - COMM-514 Censorship and the Media (3)
 - COMM-515 Media, Children, and Society (3)
 - COMM-516 Topics in Film and Media Arts (3) with permission of the student's advisor
 - COMM-517 History of Cross-Cultural Cinema (3)
 - COMM-533 Ethical Persuasion (3) if not used to fulfill media and ethics requirement above
 - COMM-534 Race, Gender, and the Media (3)
 - COMM-558 Survey of American Cinema (3)

COMM-599 Media, Technology and Society (3)

COMM-391 Internship (3)

or

COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)

an approved elective outside of SOC

University Honors Program

All University Honors students must complete at least 12 credit hours of advanced-level (300-level and above) Honors courses including a 3 to 6 credit hour Honors Senior Capstone Project. Students may graduate with University Honors in the major if they complete at least 12 advanced-level Honors courses including the Senior Capstone Project in the department. Each department has three levels of University Honors requirements: Level I Options (100-200-level Honors classes); Level II Options (300-level and above Honors classes); and Level III Options (Honors Senior Capstone). The department Honors coordinator advises students in the University Honors Program regarding departmental options. For more information, go to www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/.

B.A. in Communication: Journalism

Admission to the Program

Formal admission to the major requires a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 (on a 4.00 scale). Students should declare their major by the end of the sophomore year and no earlier than the end of the freshman year.

Students who are unable to achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 and declare a major in communication are not allowed to take courses in the school after they have completed 60 hours of undergraduate credit.

University Requirements

- A total of 120 credit hours
- 6 credit hours of college writing
- 3 credit hours of college mathematics or the equivalent by examination

General Education Requirements

- A total of ten courses, consisting of one foundation course and one second-level course in an approved sequence from each of the five curricular areas

- No more than 6 credit hours may be taken in the same discipline

Tracks

Broadcast Journalism or Print Journalism

Major Requirements

- A minimum of 36 and a maximum of 40 credit hours with grades of C or better within the School of Communication including core, professional, media studies, internship, independent study, and independent reading courses.
- Related course requirements taken outside the School of Communication with grades of C or better
- A minimum of 80 credit hours outside the field of communication, including 65 credit hours in the liberal arts and sciences, are required for the major.

Subject to the approval of an advisor, a maximum of 12 credit hours in communication transferred from another university may be substituted for required communication courses. Transfer students majoring in journalism are required to graduate with a total of 80 credit hours outside the field of communication.

Related Course Requirements

Students must complete the following with grades of C or better:

- 3 credit hours in American history (HIST-xxx)
- 3 credit hours in economics (ECON-xxx)
- A minor or second major outside the School of Communication

Communication Course Requirements (36 credit hours)

Core Courses (9 credit hours)

- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- COMM-200 Writing for Mass Communication (3)
- COMM-320 Reporting (3)

Broadcast Journalism Track (27 credit hours)

- COMM-333 Fundamentals of TV and VTR (3)
- COMM-385 Broadcast Journalism I (3)
- COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3)
- COMM-428 Broadcast Journalism II (3)
- COMM-432 Television Field Reporting (3)
- Four courses from the following:
 - COMM-270 How the News Media Shaped History 2:2 (3)
 - or*
 - COMM-275 Dissident Media: Voices from the Underground 4:2 (3)
 - or*
 - COMM-280 Contemporary Media in a Global Society 3:2 (3)
 - COMM-391 Internship (3)
 - or*
 - COMM-392 Cooperative Education Field Experience (3)
 - or*
 - COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)
 - COMM-396 Selected Topics (3) with permission of the student's advisor
 - COMM-433 Broadcast Delivery (3)
 - COMM-490 Independent Study Project (3)
 - COMM-503 Broadcast Operations and Management (3)
 - COMM-504 Journalism Ethics (3)
 - COMM-505 History of Broadcast Journalism (3)
 - COMM-508 The Media and Government (3)
 - COMM-509 Politics and the Media (3)
 - COMM-510 Women in Journalism (3)
 - COMM-511 History of Documentary (3)
 - or*
 - COMM-515 Media, Children, and Society (3)
 - COMM-514 Censorship and the Media (3)
 - COMM-516 Topics in Film and Media Arts (3)
 - COMM-546 Foreign Policy and the Press (3)
 - COMM-547 Great Books in U.S. Journalism (3)
 - COMM-596 Selected Topics (3) with permission of the student's advisor
 - COMM-599 Media, Technology and Society (3)

