

Communication Studies BA with Communication Studies Thesis Track

Overview

The **Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies** is a studies-based interdisciplinary major. It features the academic (aesthetic, analytical, critical, historical, theoretical) and interdisciplinary study of communication as represented by the departments included within the Lew Klein College of Media and Communication.

Designed to ensure flexibility and choice, Communication Studies allows students a chance to fully investigate multiple fields in the communications discipline. Emphasis is placed on providing an overview of Communication while also accentuating personal academic growth. Personal choice and options allow students a chance to complete the degree in a timely manner.

In this interdisciplinary program, Communication Studies students **must select one of the following tracks** as a distinctive area of investigation:

- Communication and Entrepreneurship
- Contemporary Media Environments
- Global Civil Society
- Policy, Regulation and Advocacy
- Production (for Temple Japan students only)
- Communication Studies Thesis (the Major of Distinction track, which is available for advanced scholars)

An optional concentration in International Communication is also available.

The flexibility of the Communication Studies program offers students access to the field experiences, internships and study away experiences vital to a comprehensive education. Students with a number of skill sets and academic interest areas are often drawn to this innovative program and graduates are poised for a number of professional and academic possibilities, such as graduate, law or professional school. Graduates of this program will be well-suited to pursue a variety of positions across numerous aspects of the communications field.

Students receive cross-curricular expertise through foundation and core courses. Academic rigor and student choice are at the very core of the program. Choices allow a student flexibility, and curricular oversight ensures a solid, academically robust education. Courses are designed to allow student progress to be monitored at yearly intervals. Experiential learning is promoted, particularly during the junior and senior years. Cross cultural exchanges and experiences are integral aspects of the program's design. Advanced scholars have a distinct and individualized track.

Communication Studies Thesis (Major of Distinction) Track

The **Communication Studies Thesis track**, also referred to as the Major of Distinction track, is an academically rigorous program for students who wish to construct an interdisciplinary curriculum that meets their individual interests across the Klein departments. In the Major of Distinction, each student works individually with a faculty advisor from a relevant Klein department to build a curriculum that goes beyond the offered tracks. The student completes five courses, four of which must be at the 3000 or 4000 level, and in the senior year completes a two-semester thesis. A student in the Major of Distinction must have completed three semesters of a foreign language (or equivalent with the approval of the Director of Communication Studies) by the time of graduation. If appropriate to the student's research, an advanced methods or theory course may be required by the student's faculty advisor.

Students apply for a Major of Distinction in the second semester of their sophomore year. To be considered, students must be on schedule to complete their Foundational and Core Communications courses by the end of their sophomore year. Also, students must have earned at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average (GPA) in their Foundational and Core Communications courses along with a 3.25 overall GPA. Students must submit an application to the Director of Communication Studies that includes a statement of student's interest, a proposed curriculum, and a support letter from a full-time Klein faculty member willing to act as the student's faculty advisor.

Once accepted into the Major of Distinction and in consultation with his or her faculty advisor and the Director of Communication Studies, each student constructs his or her own curriculum. The curriculum must contain five courses, four of which must be at the 3000 or 4000 level, and include courses from at least three of the Klein majors. Courses selected should be designed to lead to the senior-year thesis.

Campus Locations: Main and Japan

Program Code: CO-CMST-BA

Contact Information

Main Campus

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Temple Japan Campus

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Learn more about the Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies.

These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2023-2024. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2023 should refer to the Archives to view the requirements for their Bulletin year.

Summary of Requirements

The degree of Bachelor of Arts may be conferred upon a student majoring in Communication Studies by the recommendation of the faculty and upon satisfactory completion of a minimum of 124 semester hours (s.h.) of credit with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 overall and in the major.

