COMMUNICATION AND DIGITAL STUDIES

Degree: B.A., Communication and Digital Studies
Department of Communication and Digital Studies (https://cas.umw.edu/cds/)

Communication courses enhance understanding of and skill in oral communication by introducing students to communication theories and by providing opportunities to practice communication in a variety of settings. Courses on the 200-level are performance courses, kept small to allow for individualized instruction.

Courses on the 300-level offer a historical and theoretical approach to the study of human communication behavior and examine how communication activities affect society. Students interested in more intensive training in persuasive speaking can join the University debate team and receive academic credit for participating in regional and national tournaments.

Students who pursue the Communication and Digital Studies major will develop the critical tools to study and use digital technology to effectively communicate in a dynamic new media environment. The interdisciplinary major, which leads to a general liberal arts and studies degree (Bachelor of Arts), provides students with the means to navigate the rapidly changing nature of both communication networks and the world they live in. The course work in this major focuses on new theoretical directions in the field of digital studies, and provides students with a dynamic understanding of how communication practices currently work through digital means and how those practices can be adapted to meet their future needs.

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Communication Core		
COMM 205	Public Speaking	3
COMM 206	Small Group Communication	3
COMM 340	Introduction to Rhetoric and Communication	3
COMM 341	Communication Research Methods	3
COMM 460	Seminar in Digital Rhetoric	3
Digital Studies Core		
Select one of the following:		3
ARTS 104	Digital Approaches to Fine Art	
CPSC 106	Digital Storytelling	
CPSC 110	Introduction to Computer Science	
DGST 101	Introduction to Digital Studies	3
DGST 395	Applied Digital Studies	3
Electives		
Select four of the following, with at least two at the 300 or 400 level:		12
ARTS 104	Digital Approaches to Fine Art [1]	
ARTS 219	Digital Video Production	
ARTS 226	Animation	
ARTS 316	Experimental Documentary	
ARTS 341	Multiple Imaging	
ARTS 454	Approaches to Video Art	
COMM 209	Argumentation	
COMM 353	Visual Rhetoric	
COMM 357	Social Media	
COMM 370	Topics in Speech Communication	
COMM 375	Not-For-Profit Communication Campaigns	
COMM 376	Gender and Communication	
COMM 377	Pop Culture	
COMM 378	Health Communication	
COMM 379	Professional Communication	
CPSC 106	Digital Storytelling [1]	
CPSC 110	Introduction to Computer Science [1]	
CPSC 350	Applications of Databases	
CPSC 440	Game Programming	
CPSC 444	3D Computer Graphics	
CPSC 448	Advanced Web Application Development	
CPSC 460	Human-Computer Interaction	
DGST 201	Tinkering, Hacking, and Making	
DGST 302	Creative Coding	
DGST 303	Digital Media Studio	
DGST 301	Special Topics in Digital Studies	
ENGL 203	Writing with Digital Media	
ENGL 245	Introduction to Cinema Studies	
ENGL 253	Games and Culture	
ENGL 314	The Literary Journal: Professional Practice in Publishing and Editing	
ENGL 345	Film, Text, and Culture	
ENGL 350	Electronic Literature	
ENGL 386	The Graphic Novel	
ENGL 451	Seminar in New Media	
HISP 303A	Archives and Society	
HIST 325	Technology and Culture	
HIST 427	History of the Information Age	
HIST 428	Digital History	
JOUR 200	News Journalism	
JOUR 300	Investigative Journalism	
JOUR 301	Magazine Journalism	
JOUR 380	Practicum in Journalism (for up to 3 credits)	
MUTC 100	Technology for Musicians	
MKTG 301	Principles of Marketing	
MKTG 417	Digital Marketing	
MUTC 170	MIDI Composition	
MUTC 320	Audio Recording	
MUTC 330	Audio Production	
MUTC 370	Electroacoustic Techniques	
PSCI 363	Mass Media Politics	
PSCI 450	US Political Film	
Individual Study		
Up to three credits in COMM 491, COMM 492, DGST 491, DGST 492, or JOUR 491.		
Internship		
Up to three credits in COMM 499 or JOUR 499		
Total Credits		**36**

[1]   May be taken as electives if not used in the Digital Studies Core.

General Education Requirements

The general education requirements for Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science degrees (https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-arts-bachelor-science-degrees/) apply to all students who are seeking to earn an undergraduate B.A., B.S. or B.S.Ed. degree.

Students seeking a Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree have a separate set of BLS general education requirements (https://catalog.umw.edu/undergraduate/general-education/requirements-bachelor-liberal-studies-degrees/).

Electives

Elective courses are those that are not needed to fulfill a general education requirement or major program requirement but are chosen by the student to complete the 120 credits required for graduation with a B.A./B.S./B.S.Ed. degree or the BLS degree. These courses may be taken graded or pass/fail (or S/U in the case of physical education and 100-level dance). No student in a regular B.A./B.S./B.S.Ed. program may count more than 60 credits in a single discipline toward the 120 credits required for graduation.

Total Credits Required for the Degree: 120 credits

Communication and Digital Studies Department

P. Anand Rao, Chair and Career Advisor (Communication)
Zachary N. Whalen, Career Advisor (Digital Studies)

Faculty
Professor
P. Anand Rao

Associate Professor
Adria Y. Goldman
Zachary N. Whalen
Elizabeth A. Johnson-Young
Sushma Subramanian

Assistant Professors
Emily D. Crosby
James [J.D.] D. Swerzenski