Communication (COMM)

Explanation of Course Numbers

- Courses in the 1000s are primarily introductory undergraduate courses
- Those in the 2000–4000s are upper-division undergraduate courses that can also be taken for graduate credit with permission and additional work
- Those in the 6000s and 8000s are for master's, doctoral, and professional-level students
- The 6000s are open to advanced undergraduate students with approval of the instructor and the dean or advising office

COMM 1000. Dean's Seminar. 3 Credits.
The Dean's Seminars provide Columbian College first-year students focused scholarship on specific intellectual challenges. Topics vary by semester. Consult the schedule of classes for more details. Restricted to First-year students in CCAS.

COMM 1025. Introduction to Communication Studies. 3 Credits.
Introduction to historical and intellectual development of the field. Students survey the origins of contemporary theory; learn about fundamental concepts, models, investigative tools, and contexts of communication; and explore a variety of professional opportunities awaiting communication graduates.

COMM 1040. Public Communication. 3 Credits.
Study and practice of the basic techniques of public speaking used to inform, to entertain, and to persuade audiences. Emphasis on the speech-building process: audience analysis, research, development, composition, organization, style, delivery, and criticism.

COMM 1041. Interpersonal Communication. 3 Credits.
Study and practice of verbal and nonverbal communication in ritual, information and perspective sharing, problem solving, and relationship formation, maintenance, and dissolution. Designed to raise awareness of the complexity and power of the communication process in daily life and to help students develop interpersonal skills cognitively, affectively, and behaviorally.

COMM 1042. Business and Professional Speaking. 3 Credits.
Study of the communication process in business and professional organizations; practice in interviewing, small group communication, and public presentations. For non-majors and non-minors only.

COMM 2000. Sophomore Colloquium. 3 Credits.
Topic vary by semester. See the Schedule of Classes for more detailed information. Restricted to CCAS students with sophomore standing.

COMM 2100. Communication Theory. 3 Credits.
Inquiry into the nature and function of communication theory as a framework for the study of communicative behavior. Emphasis is placed on analysis of paradigmatic approaches in rhetorical, interpersonal, and mass communication theories and models, and on examination of contemporary research literature in communication. Prerequisite: COMM 1025.

COMM 2120. Small Group Communication. 3 Credits.
The study and practice of communication in small groups, focusing on problem solving, norms, roles, and leadership. Prerequisite: COMM 1025 or permission of the instructor.

COMM 2140. Nonverbal Behavior. 3 Credits.
Introduction to predominant theories, principles, and problems in the study of nonverbal behavior; application of research results to everyday life. Topics include facial expression, eye behavior, physical appearance, body movement and gestures, tactile messages, vocal characteristics, use of time, spatial dynamics, gender and life-stage differences.

COMM 2162. Sociology of the Family. 3 Credits.
Examination of the stages of family life: birth, childhood, premarital relationships, marriage and sex roles in marriage, retirement, and old age. Special emphasis on development and maintenance of interpersonal relations. Prerequisites: SOC 1001 or SOC 1002 or COMM 1025. (Same as SOC 2162).

COMM 3110. Research Methods-Communication. 3 Credits.
Processes of inquiry within interpersonal and public communication. Students are introduced to concepts of framing research questions, conducting literature reviews, developing a research design, using qualitative and quantitative research tools, and interpreting results of research in communication. Prerequisite: COMM 2100.

COMM 3170. Organizational Communication. 3 Credits.
Exploration of the philosophy, process, problems, and potential of human communication within organizational contexts. May involve experiential workshops and fieldwork.

COMM 3171. Professional Communication. 3 Credits.
Principles and theories of communication applied to situations encountered in organizational and professional environments. Development of knowledge and abilities for workplace tasks, such as interviewing, facilitating meetings, providing performance appraisals, designing and delivering instructional materials and other professional presentations.

COMM 3172. Health Communication. 3 Credits.
Exploration of the nature, functions, and impact of relational communication in the context of health care. Both formal (health care organizations) and informal (family communication) systems may be studied. Topics can include provider-patient interaction, media and health, confirmatory communication. Prerequisite: COMM 1041 or COMM 2100 or permission of instructor.
COMM 3173. Communication in a Mediated World. 3 Credits.
An exploration of human-to-human communication mediated by computer technology. Traditional communication theories are applied and adapted to the computer-mediated realm; newer theories of computer-mediated communication are addressed.

COMM 3174. Intercultural Communication. 3 Credits.
Exploration of the process, trends, rewards, and difficulties of human communication in intercultural contexts, with an eye toward establishing guidelines for mitigating miscommunication across cultures. May involve fieldwork.

COMM 3175. Strategic Communication. 3 Credits.
Exploration of the strategies and techniques employed in successful communication in the face of obstacles such as shrinking budgets and technological expansion. Emphasis on the principles of communication planning through a strategic matrix in an evolving communication environment.

COMM 3176. Issues and Image Management. 3 Credits.
The issues and image management function in corporate, professional, and nonprofit organizations. Assignments may include in-class collaboration on case studies of communication campaigns and crisis communication strategies, interviews with professionals in the practice of communication management, and a communication audit of strategies and messages of a selected organization.

COMM 3177. Corporate Ethical Communication. 3 Credits.
How businesses analyze their communication methods in the context of internal ethical standards. General codes of ethics, marketing ethics, corporate social responsibility, consumer protection, environmental protection, and ethical issues that corporate decision makers face in developing policies that affect employees, customers, and society as a whole.

