COMMUNICATION (COM)

Communication

COM-112 COMMUNICATION IN CULTURE (3 Credits)
An introduction to the purposes, theory and practice of human communication. Students will develop knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to communicate confidently, effectively and charitably as wise citizens in interpersonal, small group, public speaking and mediated contexts.
Prerequisite: None

COM-120 TRUTH & RHETORIC: COMM FOR HUMAN FLOURI (3 Credits)
This course equips students to communicate with excellence, truth, and beauty across oral and written modalities. Emphasizing ethical and effective communication from a Christian worldview, students will explore principles of truth-telling, persuasion, and relational intelligence. Through practice in speaking and writing, the course fosters skills for clear expression, critical thinking, and audience engagement, preparing students to communicate in ways that promote understanding, integrity, and human flourishing.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of ENG-114, satisfactory ACT/SAT score or take CSU-112 concurrently

COM-122 WRITING & RHETORIC: COMM FOR HUMAN FLOURISH. (3 Credits)
This course equips students to communicate with excellence, truth, and beauty across oral and written modalities. Emphasizing ethical and effective communication from a Christian worldview, students will explore principles of truth-telling, persuasion, and relational intelligence. By focusing on a specific stage of the writing process, breaking down the tasks into manageable increments to enhance students' academic writing, the course fosters skills for clear expression, critical thinking, and audience engagement, preparing students to communicate in ways that promote understanding, integrity, and human flourishing, while overcoming the difficulties of managing and organizing their writing tasks.
Prerequisite: None

COM-201 NEWSWRITING (3 Credits)
Practice in information gathering, interviewing, developing news judgment and writing news, sports and feature stories for various platforms. Prepares students for many jobs that require credible journalistic writing, including print, broadcast, public relations and publishing.
Prerequisite: None

COM-211 BUSINESS COMMUNICATION (3 Credits)
Prerequisite: None

COM-212 INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION (3 Credits)
Study of the theory and practice of interpersonal communication. This course emphasizes the cultural, social, psychological, semantic, developmental and practical variables which influence communication in significant relationships. Students develop competence through a variety of learning experiences.
Prerequisite: None

COM-215 PUBLIC RELATIONS (3 Credits)
A study of the major theories, concepts and principles of public relations. Covered topics include the functions of public relations, the impact of contextual influences and the major skills and activities associated with its practice. Students will develop skills in public relations planning, research, writing and campaigns.
Prerequisite: None

COM-244 VOICE & ON CAMERA PERFORMANCE (3 Credits)
This course prepares students for a career in broadcasting, sportscasting, motivational speaking, audio book production, acting for film and teaching by developing vocal skills, poise and confidence. Individual coaching is provided to improve articulation, tone, pronunciation and breath support, combined with professional instruction in on-camera performance teleprompter reading, interviewing and hosting programs.
Prerequisite: None

COM-311 INTER-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION (3 Credits)
An investigation into the many variables extant among people and groups with different cultural backgrounds, including the study of similarities and differences across cultures.
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior status required

COM-312 PERSUASION (3 Credits)
A study of the major theories, principles and strategies associated with persuasion and social influence. The course examines how a variety of factors impact attitudes, beliefs and behaviors with a focus on applying the understanding of those factors to the design of persuasive messages.
Prerequisite: None

COM-315 COMMUNICATION THEORY (3 Credits)
Examination and evaluation of general, thematic, and contextual theories of communication. The course includes philosophical assumptions that impact the theoretical development of a Christian perspective for communication studies.
Prerequisite: None

COM-321 GROUP COMMUNICATION (3 Credits)
The study of general and specific group communication theories and their relationship to communication in a variety of group settings. Topics include group formation, cohesiveness, groupthink, norms, leadership, decision-making and conflict. Students become better leaders and participants through a variety of experiential learning opportunities.
Prerequisite: None

COM-322 INNOVATIVE MESSAGE PRESENTATION (3 Credits)
Advanced training in the effective and appropriate design and oral presentation of ideas. While the course focuses on oral presentation, its emphasis on innovative message design extends to many communication contexts.
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior status required

COM-326 ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATION (3 Credits)
A study of the theory and practice of communication within organizations. Topics include communication and organizational structure, organizational climate and culture, communication networks and information flow, organizational communication competence (including leadership, conflict management, relationships with peers, etc) and effective oral and written communication in organizational contexts.
Prerequisite: None

COM-339 SOCIAL MEDIA (3 Credits)
The course aims to provide students majoring in communication and other fields with knowledge about finding and distributing information in conversations over social media. Students will be introduced to common platforms, techniques and ethical considerations.
Prerequisite: None

COM-354 ANNOUNCING & REPORTING (3 Credits)
Advanced training in voice and on-camera performace for commercials, news and voice-over narration. Students report on sports, news, and feature story topics that specifically interest them. This course is designed to polish and prepare students going into broadcast communication.
Prerequisite: MDA-271

COM-364 SPECIAL EVENTS/PROMOTIONS (3 Credits)
Examines the elements of the event planning process, creative brainstorming, budgeting, overcoming obstacles, attracting sponsorships, soliciting volunteers, and evaluating success. Practical field experiences include meeting professional meeting planners, visiting venues and assisting with real events.
Prerequisite: None

COM-380 INTERNSHIP (3 Credits)
Practical work experience using communication theory and skills in an appropriate setting relevant to the student's area of emphasis.
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior status required

COM-400 CAPSTONE SEM: COM STUDIES (3 Credits)
This course is the senior capstone for student majoring in Communication, Broadcast Communication and Strategic Communication. The course addresses the intersection of Christian worldview and communication theory and practice as well as ethical issues in the field of Communication Studies. Attention is also given to key issues related to the transition from university to employment or graduate education in communication. Students engage in the process of vocational self-evaluation and produce a capstone project (portfolio, sample reel, etc) that reflects the knowledge, values and skills developed through their coursework.
Prerequisite: Senior status required

COM-433 NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION (3 Credits)
This course focuses on the cultural, social, psychological and practical variables relating to nonverbal communication. Students will become familiar with the classic and contemporary research and scholarship of nonverbal communication. In addition, students will understand the impact of nonverbal behavior in professional and personal contexts and will develop their own nonverbal competence through a variety of practical learning experiences.
Prerequisite: COM-112

COM-435 THE AVERSIVE SIDE OF COMMUNICATION (3 Credits)
A study of the research and theories on various negative, destructive and harmful aspects of communication. Topics such as aggression, coercion, revenge and transgressions are discussed in a seminar format.
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior status required

COM-490 INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-3 Credits)
An independent project-related course. Students work closely with a professor in the choosing of a topic, its design, and in the developing of a plan for its completion.
Prerequisite: COM-112