Print Journalism Track (27 credit hours)

- COMM-322 Editorial Policies and Methods (3)
- COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3)
- COMM-425 Advanced Reporting (3)
- Three courses from the following:
 - COMM-323 Computer Techniques for Communication Studies (3)
 - COMM-325 Feature Article Writing (3)
 - COMM-330 Principles of Photography (3)

COMM-391 Internship (3)

or

COMM-392 Cooperative Education Field Experience (3)

or

COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)

COMM-502 In-Depth Journalism (3)

COMM-521 Opinion Writing (3)

COMM-545 Business and Economic Journalism (3)

COMM-596 Selected Topics (3) with permission of the student's advisor

- Three courses from the following:

COMM-270 How the News Media Shaped History 2:2 (3)

or

COMM-275 Dissident Media: Voices from the Underground 4:2 (3)

or

COMM-280 Contemporary Media in a Global Society 3:2 (3)

COMM-396 Selected Topics (3) with permission of the student's advisor

COMM-490 Independent Study Project (3)

COMM-504 Journalism Ethics (3)

COMM-505 History of Broadcast Journalism (3)

COMM-508 The Media and Government (3)

COMM-509 Politics and the Media (3)

COMM-510 Women in Journalism (3)

COMM-511 History of Documentary (3)

or

COMM-515 Media, Children, and Society (3)

COMM-514 Censorship and the Media (3)

COMM-546 Foreign Policy and the Press (3)

COMM-547 Great Books in U.S. Journalism (3)

COMM-596 Selected Topics (3) with permission of the student's advisor

COMM-599 Media, Technology and Society (3)

University Honors Program

All University Honors students must complete at least 12 credit hours of advanced-level (300-level and above) Honors courses including a 3 to 6 credit hour Honors Senior Capstone Project. Students may graduate with University Honors in the major if they complete at least 12 advanced-level Honors courses including the Senior Capstone Project in the department. Each department has three levels of University Honors requirements: Level I Options (100-200-level Honors classes); Level II Options (300-level and above Honors classes); and Level III Options (Honors Senior Capstone). The department Honors coordinator advises students in the University Honors Program regarding departmental options. For more information, go to www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/.

B.A. in Communication: Public Communication

Admission to the Program

Formal admission to the major requires a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 (on a 4.00 scale). Students should declare their major by the end of the sophomore year and no earlier than the end of the freshman year.

Students who are unable to achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 and declare a major in communication are not allowed to take courses in the school after they have completed 60 hours of undergraduate credit.

University Requirements

- A total of 120 credit hours
- 6 credit hours of college writing
- 3 credit hours of college mathematics or the equivalent by examination

General Education Requirements

- A total of ten courses, consisting of one foundation course and one second-level course in an approved sequence from each of the five curricular areas
- No more than 6 credit hours may be taken in the same discipline

Major Requirements

- 39 credit hours with grades of C or better within the School of Communication including core, professional, internship, independent study, and independent reading courses.
- Related course requirements taken outside the School of Communication with grades of C or better
- A minimum of 81 credit hours outside the field of communication, including at least 65 credit hours in the liberal arts and sciences, are required for the major.

Subject to the approval of an advisor, a maximum of 12 credit hours in communication transferred from another university may be substituted for required communication courses. Transfer students majoring in public communication are required to graduate with a total of 84 credit hours outside the field of communication.

