COMMUNICATION ARTS AND SCIENCES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

This minor provides understanding and practice in the ways humans achieve their personal and career goals by means of communication. Students may choose any of the department's pathways of specialization, such as:

- Interpersonal,
- Family,
- Intercultural,
- Organizational,
- Legal,
- Political Communication and Presentation Skills,
- Communication and Technology,
- or Rhetoric.

For example, Legal Communication focuses on communication within the legal system, and provides students with the theory and skills to understand the uses, evaluation, and structure of public policy and legal disputes. Students learn how perception, meaning, and conflict function in human communication if they choose to specialize in Interpersonal Communication, while Organizational Communication critically examines leadership, decision-making, interviewing, and teamwork in formal organizations. In coordination with an adviser, a student of any major may tailor this minor to complement his or her educational and career goals by pursuing a particular pathway.

What is Communications Arts and Sciences?

Communication Arts and Sciences (CAS) is committed to the study, teaching, and practice of human communication for the betterment of Pennsylvania, the nation, and the world. Using methods and theories that span the humanities and social sciences, we create knowledge about the role of communication in diverse interpersonal, communal, national, international, and cultural settings. Our research is integral to our educational mission: to promote greater understanding of and facility with oral, written, and nonverbal communication.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to supplement your primary degree by learning about the importance of human communication from either social scientific and humanistic perspectives.
- You want to learn how to craft effective messages for different audiences.
- You want to develop analytic and critical thinking skills in order to understand how messages influence audiences.
- You want to acquire theories, methods, and practical tools of communication to help advance your professional or civic goals.

Program Requirements

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<th>Requirement</th>
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Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 203</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS 213</td>
<td>Persuasive Speaking</td>
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<td>CAS 214</td>
<td>Speech Writing</td>
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<td>CAS 215</td>
<td>Argumentation</td>
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<td>CAS 250</td>
<td>Small Group Communication</td>
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<td>CAS 252</td>
<td>Business and Professional Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS 271N</td>
<td>Intercultural Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS 280W</td>
<td>Storytelling and Speaking</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CAS 283</td>
<td>Communication and Information Technology I</td>
<td>3</td>
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Select 3 credits of the following:

- CAS 200 Language, Culture, and Communication
- CAS 303 Communication Theory
- CAS 301 Rhetorical Theory

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 6 credits of Communication Arts and Sciences courses

Select 6 credits of Communication Arts and Sciences courses at the 400 level

Note: CAS 100, CAS 126, or CAS 195 may not be counted as part of the minor.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

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Career Paths
CAS students are change makers: analysts, strategists, persuaders, facilitators, collaborators, connectors, and scholars. The CAS minor serves as a valuable supplement to a wide array of majors, and helps to equip students for success in the work force, graduate school, and civic life. CAS courses provide students with the theories, methods, practical tools, and experiences to understand the roots of social conflict and the sources of well-being.

Careers
A Minor in CAS prepares students for post-graduate success by demonstrating that they have sought a rigorous and diverse understanding of communication practices beyond their primary courses of study. The applied communication focus of this minor can benefit graduates in careers that prioritize an ability to communicate effectively, including business, government, health and human services, human development, law, public relations, sales, and more.

Opportunities for Graduate Studies
A Minor in CAS also provides excellent preparation for graduate study in either communication science or rhetoric, as well as fields such as business, health and human services, human development, public policy, social work, and more.

Contact
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