Students must meet:

- University requirements
 - All students are required to complete the General Education (GenEd) curriculum.
 - All students must take a minimum of two writing-intensive courses in the major at Temple University.
- Lew Klein College of Media and Communication requirements, including KLN 1002 and KLN 1002.
- Minimum of 42 s.h. in Communication Studies.
- Each course that fulfills a requirement for the major must be passed with a C- or better.
- Maximum of 30 s.h. in any one Klein department may be counted toward the major.
- A maximum of 4 s.h. of Internship credit may be counted toward the degree.
- A maximum of 8 s.h. combined of Independent Study and/or Special Projects may be counted toward the degree.
- No more than 8 s.h. in Kinesiology and Dance activities courses.
- Students may participate in study away programs.
- Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of 24 s.h. of major courses at Temple.
- Communication Studies majors may minor in established Klein minors. The Communication Studies student who declares a minor must complete the entire program requirements for both the major and the minor. Courses listed for both the Communication Studies major and Klein minor will only apply towards one of the curriculums. If the class is part of an array of courses, students will be required to take a different course to satisfy the major requirement.

Communication Studies: Communication Studies Thesis (Major of Distinction) Requirements

1. All Communication Studies majors must take the following two foundation courses:

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| CMST 1111 | Communication and Public Life | 3 |
| MSP 1021 | Introduction to Media Analysis | 3 |
| Total Credit Hours | | 6 |

2. All majors will take five additional core courses. Students will select one course each from the categories below (15 credits). Students should plan to meet the prerequisites for courses in their selected track (see below) by taking appropriate core courses.

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Core Courses | | |
| CMST 2111 | Communications Seminar ¹ | 3 |
| Communication Theory | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| ADV 1101 | Introduction to Media and Society | |
| ADV 1102 | Introduction to Advertising | |
| JRN 1111 | Journalism and Society | |
| MSP 1011 | Introduction to Media Theory | |
| Research Methods | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |

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| ADV 2141 | Introduction to Brand Strategy and Research | |
| JRN 2101 | Journalism Research | |
| MSP 2141 | Media Research ¹ | |
| Analysis | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| ADV 2151 | Introduction to Art Direction: Visual Communication | |
| MSP 2421 | Media Popular Culture ¹ | |
| CSI 1111 or CSI 1911 | Introduction to Public Speaking Honors Introduction to Public Speaking | |
| Cross-Cultural Perspectives | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| CSI 3701 | Intercultural Communication | |
| CSI 3702 | Communication, Culture and Identity | |
| Total Credit Hours | | 15 |

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Course has prerequisites.

3. In the Communication Studies Thesis (Major of Distinction), each student works individually with a faculty advisor from a relevant Klein department to build a curriculum that goes beyond that offered by the established tracks.

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
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| Major of Distinction Coursework | | 21 |
| One Klein course at any level | | 3 |
| Four 3000+ Klein courses | | 12 |
| CMST Thesis Hours | | 6 |
| Language Proficiency | | |
| Language 1001 level | | |
| Language 1002 level | | |
| Language 1003 level | | |

Suggested Academic Plan

Please note that this is a **suggested** academic plan. Depending on your situation, your academic plan may look different.

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies with Track in Communication Studies Thesis (Major of Distinction)

Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2023-2024 Academic Year

| | | |
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| Year 1 | | |
| Fall | | Credit Hours |
| CMST 1111 | Communication and Public Life | 3 |
| MSP 1021 | Introduction to Media Analysis | 3 |
| ENG 0802 or ENG 0812 or ENG 0902 | Analytical Reading and Writing or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL or Honors Writing About Literature | 4 |
| KLN 1001 | Klein First-Year Seminar | 1 |
| Foreign Language 1001 level | | 4 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Spring | | |
| KLN 1002 | Klein College Introduction to Professional Development | 1 |
| Select one of the following (Communication Theory): | | 3 |
| ADV 1101 | Introduction to Media and Society | |
| ADV 1102 | Introduction to Advertising | |
| JRN 1111 | Journalism and Society | |

