

# COMMUNICATION, BA

**Banner Code:** LA-BA-COM

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Fairfax Campus

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Website: [communication.gmu.edu/programs/la-ba-com](https://communication.gmu.edu/programs/la-ba-com)

Communication is the study of basic human social processes: the creation and dissemination of meaning and information. The major prepares students for graduate study or professional positions in such fields as advocacy, communication studies, digital production & media studies, journalism, and public relations & strategic communication. Students develop skills and knowledge that put them at the edge of a rapidly changing communication industry. Majors learn to construct and evaluate messages across platforms—web, print, audio and visual.

## Admissions & Policies

### Policies

Students pursuing this degree must complete 39 credits within the major, with a minimum grade of C in each course.

Of the 39 credits applied to the major, no more than 10 credits may be from courses listed in the Degree Requirements. In addition to 12 credits of core courses, students take 21-24 credits of courses in a concentration and 3-6 credits of additional communication courses. Of these last 27 credits, at least 12 credits must be at the 300-400 level, no more than 6 credits may be in COMM 450 Internship in Communication, and no more than 3 credits may be in COMM 452 Advanced Portfolio in Media Production. COMM 479 Digital Media and Web Design Capstone cannot be used toward the major.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/>).

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

### Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
COMM 200	Communication Theory	3
COMM 300	Writing and Rhetorical Criticism (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> ) <sup>1</sup>	3

COMM 305	Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
COMM 400	Research Methods in Communication <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

<sup>1</sup> Must first complete COMM 200 Communication Theory with a grade of C or better.

<sup>2</sup> Must first complete six credits from COMM 300 Writing and Rhetorical Criticism (Mason Core) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>), COMM 301 Interpersonal Communication: Theory to Practice, or COMM 305 Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) with a grade of C or better.

### Concentration

Students must complete coursework in one concentration. Students may also declare a second concentration. No more than six credits can count between the two declared concentrations and no credits used within the declared concentration(s) can be used to satisfy communication elective credits. Students must declare a concentration before they earn more than 75 credits. Transfer students with 60 or more credits are encouraged to declare a concentration by the end of their first semester. COMM 399 Special Topics in Communication or other special topics courses from other concentrations may be applied toward a concentration when the topic is relevant to the concentration with prior written approval of the undergraduate director.

- Advocacy (ADVO)
- Communication Studies (COMS)
- Digital Production & Media Studies (DPMS)
- Journalism (JNL)
- Public Relations & Strategic Communication (PRSC)

### Concentration in Advocacy (ADVO)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
COMM 227	Introduction to Political Communication	3
COMM 440	Ceremonial Speech Writing and Performance	3
COMM 454	Free Speech and Ethics (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
COMM 459	Argument and Public Policy	3
<b>Electives</b>		
Select 9 credits from the following:		9
COMM 140	Forensics Seminar I	
COMM 141	Forensics Seminar II	
COMM 142	Debate Seminar I	
COMM 143	Debate Seminar II	
COMM 230	Case Studies in Persuasion	
COMM 260	Basic Debate Theory and Practice	
COMM 261	Theories of Argumentation	
COMM 340	Forensics Seminar III	
COMM 341	Forensics Seminar IV	
COMM 342	Debate Seminar III	

COMM 343	Debate Seminar IV	
COMM 350	Mass Communication and Public Policy	
COMM 374	Political Journalism	
COMM 380	Media Criticism	
COMM 386	Special Topics in Advocacy	
COMM 412	Media and Political Controversy	
COMM 431	Social Media and Democratic Engagement	
COMM 433	Environmental Communication, Campaigns, and Social Movements	
COMM 457	Communicating Dissent: Revolutions and Social Movements	
Total Credits		21

**Concentration in Communication Studies (COMS)**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
COMM 301	Interpersonal Communication: Theory to Practice (core course)	3
COMM 318	Persuasion	3
COMM 335	Organizational Communication (core course)	3

