

MAJOR IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES, RHETORIC, DEMOCRACY, AND SOCIAL ADVOCACY CONCENTRATION

Requirements Effective Fall 2026

Students may enroll in either the standalone major or (at most) one of the concentrations under the Major in Communication Studies.

Freshman

		AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	1A	3
SPCM 100	Communication and Popular Culture (GT-AH1)	3B	3
SPCM 130	Foundations of Human Communication (GT-SS3)	3C	3
SPCM 200	Public Speaking		3
1B (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)		1B	3
1C (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#aucc)		1C	3
Biological and Physical Sciences (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)		3A	7
Electives			6
Total Credits			31

Sophomore

SPCM 201	Introduction to Rhetoric (GT-AH3)	3B	3
SPCM 207	Public Argumentation		3
Select one of the following AUCC Category 2 (Advanced Writing) courses:			3
CO 300	Writing Arguments (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301A	Writing in the Disciplines: Arts and Humanities (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301B	Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301C	Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301D	Writing in the Disciplines: Education (GT-CO3)	2	
HIST XXX			3
Additional Arts and Humanities ¹			3
Additional Social and Behavioral Sciences ²			3
Historical Perspectives (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)		3D	3
Electives			9
Total Credits			30

Junior

SPCM 311	Speeches and Social Change	4A,4B	3
SPCM 337	Persuasion		3
SPCM 412	Rhetorical Criticism	4A,4B	3
SPCM 420	Political Communication	4A,4B	3
Communication Studies Electives ³			3
Minor, Interdisciplinary Minor, or Second Major ⁴			15
Total Credits			30

Senior

SPCM 479	Communication Studies Capstone	4C	3
Select 12 credits from the following			12
SPCM 300	Advanced Public Speaking		
SPCM 320	Communication and Human Trafficking		
SPCM 330	Leadership and Communication		
SPCM 333	Career Communication		
SPCM 335	Gender and Communication		
SPCM 342	Critical Media Studies	4A,4B	
SPCM 346	Digital Media Cultures		
SPCM 347	Visual Communication		
SPCM 349	Freedom of Speech		
SPCM 353	Rhetoric and Racial Justice		
SPCM 357	Film and Social Change		
SPCM 401	Rhetoric in Social Movements		
SPCM 407	Facilitation Collaborative Problem Solving		
SPCM 408	Applied Deliberative Techniques		
SPCM 433	Organizational Communication		
SPCM 460	Making Hybrid Fiction Nonfiction Film		
Minor, Interdisciplinary Minor, or Second Major ⁴			6
Electives ⁵			8
Total Credits			29
Program Total Credits:			120

¹ Select three credits from the following subject codes: ART, D, E, ETST, L**, MU, PHIL, TH, or WS.

² Select a total of three credits from the following: AREC 202, GR 100, courses with subject codes ANTH, ECON, ETST, HIST, JTC, POLS, PSY, SOC, or WS.

³ Select a total of 3 credits of SPCM subject code courses excluding SPCM 479 and SPCM 495.

⁴ Students must complete a university approved minor, interdisciplinary minor, or second major.

⁵ Select enough elective credits to bring program total to a minimum of 120 credits, of which at least 42 must be upper-division (300- to 400-level).