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| MSP 1011 | Introduction to Media Theory | |
| IH 0851 | Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life | 3 |
| or IH 0951 | or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life | |
| GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course ^{GQ} | | 4 |
| GenEd Breadth Course | | 3 |
| Foreign Language 1002 Level | | 4 |
| Credit Hours | | 18 |
| Year 2 | | |
| Fall | | |
| CMST 2111 | Communications Seminar | 3 |
| Select one of the following (Analysis): | | 3 |
| ADV 2151 | Introduction to Art Direction: Visual Communication | |
| MSP 2421 | Media Popular Culture | |
| CSI 1111 | Introduction to Public Speaking | |
| or CSI 1911 | or Honors Introduction to Public Speaking | |
| GenEd Breadth Course | | 3-4 |
| GenEd Breadth Course | | 3 |
| Foreign Language 1003 Level | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Spring | | |
| Select one of the following (Research Methods): | | 3 |
| ADV 2141 | Introduction to Brand Strategy and Research | |
| JRN 2101 | Journalism Research | |
| MSP 2141 | Media Research | |
| Select one of the following (Cross-Cultural Perspectives): | | 3 |
| CSI 3701 | Intercultural Communication | |
| CSI 3702 | Communication, Culture and Identity | |
| IH 0852 | Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good | 3 |
| or IH 0952 | or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good | |
| GenEd Breadth Course | | 3 |
| GenEd Breadth Course | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Year 3 | | |
| Fall | | |
| One Writing-Intensive Klein Course - any level | | 3 |
| One 3000-4999 Klein Course | | 3 |
| GenEd Breadth Course | | 3 |
| Electives | | 6 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Spring | | |
| One 3000-4999 Writing-Intensive Klein Course | | 3 |
| One 4000-4999 Klein Course | | 3 |
| GenEd Breadth Course | | 3 |
| Electives | | 7 |
| Credit Hours | | 16 |
| Year 4 | | |
| Fall | | |
| Thesis Hours | | 3 |
| One 3000-4999 Klein Course | | 3 |
| Electives | | 9 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |

Spring

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| Thesis Hours | 3 |
| Electives | 12 |
| Credit Hours | 15 |
| Total Credit Hours | 124 |

Optional Concentration

The **optional International Communication Concentration (ICC)** provides a theoretical and practical education in international and intercultural communication and media. This program allows students to develop sought-after competencies in cultural sensitivity and intercultural communication skills by encouraging students to reflect on their own cultural lenses. Students participating in the ICC program will be exposed to multiple international perspectives through internationally- and interculturality-oriented courses offered on Temple's domestic campuses and may be supplemented with study abroad coursework.

This concentration is restricted to Klein students only.

Requirements

To earn the International Communication Concentration transcript notation, a student must successfully complete a total of 18-20 credits of International / Intercultural studies courses, a maximum 9 credits of which may come from courses transferred into Temple, across 3 areas. Each course that fulfills a requirement for the concentration must be passed with a C- or better.

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Common Course | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| CSI 3701 | Intercultural Communication | |
| CSI 3703 | Intercultural Communication in the Workplace | |
| Klein International/Intercultural courses | | |
| Select three of the following: | | 9 |
| Any ADV, CMST, CSI, JRN, MSP, or PR courses taken as part of a Klein Global Opportunities Program, or at a Temple University Overseas Campus (e.g., Temple Rome or Temple Japan) | | |
| Any ADV, CMST, CSI, JRN, MSP, or PR Internship completed as part of a Klein Global Opportunities International Program | | |
| CSI 2401 | Intercultural and Cross Cultural Conflict | |
| CSI 3702 | Communication, Culture and Identity | |
| CSI 3703 | Intercultural Communication in the Workplace (if not used to fulfill common course requirement above) | |
| JRN 3254 | International Reporting | |
| JRN 3706 | Journalism and Globalization | |
| MSP 3471 | Media and Cultural Differences | |
| MSP 3572 | Communication and Development | |
| MSP 4453 | Information Society | |
| MSP 4496 | Global Media | |
| PR 2672 | Global Communication and Leadership | |
| International/Intercultural Electives outside of Klein | | |
| Note: Satisfying the GenEd World Society requirement by completing a Study Abroad does not also satisfy this requirement. | | |
| Choose any two (2) courses of the following: | | 6-8 |
| Up to any two foreign language courses | | |
| Any non-Klein courses at the 2000-level or higher taken in a Klein Global Opportunities Int'l Program, or at a Temple University Overseas Campus (e.g., Temple Rome or Temple Japan) | | |
| Any non-Klein internship taken in a Klein Global Opportunities International Program | | |
| Anthropology | | |
| ANTH 2238 or ASST 2238 | Visual Anthropology of Modern Japan | |
| ANTH 2374 or ASST 2374 | The Anthropology of Modern China | |
| ANTH 2361 | Peoples of Latin America | |