**Electives**

Select 12 credits from the following: 12

COMM 201	Small Group Communication
COMM 202	Media and Society
COMM 210	Voice and Articulation
COMM 230	Case Studies in Persuasion
COMM 260	Basic Debate Theory and Practice
COMM 261	Theories of Argumentation
COMM 302	Media Theory
COMM 304	Foundations of Health Communication
COMM 306	Issues in Intercultural Communication
COMM 307	Field Study in Communication
COMM 310	Performance for Communication Arts
COMM 320	Digital Innovations in Professional Communication (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
COMM 332	Nonverbal Communication
COMM 334	Family and Health Communication
COMM 359	Digital Media Management
COMM 365	Gender, Race, and Class in the Media
COMM 367	Children and Media
COMM 380	Media Criticism
COMM 384	Social Media and Strategic Communication
COMM 385	Special Topics in Communication Studies
COMM 389	Strategic Communication for Nonprofits
COMM 395	Special Topics in Health Communication
COMM 401	Interpersonal Skills for Career Development
COMM 433	Environmental Communication, Campaigns, and Social Movements
COMM 434	Interviewing

COMM 435	Digital Communication	
COMM 440	Ceremonial Speech Writing and Performance	
COMM 457	Communicating Dissent: Revolutions and Social Movements	
COMM 459	Argument and Public Policy	
COMM 465	Topics in Communication and Gender	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>21</b>

**Concentration in Digital Production and Media Studies (DPMS)**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
COMM 208	Introduction to Media Production	3
COMM 302	Media Theory	3
COMM 360	Digital Postproduction	3
COMM 380	Media Criticism	3

**Electives**

Students must choose either the Digital Production track or the Media Studies track. 12

**Digital Production Track - Select 12 credits from the following**

COMM 148	Podcasting and Radio Workshop I (Digital Production Track)
COMM 310	Performance for Communication Arts
COMM 347	Cable TV Programming and Marketing
COMM 348	Podcasting and Radio Workshop II
COMM 354	Podcasting Production
COMM 356	Performance for Digital Production
COMM 358	Multi-Camera Studio Production
COMM 363	Media Career Seminar
COMM 364	Videography
COMM 369	Multimedia Storytelling
COMM 397	Special Topics in Production
COMM 452	Advanced Portfolio in Media Production

**Media Studies Track - Select 12 credits from the following**

COMM 202	Media and Society
COMM 350	Mass Communication and Public Policy
COMM 359	Digital Media Management
COMM 365	Gender, Race, and Class in the Media
COMM 367	Children and Media
COMM 372	Sports and the Media
COMM 375	Digital Advertising Strategies
COMM 396	Special Topics in Media Studies
COMM 435	Digital Communication
COMM 454	Free Speech and Ethics (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )

**Total Credits** 24

**Concentration in Journalism (JNL)**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
COMM 203	Introduction to Journalism	3
COMM 351	News Writing and Reporting	3
COMM 352	News Editing	3

COMM 475 Journalism Law 3

### Electives

Select 9 credits from the following: 9

COMM 145	Newspaper Workshop I
COMM 148	Podcasting and Radio Workshop I
COMM 208	Introduction to Media Production
COMM 227	Introduction to Political Communication
COMM 302	Media Theory
COMM 309	Writing across the Media
COMM 345	Newspaper Workshop II
COMM 353	Broadcast Journalism
COMM 356	Performance for Digital Production
COMM 369	Multimedia Storytelling
COMM 370	Feature Writing
COMM 371	Sports Writing and Reporting
COMM 387	Special Topics in Journalism
COMM 454	Free Speech and Ethics (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )

**Total Credits** 21

### Concentration in Public Relations & Strategic Communication (PRSC)

Code	Title	Credits
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#### Required Courses

COMM 204	Introduction to Public Relations and Strategic Communication	3
COMM 308	Writing for Public Relations and Strategic Communication	3
COMM 318	Persuasion	3
COMM 410	Strategic Communication Campaigns	3

#### Electives

Select 9 credits from the following: 9

COMM 203	Introduction to Journalism
COMM 208	Introduction to Media Production
COMM 302	Media Theory
COMM 304	Foundations of Health Communication
COMM 320	Digital Innovations in Professional Communication (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
COMM 335	Organizational Communication
COMM 359	Digital Media Management
COMM 375	Digital Advertising Strategies
COMM 384	Social Media and Strategic Communication
COMM 388	Special Topics in Public Relations and Strategic Communication
COMM 389	Strategic Communication for Nonprofits
COMM 411	Public Relations in Practice
COMM 433	Environmental Communication, Campaigns, and Social Movements
COMM 435	Digital Communication

COMM 454	Free Speech and Ethics (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
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**Total Credits** 21

### Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select three to six credits of COMM courses in consultation with an advisor ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/comm/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/comm/</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3-6
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>3-6</b>

<sup>1</sup> COMM 100 Public Speaking (Mason Core) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) and COMM 101 Fundamentals of Communication (Mason Core) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.

