Communication Studies
Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies

Why Should I Major in Communication Studies at Seton Hall?

Employers routinely list “communication skills” at the top of the most important qualities of incoming professionals. When students major in Communication Studies in Seton Hall University’s Department of Communication, they study, practice and master those very qualities, including speaking and writing persuasively, effective researching, working productively in interpersonal, intercultural and team environments, and interviewing. Small class sizes and a dedicated, energetic faculty give our students an advantage over the competition. Best of all, several partial scholarships are available, including the Brownson Speech and Debate Team scholarship, the Lushkis scholarship and the Oppenheimer scholarship. A major in Communication Studies at Seton Hall puts you among the top candidates in many exciting career paths. Our alumni hold vital positions in the media, education, public relations, politics, law and industry.

The Curriculum:

Communication Studies majors follow in the footsteps of such luminaries as Aristotle, Cicero, St. Augustine, Abraham Lincoln, Lucretia Mott, Frederick Douglass, Frances Willard, Sojourner Truth and Franklin Roosevelt. Classes such as Oral Communication and Public and Presentational Speaking train students in the art of persuasive discourse and the effective use of the voice. Courses in Dynamics of Human Communication, Group Communication and Intercultural Communication emphasize how we communicate to a variety of audiences and groups. Introduction to Communication Theory and courses in Rhetoric train students to analyze discourse to understand what makes it effective (or ineffective). And in Communication Ethics, students learn about the importance of responsibility and morality to effective communicators. In these courses, students and professors examine some of the most important questions about human interaction; questions that are as old as the ancient Greeks and as cutting edge as an interactive press conference.

What Does It Take to Graduate?

To graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, students must successfully complete the required 45 credits for the major, as well as the College of Arts and Sciences core curriculum. Students must also complete a senior seminar, which involves a final thesis and/or project relating to their field of study.

Career Opportunities:

Many internship and cooperative learning opportunities are available to communication students in their junior or senior years, including with ABC, NBC and ESPN; Z100, WKTU, KROQ and WPLJ radio stations; The Washington Post, The New York Times, The Boston Globe; and with top public relations and advertising firms. Internships at many New York media companies offer real-world experiences and career opportunities. In order to participate in an internship for course credit, students must successfully complete the required courses and have a minimum GPA of 3.0.

A bachelor’s degree in Communication Studies is an excellent foundation for graduate school. Opportunities for continued studies include Seton Hall’s Master of Arts in Corporate and Public Communication. Other options include graduate study in media and communication, museum professions, law, education, business and the Master of Fine Arts.

How Do I Apply for Admission?

Complete your application and include the $55 non-refundable application fee ($45 if applying on-line). Freshmen applicants must submit official high school transcripts and any college or university transcripts where credit was attempted, plus the results of the SAT I or ACT assessments. Transfer students must submit transcripts from each college or university where credit was attempted and those with less than 24 earned credits must complete the freshman requirements. Applications are available at admissions.shu.edu

Can I Get Financial Aid?

Almost 90 percent of the students who entered Seton Hall last year received some form of financial aid, and 75 percent of these students received money directly from the University. The four types of financial aid include scholarships, grants and discounts, loans, and part-time jobs on campus. For further information, visit admissions.shu.edu/FinancialAid.htm or call (973) 761-9332.
Communication Studies Requirements:

Core Curriculum Requirements*

A. English Language (6 credits)
B. Communication (3 credits)
C. Mathematics (3 credits and prerequisites)
D. Natural Sciences (6 credits) and Behavioral Sciences (6 credits)
E. Western Civilization (6 credits), Foreign Language (6 credits) and American/African, Asian and Latino Civilizations/Foreign Language/Advanced Language (6 credits)
F. Ethical Questions (3 credits)
G. Philosophy and Religious Studies (9 credits)

* Please see Undergraduate Catalogue

Communication Studies Major

45 credit hours, including:

Department of Communication Core
Requirement Credits (15 credits)
COST 1600  Oral Communication
COMM 1421  Writing for the Media
COMM 1670  Introduction to Communication Theory
COMM 2135  Communication Ethics
COMM 2135  Communication Research

Communication Studies Major (50 credits)
COST 2612  History of Rhetoric
COMM 2136  Communication Law
COST 2625  Public and Presentational Speaking
COST 2626  Rhetorical Criticism
COST 1610  Dynamics of Human Communication
COST 2622  Group Discussion OR
COST 2623  Persuasive Speaking OR
COST 2000  Intercultural Communication
Three courses from approved department electives
COST 5890  Senior Seminar

Communication Studies Minor (21 credits)
COMM 1610  Introduction to Communication Theory
COMM 2134  Communication Ethics
COMM 2136  Communication Law
COST 2616  History of Rhetoric
Plus nine credits of Communication Studies courses.

Communication Certificates

- Computer Graphics (19 credits)
- Digital Media and Video (21 credits)
- Digital Media Production for the Web (25 credits)
- Television/Video Production (12 credits)

Please see the Undergraduate Catalogue for a list of required and elective courses in each certificate.

Degree Requirements: 130 total credit hours
Students can minor or double major in any of the College of Arts and Sciences disciplines.

For more information, call an admissions counselor at 1-800-THE-HALL, send an e-mail to thehall@shu.edu or visit admissions.shu.edu.

To talk to a faculty adviser, contact the Department of Communication secretary at reynolma@shu.edu or call (973) 761-9474.

Web site: artsci.shu.edu/communication