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| or LAS 2361 | Peoples of Latin America |
| ANTH 2362 | Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean |
| or LAS 2362 | Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean |
| Art History | |
| ARTH 2102 | |
| ARTH 2105 | Roman Art and Archaeology |
| ARTH 2129 | Greek and Roman Sculpture |
| ARTH 2431 | Early Modern Italy and Spain in the 17th Century |
| ARTH 2432 | Northern and Global Baroque Art: Art in the Age of Rubens, Rembrandt, Vermeer |
| ARTH 2543 | Transnational Impressionisms |
| ARTH 2642 | Modern Art, 1900-1945 |
| ARTH 2868 | Arts of Asia |
| ARTH 1003 | History of Art in Rome (Study Abroad - Rome) |
| ARTH 2135 | Art and Culture in Ancient Rome (Study Abroad - Rome) |
| ARTH 2428 | Wonders of Rome: Art and Culture of the Baroque Era (Study Abroad - Rome) |
| ARTH 2622 | Galleries and Studios of Rome (Study Abroad - Rome) |
| ARTH 1801 | Arts of Asia (Study Abroad - Japan) |
| ARTH 2815 | Pre-Modern Japanese Art up to the Edo Period (Study Abroad - Japan) |
| Asian Studies | |
| ASST 2001 | Practical Asian Society and Culture |
| ASST 2011 | Survey of Japanese Literature Before 1868 |
| ASST 2015 | Tokyo in Literature and Film |
| or JPNS 2015 | Tokyo in Literature and Film |
| ASST 2021 | Japanese Literature in Film |
| or JPNS 2021 | Japanese Literature in Film |
| ASST 2351 | Japan in a Changing World |
| ASST 2367 | South Asia: Peoples, Culture, Experiences |
| ASST 2373 | Japanese Culture |
| or ANTH 2373 | Japanese Culture |
| ASST 2503 | Introduction to Southeast Asia: Insular |
| ASST 2504 | Introduction to Southeast Asia: Mainland |
| ASST 2511 | Introduction to Asian Business |
| ASST 3247 | Ideology and Social Change in Japan |
| or SOC 3247 | Ideology and Social Change in Japan |
| ASST 3251 | China: State and Society |
| or POLS 3251 | China: State and Society |
| ASST 3522 | Contemporary China |
| or HIST 3522 | Contemporary China |
| ASST 3541 | Japan Today |
| or HIST 3541 | Japan Today |
| ASST 3542 | Women and Society in Japan |
| or HIST 3542 | Women and Society in Japan |
| Film & Media Arts | |
| FMA 4673 | International Cinema |
| Geography & Urban Studies | |
| GUS 2032 | Urban Systems in a Global Economy |
| GUS 2073 | African Development |
| GUS 2074 | East and South Asia |
| or ASST 2074 | Geography of East and South Asia |
| GUS 3021 | International Urbanization |
| GUS 3052 | Environmental Problems in Asia |
| or ASST 3052 | Environmental Problems in Asia |

