

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

The Major of Distinction 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.

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:

1. 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.
2. Lew Klein College of Media and Communication requirements, including KLN 1001.
3. Minimum of 42 s.h. in Communication Studies.
4. Each course that fulfills a requirement for the major must be passed with a C- or better.
5. Maximum of 27 s.h. in any one Klein department may be counted toward the degree.
6. A maximum of 4 s.h. of Internship credit may be counted toward the degree.
7. A maximum of 8 s.h. combined of Independent Study and/or Special Projects may be counted toward the degree.
8. No more than 8 s.h. in Kinesiology and Dance activities courses.
9. Students may participate in study away programs.
10. Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of 24 s.h. of major courses at Temple.
11. 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: Major of Distinction (Thesis Track) 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
ADV 2141	Introduction to Brand Strategy and Research	
JRN 2101	Journalism Research ¹	
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	Introduction to Public Speaking	
or CSI 1911	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

¹ Course has prerequisites.

3. 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 that offered by the established tracks.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major of Distinction Coursework		
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: Major of Distinction Track Requirements for New Students starting in the 2021-2022 Academic Year

Year 1		Credit Hours
Fall		
CMST 1111	Communication and Public Life	3
MSP 1021	Introduction to Media Analysis	3
ENG 0802, 0812, or 0902	Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	4
KLN 1001	Klein First-Year Seminar	1

Foreign Language 1001 level 4

Term Credit Hours 15

Spring

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 1011 Introduction to Media Theory

IH 0851 or 0951 Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY] 3

GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course [GQ] 4

GenEd Breadth Course 3

Foreign Language 1002 Level 4

Term Credit Hours 17

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 or 1911 Introduction to Public Speaking

GenEd Breadth Course 3-4

GenEd Breadth Course 3

Foreign Language 1003 Level 3

Term 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 or 0952 Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ] 3

GenEd Breadth Course 3

GenEd Breadth Course 3

Term 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 7

Term Credit Hours 16

Spring

One 3000-4999 Writing-Intensive Klein Course 3

One 4000-4999 Klein Course 3

GenEd Breadth Course 3

Electives 7

Term Credit Hours 16

Year 4

Fall

Thesis Hours 3

One 3000-4999 Klein Course	3
Electives	9
Term Credit Hours	15
Spring	
Thesis Hours	3
Electives	12
Term Credit Hours	15
Total Credit Hours:	124