Related Course Requirement

Students must complete the following with grades of C or better:

- 3 credit hours in American history (HIST-xxx)
- 3 credit hours in economics (ECON-xxx)
or
MKTG-250 Fundamentals of Business and Marketing for Communications (3)
- A minor or second major outside the School of Communication

Communication Course Requirements (39 credit hours)

Core Courses (9 credit hours)

- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- COMM-200 Writing for Mass Communication (3)
- COMM-209 Communication and Society (3)

Professional Courses (30 credit hours)

- COMM-301 Public Relations (3)

- COMM-337 Public Relations Writing (3)
- COMM-346 Public Relations Case Studies (3)
- COMM-380 Public Communication Research (3)
- COMM-437 Public Relations Portfolio (3)
- 15 credit hours from the following, with no more than 9 credit hours from any one cluster:

Skills

- COMM-105 Visual Literacy 1:1 (3)
- COMM-310 Public Speaking (3)
- COMM-330 Principles of Photography (3)
- COMM-352 Web Studio (3)
- COMM-521 Opinion Writing (3)
- COMM-532 Publication Layout and Design (3)
- COMM-535 Special Topics in News Media:
Magazine Writing (3)

Human Communication

- COMM-300 Interpersonal Communication (3)
- COMM-470 Organizational Communication (3)
- COMM-472 Nonverbal Communication (3)
- COMM-475 Group Communication Management (3)

Media Studies

- COMM-327 The PR Presidency (3)
- COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3)
- COMM-509 Politics and the Media (3)
- COMM-514 Censorship and Media (3)
- COMM-515 Media, Children, and Society (3)
- COMM-533 Ethical Persuasion (3)
- COMM-534 Race, Gender, and the Media (3)

The Practice of Public Relations

- COMM-531 Political Communication (3)
- COMM-536 Entertainment Communication (3)
- COMM-537 Sports Communication (3)
- COMM-539 International Public Relations (3)

Experiential Education

- A maximum of 3 credit hours from:
COMM-391 Internship (3)
COMM-392 Cooperative Education Field Experience (3)
COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)

University Honors Program

All University Honors students must complete at least 12 credit hours of advanced-level (300-level and above) Honors courses including a 3 to 6 credit hour Honors Senior Capstone Project. Students may graduate with University Honors in the major if they complete at least 12 advanced-level Honors courses including the Senior Capstone Project in the department. Each department has three levels of University Honors requirements: Level I Options (100-200-level Honors classes); Level II Options (300-level and above Honors classes); and Level III Options (Honors Senior Capstone). The department Honors coordinator advises students in the University Honors Program regarding departmental options. For more information, go to www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/.

B.A. in Communication: Film and Media Arts

Admission to the Program

Formal admission to the major requires a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 (on a 4.00 scale). Students should declare their major by the end of the sophomore year and no earlier than the end of the freshman year.

Students who are unable to achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 and declare a major in communication are not allowed to take courses in the school after they have completed 60 hours of undergraduate credit.

University Requirements

- A total of 120 credit hours
- 6 credit hours of college writing
- 3 credit hours of college mathematics or the equivalent by examination

General Education Requirements

- A total of ten courses, consisting of one foundation course and one second-level course in an approved sequence from each of the five curricular areas
- No more than 6 credit hours may be taken in the same discipline

Major Requirements

- 39–42 credit hours with grades of C or better within the School of Communication including core, basic, professional, media studies, internship, independent study and independent reading courses.
 - Related course requirements taken outside the School of Communication with grades of C or better
- Subject to the approval of an advisor, a maximum of 12 credit hours in communication transferred from another university may be substituted for required communication courses.

Related Course Requirement

Students must complete the following with grades of C or better:

- 3 credit hours in American history (HIST-xxx)
 - 3 credit hours in economics (ECON-xxx)
- or*
- MKTG-250 Fundamentals of Business and Marketing for Communications (3)
- A minor or second major outside the School of Communication

Course Requirements (39–42 credit hours)

Core Courses (9 credit hours)

- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- COMM-105 Visual Literacy 1:1 (3)
- COMM-200 Writing for Mass Communication (3)

Basic Courses (9–12 credit hours)

- COMM-330 Principles of Photography (3)
- COMM-331 Film and Video Production I (3)
- One or both of the following:
 - COMM-350 Digital Imaging and Design (3)
 - COMM-352 Web Studio (3)

Professional Courses (15–18 credit hours)

Intermediate (9 credit hours)

- COMM-482 Writing for Visual Media (3)
- At least 6 credit hours from the following:
 - COMM-434 Film and Video Production II (3)
 - COMM-435 Introduction to Studio Television (3)
 - COMM-454 Motion Graphics and Effects (3)
 - COMM-523 Intermediate Photography:
 - Photojournalism (3)
 - Fine Arts Photography (3)