COMM 3179. Sexual Communication. 3 Credits.
Exploration of sexual communication addressing behaviors, attitudes, and knowledge; the formation of sexual norms, negotiating sexual intimacy and safer-sex, gender roles in sexual relationships, sexual health communication campaigns, and parent-child sexual communication.

COMM 3180. Communication Criticism. 3 Credits.
Evaluation of communication paradigms along critical dimensions of analysis. Prerequisite: COMM 1040 or COMM 4150 or permission of instructor.

COMM 3190. Selected Topics. 1-3 Credits.
Topic announced in the Schedule of Classes. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs.

COMM 4150. Persuasion. 3 Credits.
In-depth study of the principles and techniques of persuasion from both production and consumption perspectives, in both personal and mediated contexts. Emphasis on the common-premise model, with consideration of such topic areas as pathos/ethos/logos, attitude and behavior change, effectiveness, ethics, and subconscious influence. Prerequisite: COMM 1025.

COMM 4196. Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.
Independent research and special projects. Open to seniors or exceptionally well-prepared juniors majoring in communication. Before students are permitted to register, they must submit a written proposal of the plan of study and obtain approval of the faculty member who will direct the study and of the program chair.

COMM 4197. Internship. 3 Credits.
For communication majors and minors. Student-secured internships in public or private communication-related organizations in the metropolitan area. Students spend at least 15 hours per week doing communication-related work. Meetings, reports, and/or analysis paper are required. Admission requires prior program approval. Graded on a Pass/No Pass basis.

COMM 4199W. Senior Seminar. 3 Credits.
Capstone course limited to communication majors. Students work on an individually designed research project throughout the term, the results of which are presented in a major paper. Selected reading and discussion. Restricted to Limited to students majoring in the field. Prerequisites: COMM 2100 and COMM 3110.

COMM 6100. Communication Theory. 3 Credits.
An in-depth examination of theories of human communication, including those related to interpersonal, small group, intercultural, and media communication. Emphasis is placed on close examination of contemporary research literature in these areas. Restricted to Graduate students in Communication Management program.

COMM 6110. Research Methods in Communication. 3 Credits.
Graduate-level study of communication-based quantitative and qualitative research methods. Restricted to Graduate students.

COMM 6150. Persuasion. 3 Credits.
In-depth advanced study of principles, techniques, and ethics of persuasion from both sender and receiver perspectives, and across both personal and mediated contexts. Emphasis is on the common-premise model with special consideration of such topics as audience analysis; systems of ethics; persuasive claims; pathos/ethos/logos; attitude and behavior change; sender, message, channel, and receiver characteristics; and, subconscious influence. Restricted to Graduate students.

COMM 6165. Organizational and Communication Networks. 3 Credits.
The application of tools of social network analysis to organizational settings and behavior as well as communication processes, both within and among organizations. Restricted to Graduate students.
COMM 6171. Professional Communication. 3 Credits.
Principles and theories of advanced public communication used in organizational and professional environments; job interviewing, providing performance appraisals, designing and delivering instructional materials, facilitating and participating on panels, and other professional presentations. Restricted to graduate students.

COMM 6172. Health Communication. 3 Credits.
Health communication theory, methods of health communication research, and practices of effective health communication campaigns. Restricted to graduate students.

COMM 6174. Intercultural Communication. 3 Credits.
A multidisciplinary examination of the conceptual foundations of culture, the effects of culture on communication in comparative and multicultural contexts, and the suggested guidelines for communication competence in intercultural communication settings. Restricted to Graduate Students.

COMM 6179. Sexual Communication. 3 Credits.
How public and private communication about sex reflects and affects sexual attitudes, behaviors, and knowledge; health communication, interpersonal communication, and mass communication theories, with consideration of topics such as sexual norms, negotiating sexual intimacy and safer sex, gender roles, and parent-child sexual communication. Same as COMM 3179.

COMM 6189. Intercultural Negotiation. 3 Credits.
Introduction to negotiation and dispute resolution in intercultural contexts. Students hone their negotiation and conflict management skills through a series of simulation exercises. Theoretical and methodological issues related to the study of negotiation in intercultural contexts. Restricted to Graduate students; open to undergraduate students with permission of the instructor.

COMM 6190. Leadership Communication. 3 Credits.
Leadership as a function of human communication; theories of leadership and communication strategies employed by leaders in a variety of contexts; leadership as a form of social action; effectiveness and social implications of the strategies employed in leadership communication. Open to undergraduate students with the permission of the instructor.

COMM 6196. Independent Study. 1-12 Credits.
Directed research and study in a specific area of communication management, which must be pre-approved by department faculty prior to registration. Restricted to graduate students.

COMM 6199. Master's Thesis. 3-6 Credits.
Students must identify a member of the full-time faculty to serve as thesis adviser prior to registration. May be repeated for credit. Restricted to communication management master's degree candidates who have selected the thesis option.

COMM 6242. Organizational Communication and Conflict Management. 3 Credits.
An examination of models for effective organizational communication and constructive conflict resolution. Specific focus on organizational communication principles as well as theoretical and practical approaches to conflict analysis, management, and resolution. Restricted to Graduate students. (Same as ORSC 6242).