

Area: Humanities
 Dean: Diana Hicks
 Phone: (916) 484-8653
 Counseling: (916) 484-8572

Degree: A.A. for Transfer - Communication Studies

 See:
 (Communication – Sacramento City College)
 (Communication Studies – Cosumnes River College and Folsom Lake College)

The number-one skill identified by employers is the ability to communicate clearly in both oral and written form. The number-two skill identified by employers is the ability to work effectively as a member of a group or team. Speech courses are vital to developing the communication skills necessary for personal and professional success.

Communication Studies A.A. for Transfer Degree

Major Code, CSU GE: 010548A01
 Major Code, IGETC: 010548A02

This degree provides a foundation for students to transfer to a CSU campus with a major in Communication, Speech Communication, Communications, or Communication Studies.

The Associate in Arts degree in Communication Studies for Transfer provides students with a major that fulfills the general requirements of the California State University for transfer. Students with this degree will receive priority admission with junior status to the California State University system.

The Associate in Arts degree in Communication Studies for Transfer (A.A.-T.) may be obtained by the completion of 60 transferable, semester units with a minimum of a 2.0 GPA, including (a) the major or area of emphasis described in the Required Program outlined below (earning a C or better in these courses), and (b) either the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education Breadth Requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- assess the factors which contribute to communication competency.
- generate strategies to communicate effectively with others in dyads, groups, and public situations.
- evaluate the role of communication in human interactions.
- analyze evidence, reasoning, and persuasive appeals for credibility, logic, and relevance.
- demonstrate skills and behaviors which contribute to open and respectful communication of diverse ideas and beliefs.

Career Opportunities

A primary skill employers in all fields seek is effective communication. A degree in Communication Studies enriches personal development and enhances opportunities for employment and promotion in such diverse professional fields as education, law, law enforcement, health, science, management, organizational development, psychology, public service, sales, training, entertainment, and social services.

Requirements for Degree 18 Units

SPEECH 301	Public Speaking3
A minimum of 6 units from the following:6		
SPEECH 311	Argumentation and Debate (3)	
SPEECH 321	Interpersonal Communication (3)	
SPEECH 331	Group Discussion (3)	
A minimum of 6 units from the following:6		
SPEECH 302	Persuasive Speech (3)	
SPEECH 325	Intercultural Communication (3)	
SPEECH 361	The Communication Experience (3)	
JOUR 310	Mass Media and Society (3)	
A minimum of 3 units from the following:3 ¹		
ANTH 310	Cultural Anthropology (3)	
ENGWR 302	Advanced Composition and Critical Thinking (3)	
ENGWR 482	Honors Advanced Composition and Critical Thinking (3)	
JOUR 300	Newswriting and Reporting (3)	
PSYC 300	General Principles (3)	
SOC 300	Introductory Sociology (3)	

¹Or any course not used previously

Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree Requirements:

The Communication Studies Associate in Arts for Transfer (A.A.T.) Degree may be obtained by completion of 60 transferable, semester units with a minimum 2.0 GPA, including (a) the major or area of emphasis described in the Required Program, and (b) either the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or the California State University General Education-Breadth Requirements.

Speech

SPEECH 301 Public Speaking 3 Units

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340
General Education: AA/AS Area II(b); CSU Area A1; IGETC Area 1C
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course covers oral composition and delivery of messages in public speaking situations. It focuses on how to manage anxieties about speaking in public, organize ideas when speaking to inform and persuade, use supporting materials to increase the effectiveness of messages, appeal to different audiences, and critically evaluate messages. By the end of the course, students will be more confident and effective in oral communication situations. Audio/video recording equipment may be used as an aid to self-analysis and improvement. (C-ID COMM 110)

SPEECH 302 Persuasive Speech 3 Units

Advisory: SPEECH 301 with a grade of "C" or better; and eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
General Education: CSU Area A3
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is a detailed study of persuasive discourse through an understanding of basic communication principles. Emphasis is placed on the use of proofs, language, and logical thinking. Audio-and/or video-recording equipment may be used as an aid for self-analysis and improvement. (C-ID COMM 190)

SPEECH 311 Argumentation and Debate 3 Units

Advisory: ENGWR 300, ENGWR 480, or SPEECH 301
General Education: CSU Area A3
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course focuses on critical thinking with an emphasis on building and analyzing logical arguments. Rhetorical strategies are discussed and practiced. The course covers organization, supporting materials, delivery of effective arguments, and the use of questioning in critical thinking. (C-ID COMM 120)

SPEECH 321 Interpersonal Communication 3 Units

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
General Education: AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area E1
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course focuses on communication between individuals, with emphasis on the acquisition of techniques and skills essential to self-actualization and to establishing authentic personal, social, and professional relationships. Effective communication strategies are discussed, practiced, and reflected upon both in and outside the classroom environment. (C-ID COMM 130)

SPEECH 325 Intercultural Communication 3 Units

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
General Education: AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D; IGETC Area 4
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the challenges and rewards of intercultural communication in everyday situations. It is designed to increase understanding of variations in communication patterns across cultures and prepares individuals for more effective communication. Emphasis is on both international culture variance and sub-cultural group-based experiential background variance. (C-ID COMM 150)

SPEECH 331 Group Discussion 3 Units

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
General Education: AA/AS Area II(b); CSU Area A1; IGETC Area 1C
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course covers the dynamics of group communication and prepares individuals to function more effectively in groups. It focuses on oral communication in task and social groups. Topics include communication concepts and behaviors in problem solving, decision making, leadership, conflict management, and group roles and norms. (C-ID COMM 140)

SPEECH 361 The Communication Experience 3 Units

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.
General Education: AA/AS Area II(b); CSU Area A1; IGETC Area 1C
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course provides an introduction to basic skills and concepts necessary for effective communication in a variety of contexts. Topics include effective listening, facilitation of interpersonal relationships, conflict resolution, media communication, practical group experience, and public speaking. (C-ID COMM 180)

SPEECH 495 Independent Studies in Speech 1-3 Units

Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 54-162 hours LAB

Independent Study is an opportunity for the student to extend classroom experience in this subject, while working independently of a formal classroom situation. Independent study is an extension of work offered in a specific class in the college catalog. To be eligible for independent study, students must have completed the basic regular catalog course at American River College. They must also discuss the study with a professor in this subject and secure approval. Only one independent study for each catalog course will be allowed.