Advanced

- 6 credit hours in visual media studies from the following:
 - COMM-503 Broadcast Operations and Management (3)
 - COMM-511 History of Documentary (3)
 - COMM-513 Producing Film and Video (3)
 - COMM-514 Censorship and Media (3)
 - COMM-515 Media, Children, and Society (3)
 - COMM-516 Topics in Film and Media Arts (3)
 - COMM-517 History of Cross-Cultural Cinema (3)
 - COMM-520 History of Animation (3)
 - COMM-527 History of Photography (3)
 - COMM-550 Financing and Marketing Independent Productions (3)
 - COMM-558 Survey of American Cinema (3)
 - COMM-585 Directing (3) (Prague)
 - COMM-586 History of Czech Cinema (3) (Prague)
- Additional credit hours may be selected from the following to bring the total to 39–42 credit hours:
 - COMM-438 Production Practicum (1–3)
 - COMM-456 Dramatic Production (3)
 - COMM-464 Directing for Camera (3)
 - COMM-486 Documentary Production (3)

COMM-391 Senior Internship (3)
or
COMM-392 Cooperative Education Field Experience (3)
or
COMM-491 Senior Professional Internship (3)
COMM-529 Large Format and Commercial
Photography (3)
COMM-561 Advanced Writing for Film (3)
COMM-562 Advanced Writing for Television (3)
COMM-565 Advanced Visual Media Portfolio (3)
COMM-584 Film Technology and Practice (6) (Prague)

University Honors Program

All University Honors students must complete at least 12 credit hours of advanced-level (300-level and above) Honors courses including a 3 to 6 credit hour Honors Senior Capstone Project. Students may graduate with University Honors in the major if they complete at least 12 advanced-level Honors courses including the Senior Capstone Project in the department. Each department has three levels of University Honors requirements: Level I Options (100-200-level Honors classes); Level II Options (300-level and above Honors classes); and Level III Options (Honors Senior Capstone). The department Honors coordinator advises students in the University Honors Program regarding departmental options. For more information, go to www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/.

B.A. in Foreign Language and Communication Media

Admission to the Program

Students are admitted either to the School of Communication or to the Department of Language and Foreign Studies of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Program Tracks

French, German, Russian, or Spanish combined with Broadcast Journalism, Print Journalism, Public Communication, or Visual Media

University Requirements

- A total of 120 credit hours
- 6 credit hours of college writing
- 3 credit hours of college mathematics or the equivalent by examination

General Education Requirements

- A total of ten courses, consisting of one foundation course and one second-level course in an approved sequence from each of five curricular areas
- No more than 6 credit hours may be taken in the same discipline

Major Requirements

- 54 credit hours with grades of C or better
- Prerequisite competency in the major language at the intermediate level

Course Requirements

Foundation (6 credit hours)

- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- COMM-200 Writing for Mass Communication (3)

Foreign Language (15 credit hours)

- 15 credit hours of courses in the major language (French, German, Russian, or Spanish) at the 300 level or above taken in the Department of Language and Foreign Studies

Contemporary Culture (6 credit hours)

- Two courses related to any contemporary culture as approved by advisor

Linguistics (3 credit hours)

- One of the following:
ANTH-225 Language and Human Experience 1:2 (3)
ANTH-254 Language and Culture (3)
TESL-5xx linguistics course as approved by advisor

Communication (24 credit hours)

- Three media studies courses from the School of Communication, with at least one at the 300-level or above; and five professional courses in one of the four communication program tracks: broadcast journalism, print journalism, public communication, or visual media:

Broadcast Journalism

- Three media studies courses with at least one at the 300-level or above, as approved by advisor
- COMM-320 Reporting (3)
- COMM-333 Fundamentals of TV and VTR (3)

- COMM-385 Broadcast Journalism I (3)
- COMM-428 Broadcast Journalism II (3)
- COMM-432 Television Field Reporting (3)