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| or ENST 3052 | Environmental Problems in Asia |
| GUS 3073 | Geography of Travel and Tourism |
| GUS 3307 | Transportation & Culture |
| History | |
| HIST 2303 | History of Central Europe, 1618-1871 |
| HIST 2317 | Central Europe Through Wars and Revolution, 1848-1989 |
| HIST 2501 | Introduction to East Asia: China |
| or ASST 2501 | Introduction to East Asia: China |
| HIST 2502 | Introduction to East Asia: Japan |
| or ASST 2502 | Introduction to East Asia: Japan |
| HIST 2503 | Introduction to Southeast Asia: Insular |
| or ASST 2503 | Introduction to Southeast Asia: Insular |
| HIST 2504 | Introduction to Southeast Asia: Mainland |
| or ASST 2504 | Introduction to Southeast Asia: Mainland |
| HIST 2511 | Introduction to African History |
| HIST 2514 | Introduction to Latin America |
| HIST 2515 | Civilization and Modernity in the Caribbean |
| or LAS 2515 | Civilization and Modernity in the Caribbean |
| HIST 2516 | Modern Islamic History |
| HIST 2611 | Third World Issues through Film |
| HIST 3321 | Irish History |
| HIST 3331 | History of England |
| HIST 3362 | Russia: Nationality and Empire |
| HIST 3363 | Russia: Revolution, State, and Empire |
| HIST 3511 | Southern Africa: A History |
| HIST 3521 | The Chinese Revolution |
| HIST 3531 | Modern India |
| HIST 3551 | History of Vietnam |
| HIST 3561 | History of Brazil |
| or LAS 3561 | History of Brazil |
| HIST 3562 | Contemporary Mexico |
| or LAS 3562 | Contemporary Mexico |
| HIST 3571 | Israel: History, Politics and Society |
| HIST 3572 | Modern Middle East |
| HIST 3675 | Third World Women's Lives |
| Jewish Studies | |
| JST 2706 | Jewish Diaspora/Survey of Jewish History |
| Latin American Studies | |
| LAS 2101 | Latin America through Film and Fiction |
| LAS 2231 | Comparative Political Systems in Latin America |
| LAS 2502 | Fundamentals of Latin American Business |
| or IB 2502 | Fundamentals of Latin American Business |
| LAS 2514 | Historical Continuity and Social Change in Latin America |
| LAS 3267 | Sociology of Music: Nation, Race, Class and Gender in Argentina and Brazil |
| LAS 3601 | "Other Voices" in Latin American Literature |
| LAS 3602 | Caribbean Literature and Culture |
| LAS 3801 | African Culture in Brazil |
| Political Science | |
| POLS 2211 | Contemporary Politics of Europe |
| POLS 2212 | Eastern Europe, Russia and the West |
| POLS 2231 | Comparative Political Systems in Latin America |
| POLS 2255 | Comparative Public Policy |

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| POLS 2314 | Politics of International Law |
| POLS 2321 | Politics of the Global Economy |
| POLS 2331 | International Organization |
| POLS 3212 | British Government and Politics |
| POLS 3241 | Mideast Politics |
| POLS 3252 | East Asia and the United States |
| or ASST 3252 | East Asia and the United States |
| POLS 3265 | International Environmental Policy |
| or ENST 3265 | International Environmental Policy |
| Religion | |
| REL 2002 | Religion and Human Sexuality |
| REL 2007 | Religion in Film |
| REL 2101 | Indian Philosophies and Religions |
| or ASST 2101 | Religions of India |
| REL 2102 | Introduction to Buddhism |
| or ASST 2102 | Introduction to Buddhism |
| REL 2201 | Chinese Religions - Confucius to Mao |
| REL 2301 | Zen Buddhism |
| or ASST 2301 | Zen Buddhism |
| REL 2403 | Introduction to Judaism |
| or JST 2403 | Introduction to Judaism |
| REL 2447 | Kabbalah and Mysticism |
| or JST 2447 | Kabbalah and Mysticism |
| REL 2502 | Jesus in the Media |
| REL 2606 | Introduction to Islam |
| REL 2702 | Religion in Contemporary Africa |
| REL 3011 | Monks, Masters, and Magicians: Religion in Premodern Chinese Literature |
| or ASST 3011 | Monks, Masters, and Magicians: Religion in Premodern Chinese Literature |
| REL 3201 | I-Ching, Tao, and Ch'an/Zen |
| or ASST 3201 | I-Ching, Tao, and Ch'an/Zen |
| REL 3301 | Japanese Religions |
| or ASST 3301 | Japanese Religions |
| REL 3411 | The Philosophies of Judaism |
| or JST 3411 | The Philosophies of Judaism |
| REL 3601 | The Islamic State |
| REL 3602 | Women in Islam |
| REL 3603 | Islamic Mysticism |
| REL 3702 | African Religions and New World Culture |

Total Credit Hours**18-20**

Contact Information

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