Department of Communication

Contact Information:
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Administration:
Head, Zizi Papacharissi

The Department of Communication highlights the role of communication, media, and technology in creating relationships within human societies. Courses range from the personal through the international level and build responsible citizenship.

A degree in communication focuses on social science research, leading to several career paths, including market research, corporate relations, human resources, event planning, advertising, media writing, teaching, and government.

The core courses introduce fundamental concepts, theories, issues, and statistical methods in a variety of settings and build skills in reasoned argument, research, and critical thinking.

Subsequent courses integrate analysis and research, emphasizing observation, production, and consumption as critical processes in which students continually engage, while also emphasizing systematic inquiry that involves students in research activities. The courses foster critical understanding of the ways that individuals, groups, and societies create meanings about their worlds through communication.

Admission to the Major and GPA Requirement

Students may declare a major in Communication at any time. The first courses students should complete are the following, which are prerequisites for enrollment in many upper-level communication courses.

Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 102</td>
<td>Introduction to Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Media</td>
<td>3</td>
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A grade of B or better is required in at least two of these courses. Students who fail to meet this requirement will be dropped from the major. Students must maintain a minimum major GPA of 2.50/4.00. Students who do not meet this requirement will be placed on probation in the major. To be reinstated to full status in the major, students must raise their major GPA to 2.50 within one semester after being notified that they are on probation.

Distinction

For Distinction, the requirements are a cumulative GPA of 3.25/4.00 and a departmental GPA of 3.50/4.00. For High Distinction, the requirements are a cumulative GPA of 3.25/4.00, a departmental grade point average of 3.50/4.00, and satisfactory completion of an advanced original research paper under the supervision of a faculty member of the student’s choosing. Refer to the department handbook for procedures and deadlines.

Degree Program

- BA with a Major in Communication (http://catalog.uic.edu/ucat/colleges-depts/liberal-arts-sciences/comm/ba)

Minor

- Minor in Communication (http://catalog.uic.edu/ucat/colleges-depts/liberal-arts-sciences/comm/minor)