

# Communication Studies BA with Communication Studies Thesis Concentration

---

## 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 Low 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 concentrations** as a distinctive area of investigation:

- Communication and Entrepreneurship
- Contemporary Media Environments
- Global and Community Engagement
- Production (for Temple Japan students only)
- Communication Studies Thesis (the Major of Distinction concentration, 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 concentration.

## Communication Studies Thesis (Major of Distinction) Concentration

The **Communication Studies Thesis concentration**, also referred to as the Major of Distinction concentration, 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 concentrations. 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

Scott Gratson, PhD, Program Director

Annenberg Hall, Room 9D  
215-204-6434  
sgratson@temple.edu

Kisha Hence, Assistant Program Director  
Annenberg Hall, Room 9C  
215-204-6603  
khence@temple.edu

## Temple Japan Campus

Kevin Jones, MFA, Chair of the Division of Media and Fine Arts  
kevinhjones@tuj.temple.edu

Ron Carr, MFA, Faculty Advisor for the Communication Studies Major  
carr@tuj.temple.edu

Learn more about the Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies.

*These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2024-2025. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2024 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

- All Communication Studies majors must take two foundation courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
CMST 1111	Communication and Public Life	3
Select one of the following:		
MSP 1021	Introduction to Media Analysis	
PR 2661	Communicating Organizational Change	
PR 2672	Global Communication and Leadership	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>3</b>

- 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 concentration (see below) by taking appropriate core courses.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Core Courses</b>		
CMST 2111	Communications Seminar <sup>1</sup>	3
<b>Communication Theory</b>		
Select one of the following:		3
ADV 1101	Introduction to Media and Society	
ADV 1102	Introduction to Advertising	
JRN 1111	Journalism and Society	
MSP 2011	Introduction to Media Theory	
<b>Research Methods</b>		
Select one of the following:		3
ADV 2141	Introduction to Brand Strategy and Research	
JRN 2101	Journalism Research	
MSP 2141	Media Research <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Analysis</b>		
Select one of the following:		3
ADV 2151	Introduction to Art Direction: Visual Communication	
MSP 2421	Media Popular Culture <sup>1</sup>	
CSI 1111	Introduction to Public Speaking	
or CSI 1911	Honors Introduction to Public Speaking	
<b>Cross-Cultural Perspectives</b>		
Select one of the following:		3
CSI 3701	Intercultural Communication	
CSI 3702	Communication, Culture and Identity	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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 concentrations.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major of Distinction Coursework</b>		<b>21</b>
One Klein course at any level		3
Four 3000+ Klein courses		12
CMST Thesis Hours		6
<b>Language Proficiency</b>		
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 Concentration in Communication Studies Thesis (Major of Distinction)

#### Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2024-2025 Academic Year

Year 1		Credit Hours
Fall		
CMST 1111	Communication and Public Life	3
Select one of the following:		3

MSP 1021	Introduction to Media Analysis	
PR 2661	Communicating Organizational Change	
PR 2672	Global Communication and Leadership	
ENG 0802 or ENG 0812 or ENG 0902	Analytical Reading and Writing [GW] or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL [GW] or Honors Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	4
KLN 1001	Klein First-Year Seminar	1
Foreign Language 1001 level		4
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
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	
MSP 2011	Introduction to Media Theory	
IH 0851 or IH 0951	Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY] or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY]	3
GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course [GQ]		4
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Foreign Language 1002 Level		4
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
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 or CSI 1911	Introduction to Public Speaking or Honors Introduction to Public Speaking	
GenEd Breadth Course		3-4
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Foreign Language 1003 Level		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
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 or IH 0952	Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ] or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ]	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year 3</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
One Writing-Intensive Klein Course - any level		3
One 3000-4999 Klein Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3

Electives	6
<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
One 3000-4999 Writing-Intensive Klein Course	3
One 4000-4999 Klein Course	3
GenEd Breadth Course	3
Electives	7
<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	
<b>Fall</b>	
Thesis Hours	3
One 3000-4999 Klein Course	3
Electives	9
<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
Thesis Hours	3
Electives	12
<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>124</b>

## 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 interculturally-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
<b>Common Course</b>		
Select one of the following:		3
CSI 3701	Intercultural Communication	
CSI 3703	Intercultural Communication in the Workplace	
<b>Klein International/Intercultural courses</b>		
Select three of the following:		9
Any ADV, CMST, CSI, JRN, MSP, or PR courses taken as part of a Klein GO International Program, or on an overseas Temple Campus (Main Campus Students: Rome or Japan; TUJ Students: Main or Rome; Rome Students: Main or Japan).		
Any ADV, CMST, CSI, JRN, MSP, or PR International Internship completed as part of a Klein GO 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 GO International Program, or on an overseas Temple Campus (Main Campus Students: Rome or Japan; TUJ Students: Main or Rome; Rome Students: Main or Japan).

Any non-Klein internship taken in a Klein GO International Program

## Anthropology

ANTH 2238 Visual Anthropology of Modern Japan

or ASST 2238 Visual Anthropology of Modern Japan

ANTH 2374 The Anthropology of Modern China

or ASST 2374 The Anthropology of Modern China

ANTH 2361 Peoples of Latin America

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 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
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
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**

Jack Klotz, MSP Faculty Advisor  
Annenberg Hall, Room 115  
215-204-5823  
jklotz@temple.edu

## **Accelerated Programs**

Students may opt to pursue an accelerated +1 program, enabling them to complete both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in less time than the traditional route.

The following accelerated programs are available to students in the Communication Studies BA:

### **Lew Klein College of Media and Communication**

- Media Studies and Production MA
- Journalism MJ