Print Journalism

- Three media studies courses with at least one at the 300-level or above, as approved by advisor
- COMM-320 Reporting (3)
- COMM-322 Editorial Policies and Methods (3)
- COMM-425 Advanced Reporting (3)
- Two from the following:
COMM-323 Computer Techniques for Communication Studies (3)
COMM-325 Feature Article Writing (3)
COMM-326 Sports Journalism (3)
COMM-330 Principles of Photography (3)
COMM-502 In-Depth Journalism (3)
COMM-521 Opinion Writing (3)
COMM-545 Business and Economic Journalism (3)

Public Communication

- COMM-209 Communication and Society (3)
- Two additional media studies courses with at least one at the 300-level or above, as approved by advisor
- COMM-301 Public Relations (3)
- COMM-337 Public Relations Writing (3)
- COMM-346 Public Relations Case Studies (3)
- COMM-380 Public Communication Research (3)
- COMM-437 Public Relations Media (3)

Visual Media

- COMM-105 Visual Literacy 1:1 (3)
- Two additional media studies courses with at least one at the 300-level or above, as approved by advisor
- COMM-330 Principles of Photography (3)
- COMM-331 Film and Video Production I (3)
- COMM-350 Digital Imaging and Design (3)
- COMM-382 Writing for Visual Media (3)
- One additional course approved by advisor

University Honors Program

All University Honors students must complete at least 12 credit hours of advanced-level (300-level and above) Honors courses including a 3 to 6 credit hour Honors Senior Capstone Project. Students may graduate with University Honors in the major if they complete at least 12 advanced-level Honors courses including the Senior Capstone Project in the department. Each department has three levels of University Honors requirements: Level I Options (100-200-level Honors classes); Level II Options (300-level and above Honors classes); and Level III Options (Honors Senior Capstone). The department Honors coordinator advises students in the University Honors Program regarding departmental options. For more information, go to www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/.

Minor in Communication

- 18 credit hours with grades of C or better with at least 12 credit hours unique to the minor

Course Requirements

- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- COMM-200 Writing for Mass Communication (3)
- Two courses from the following:
 - COMM-301 Public Relations (3)
 - COMM-310 Public Speaking (3)
 - COMM-320 Reporting (3)
 - COMM-322 Editorial Policies and Methods (3)
 - COMM-325 Feature Article Writing (3)
 - COMM-330 Principles of Photography (3)
 - COMM-331 Film and Video Production I (3)
 - COMM-435 Introduction to Studio Television (3)
 - COMM-470 Organizational Communication (3)
 - COMM-472 Nonverbal Communication (3)
 - COMM-475 Group Communication Management (3)
 - COMM-521 Opinion Writing (3)
 - COMM-532 Publication Layout and Design (3)
- Two courses from the following:
 - COMM-401 Legal Aspects of Communication (3)
 - COMM-503 Broadcast Operations and Management (3)
 - COMM-508 The Media and Government (3)
 - COMM-509 Politics and the Media (3)
 - COMM-511 History of Documentary (3)
 - COMM-513 Producing Film and Video (3)
 - COMM-514 Censorship and Media (3)
 - COMM-515 Media, Children, and Society (3)
 - COMM-517 History of Cross-Cultural Cinema (3)
 - COMM-527 History of Photography (3)
 - COMM-545 Business and Economic Journalism (3)
 - COMM-558 Survey of American Cinema (3)
 - COMM-596 Selected Topics (3) with permission of the student's advisor
 - COMM-599 Media, Technology and Society (3)

Combined Bachelor's Degree and M.A. in Communication: Public Communication

This program enables highly qualified students to earn in five years of full-time study both a B.A. or B.S. in any discipline and an M.A. in Communication: Public Communication.

Admission to the Program

Admission to the combined program requires second semester junior or senior standing, a cumulative grade point average of 3.5, a formal application, two written faculty recommendations, a statement of purpose, and a positive review by the faculty admissions committee. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required unless applying for School of Communication Merit Awards.

Requirements

- All requirements for a bachelor's degree in the student's major at American University
Undergraduate students may apply up to 9 credit hours of approved graduate-level course work to satisfy the requirements for both degrees.
All requirements for the M.A. in Communication: Public Communication, including a minimum of 18 credit hours completed in residence in graduate status after the undergraduate degree has been awarded.