

Communication Studies and Theatre Arts

University of Wisconsin-River Falls
www.uwrf.edu

The department of communication studies and theatre arts offers three tracks within the human communication emphasis (professional and organizational communication, personal/cultural communication, and public communication); a digital film and television communication emphasis; and the theatre major. Students may select an emphasis that most closely matches their interests and career goals, and, in consultation with their faculty advisers in the department, they may make choices among the course options provided.

Goals

- To develop effective communicators who understand their chosen media of communication and use them well;
- to develop critical and sensitive receivers of communication, who can interpret and evaluate the messages to which they are exposed;
- to develop an appreciation for the interrelationship of theory, research, and practice;
- to develop an understanding and application of ethical systems in communication;
- to provide a sound foundation upon which students may build and adapt to future technological and social change.

Program

The communication studies and theatre arts programs include courses representing all aspects of the discipline. Required courses are interpersonal communication, listening, nonverbal communication, persuasion, and a senior-level research-oriented seminar. Directed electives allow choices from the other areas of the discipline.

Faculty

The department of communication studies and theatre arts is composed of ten faculty members and 10 adjunct instructors. Four faculty teach principally in the communication studies area; four teach principally in theatre; one teaches principally in digital film and television; and one teaches both theatre and digital film and television courses. All teach Fundamentals of Oral Communication.

Faculty members direct the three co-curricular student activity programs offered by the department: forensics, theatre, and television. Faculty members also advise the student organizations associated with those three activities as well as the National Communication Association Student Club.

Career Opportunities

Because communication is so vital to all aspects of our personal and professional lives, the human communication or public communication track is an excellent choice for students preparing for a variety of professional careers, such as law, the clergy, college teaching, or international relations and negotiations.

The professional and organizational communication track features the communication skills most needed by the student preparing for a career in the business, government, or non-profit sector. Such employers recognize the centrality of good communication in the world of work, regardless of their specific field. Consequently, the student who chooses this track is prepared for a career in a variety of institutions—retail, service, health-related, charitable, governmental, educational—often in a management track.

The digital film television track provides students with the necessary background for careers in film and television broadcasting, as well as for those who anticipate using these skills in other occupations.

The theatre major is designed to expose students to all aspects of theatre. Students are required to take core courses in acting, directing, history and technology. Students choose a track in their area of special interest—performance, design/technical, management, or dramaturgy.



COMMUNICATION STUDIES - HUMAN COMMUNICATION EMPHASIS PUBLIC COMMUNICATION OPTION

Department of Communication Studies and Theatre Arts
B24 Kleinpell Fine Arts Building
(715) 425-3971



Bachelor of Science Degree. Academic Advising Plan.

Semester 1 (Fall)

CSTA 116 Business and Professional Communication	3
General Education courses	12
Total semester credits	15

Semester 2 (Spring)

CSTA 106 Interpersonal Communication.....	3
General Education courses	12
Total semester credits	15

Semester 3 (Fall)

CSTA 211 Public Speaking.....	3
CSTA 284 Sophomore Seminar	3
Minor course requirement	3
General Education courses	6
Total semester credits	15

Semester 4 (Spring)

CSTA 207 Listening	3
CSTA 319 Freedom to Speak.....	3
Minor course requirement	3
General Education course.....	3
Liberal Arts course	3
Total semester credits	15

Semester 5 (Fall)

CSTA 208 Problem Solving in Small Group Communication	3
CSTA 312 Argumentation and Decision Making	3
Minor course requirement	6
Liberal Arts course	3
Total semester credits	15

Semester 6 (Spring)

CSTA 311 Persuasion	3
CSTA 313 Intercultural Communication	3
Minor course requirement	3
Liberal Arts course	3
General Education course.....	4
Total semester credits	16

Semester 7 (Fall)

CSTA 306 Nonverbal Communication	3
CSTA 499 Independent Study	3
Minor course requirement	6
Liberal Arts course	3
Total semester credits	15

Semester 8 (Spring)

CSTA 314 Introduction to Criticism	3
CSTA 484 Senior Portfolio	1
Minor course requirement	3
General education course	2
Electives courses	6

Summary of Degree Requirements

General Education	42 cr.
Major Requirements	37 cr.
Minor Program	24 cr.
Liberal Arts	12 cr.
Electives.....	9 cr.
Credits to Degree.....	124 cr.

This academic plan is an example of how students might choose to fulfill program requirements within a period of four years. After consulting with their advisers students may make other course choices which would meet the program requirements and be more suitable for them.