

COMMUNICATIONS, B.A. (CAPITAL)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Harrisburg

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2025-26 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

Communications, B.A. at Harrisburg Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ENGL 15, 15S, 30T, or ESL 15 [‡]	3 CAS 100A or 100S [‡]	3
Quantification (GQ) [‡]	3 COMM 160 (Needed if planning on taking COMM 260W) [*]	1
General Education Course	3 Quantification (GQ) [‡]	3
World Language, Level 1	4 World Language, Level 2	4
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course	3
	General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
	14.5	15.5

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 100N [#]	3 Elective or Minor Course	3
COMM 251 [*]	3 COMM 215 (or Visual COMM Course from List F) [*]	3
COMM 260W (General Education Course (Choose 260W or 230W)) [*]	3 ENGL 202B or 202D [‡]	3
World Language, Level 3	4 COMM 230W (or General Education Course (Choose 260W or 230W)) [*]	3
General Education Course	3 General Education Course	3
	16	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
General Education Course	3 COMM 342W ^{*3}	3
Supporting Course	3 General Education Course	3
Visual COMM Course from List F [*]	3 COMM Selection from List E [*]	3

BA Requirement: World Cultures	3 Elective or Minor Course	3
BA Requirement: BA Fields	3 Supporting Course	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COMM 456 ^{*4}	3 COMM 458 ^{*5}	3
Supporting Course	3 General Studies Course	3
COMM Selection from List E [*]	3 Supporting Course	3
BA Requirement: BA Fields	3 Elective or Internship	3
Elective or Minor Course	3 BA Requirement: BA Fields	3
	15	15

Total Credits 121

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

- 1 COMM Selection - 6 credits from Department List E, at least 12 credits of COMM courses must be taken at the 400 level. See List E below.
- 2 Visual COMM – 6 credits from Department List F, at least 12 credits of COMM courses must be taken at the 400 level. See List F below.
- 3 COMM 342W is offered in spring only
- 4 COMM 456 is offered in fall only
- 5 COMM 458 is offered in spring only

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/>) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in World Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as World Cultures courses (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-world-cultures/>).

Program Notes:

- Prescribed Courses (12 Credits):
 - Select 6 credits each from the Comm List and the VISUAL COMM List of courses below.
- Supporting Courses (12 Credits):
 - Select 12 credits in consultation with an academic adviser. These credits, combined with electives, may be applied to a minor in support of the student's interests.
- COMM List (E) (6 credits required):
 - COMM 1 Newspaper Practicum (2)
 - COMM 2 Newspaper Editorial Staff (2)
 - COMM 3 Radio Practicum (2)
 - COMM 4 Television Practicum (2)
 - COMM 110 Media and Democracy (3)
 - COMM 150N The Art of the Cinema – The Art of the Cinema (3)
 - COMM 168 American Journalism: Values, Traditions, and Practices (3)
 - COMM 190 Gaming and Interactive Media (3)
 - COMM 234N Digital Cultures (3)
 - COMM 320 Introduction to Advertising (3)
 - COMM 346 Writing for the Screen I (3)
 - COMM 370 Public Relations (3)
 - COMM 372 Digital Public Relations (3)
 - COMM 414 Media Management (3)
 - COMM 421W Advertising Creative Strategies (3)
 - COMM 454 Documentary in Film and Television (3)
 - COMM 457 Media Audiences and Contexts (3)
 - COMM 471 Public Relations Media and Methods (3)
 - COMM 472 Public Relations Event Planning (3)
 - COMM 488 Writers' Seminar (3)
 - COMM 495 Internship (3)
 - COMM 496 Independent Studies (3)
- VISUAL COMM List (F) (6 credits required):
 - COMM 215 Basic Photography for Communications (3)
 - COMM 241 Graphic Design for Communications (3)
 - COMM 242 Basic Video/Filmmaking (3)
 - COMM 269 Photojournalism (3)
 - COMM 337 Intermediate Documentary Production (3)
 - COMM 338 Intermediate Narrative Production (3)
 - COMM 374 Audio Production (3)
 - COMM 415 Advanced Photography for Communications (3)
 - COMM 436 Advanced Audio Production (3)
 - COMM 437 Advanced Documentary Production (3)
 - COMM 441 Advanced Graphic Design for Communications (3)
 - COMM 495 Internship (1-3 per semester/maximum of 6)
 - COMM 496 Independent Studies (3)