COMMUNICATIONS, B.A.  
(ALTOONA)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus  
End Campus: Altoona

Degree Requirements
For the Bachelor of Arts in Communications, a minimum of 123 credits is required:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>42</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

General Education
Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains
- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)
- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements
First Year Engagement
All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements
Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

Requirements for the Major
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified...
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by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 100N</td>
<td>The Mass Media and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 150N</td>
<td>The Art of the Cinema</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 260W</td>
<td>News Writing and Reporting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 490</td>
<td>Issues in Electronic Commerce</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Prescribed Courses**

*Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

**Additional Courses**

*Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better*

Select 12 credits from the following, including 6 credits at the 400-level:

**Prescribed Courses**

- COMM 100N: The Mass Media and Society (3 credits)
- COMM 150N: The Art of the Cinema (3 credits)
- COMM 260W: News Writing and Reporting (3 credits)
- COMM 490: Issues in Electronic Commerce (3 credits)

**Additional Courses**

Select 12 credits from the following, including 6 credits at the 400-level:

- COMM 1: Newspaper Practicum (1 credit)
- COMM 2: Newspaper Editorial Staff (1 credit)
- COMM 215: Basic Photography for Communications
- COMM 241: Graphic Design for Communications
- COMM 242: Basic Video/Filmmaking
- COMM 251: The Nature of Media
- COMM 261: The Literature of Journalism
- COMM 269: Photojournalism
- COMM 270: Introduction to Multimedia Production
- COMM 282: Television Field Production
- COMM 283: Television Studio Production
- COMM 296: Independent Studies
- COMM 337: Intermediate Documentary Production
- COMM 339: Intermediate Alternative Production
- COMM 346: Writing for the Screen I
- COMM 360: Radio Reporting
- COMM 374: Audio Production
- COMM 415: Advanced Photography for Communications
- COMM 421W: Advertising Creative Strategies
- COMM 436: Advanced Audio Production
- COMM 439: Advanced Alternative Production (max 6 credits)
- COMM 448: Advanced Group Production I
- COMM 460W: Reporting Methods
- COMM 461: Magazine Writing
- COMM 462: Feature Writing
- COMM 467: News Editing and Evaluation
- COMM 468: Graphic Applications in Print Communications
- COMM 469: Photography for the Mass Media
- COMM 471: Public Relations Media and Methods
- COMM 472: Public Relations Event Planning
- COMM 481: Advanced Multimedia Production
- COMM 495: Internship
- COMM 496: Independent Studies

Select 6 credits from the following:

- COMM 470A: Convergent Media News Service: Newspaper Production
- COMM 470B: Convergent Media News Service: TV
- COMM 470C: Convergent Media News Service: Radio and Online Publications

1 A student may apply only 6 credits total of COMM 1 and COMM 2 towards the requirements of the Communications degree.