### Courses Limited to 10 Credits

Of the 39 credits applied to the major, no more than 10 credits may be in these courses. In addition, no more than 6 credits of COMM 450 Internship in Communication or 3 credits of COMM 452 Advanced Portfolio in Media Production may be applied to the major.

Code	Title	Credits
COMM 140	Forensics Seminar I	
COMM 141	Forensics Seminar II	
COMM 142	Debate Seminar I	
COMM 143	Debate Seminar II	
COMM 145	Newspaper Workshop I	
COMM 148	Podcasting and Radio Workshop I	
COMM 340	Forensics Seminar III	
COMM 341	Forensics Seminar IV	
COMM 342	Debate Seminar III	
COMM 343	Debate Seminar IV	
COMM 345	Newspaper Workshop II	
COMM 348	Podcasting and Radio Workshop II	
COMM 398	Research Practicum in Communication	
COMM 450	Internship in Communication	
COMM 451	Facilitating Communication Education	
COMM 452	Advanced Portfolio in Media Production	
COMM 491	RS: Honors Research Project in Communication	
COMM 498	RS: Research Projects in Communication	
COMM 499	Independent Study in Communication	

### Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated as writing intensive in their majors at the 300 level or above. Students majoring in communication fulfill this requirement by successfully completing COMM 300 Writing and Rhetorical Criticism (Mason Core) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>).

### Additional Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120.

## Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

## College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements or requirements for the major).

### Philosophy or Religious Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from the following:		
		3
PHIL	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/</a> ) <sup>1</sup>	
RELI	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/</a> )	

<sup>1</sup> Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253, RELI 235, RELI 333, RELI 334, RELI 338 and RELI 339 cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature>) requirement.

### Social and Behavioral Sciences

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) <sup>1</sup>		
ANTH	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/</a> )	
CRIM	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/</a> )	
ECON	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/</a> )	
GOVT	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/</a> )	
HIST	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/</a> ) <sup>2</sup>	
LING	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/</a> )	
PSYC	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/</a> )	
SOCI	( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/</a> )	
Or choose from the following GGS courses:		
GS 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
GS 103	Human Geography (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	
GS 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies	
GS 301	Political Geography (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	

GS 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
GS 304	Population Geography (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )
GS 305	Economic Geography
GS 306	Urban Geography
GS 315	Geography of the United States
GS 316	Geography of Latin America
GS 320	Geography of Europe
GS 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GS 326	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GS 357	Urban Planning
GS 380	Geography of Virginia

<sup>1</sup> The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

<sup>2</sup> HIST 100 and HIST 125 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

### Foreign Language

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by: <sup>1</sup>		
	Completing 3 credits in a foreign language (including American Sign Language) numbered 202 or higher taught in the language ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/</a> )	
	Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test	

<sup>1</sup> Students who are already proficient in one foreign language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

### Non-Western Culture

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global contexts)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Contexts requirement) <sup>1</sup>		
ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 300	Civilizations	3
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3

ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	CHIN 470	Special Topics in Chinese Studies	3
ANTH 314	Zombies	3	DANC 118	Global Dance Perspectives I (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 317	East Asian Cultures (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 330	Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western	3	ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	FREN 454	Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture	3
ANTH 381	Medical Anthropology	3	GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GGG 316	Geography of Latin America	3
ARAB 360	Topics in Arabic Cultural Production	3	GGG 317	Geography of China (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARAB 365	Black and Minority Cultures in Arabic Literature (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	3
ARAB 420	Survey of Arabic Literature	3	GGG 399	Select Topics in GGS	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GOVT 332	Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GOVT 333	Politics of East Asia	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GOVT 338	Politics of Eurasia	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3
ARTH 317	The Black Pharaohs: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Nubia (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
ARTH 318	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3	GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film	3	HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
			HIST 326	Stalinism	3
			HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II	3
			HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3



HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions	3
HIST 353	History of Traditional China	3	RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 354	Modern China (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 317	Daoism	3
HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 318	Korean Philosophy and Religions	3
HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 338	Qur'an and Hadith (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 342	Comparative Study of Mysticism	3
HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 344	Muhammad: Life and Legacy	3
HIST 364	Revolution in Latin America (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 358	Islamic Thought (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 367	Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics	3
HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	3	RELI 368	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 377	The Vietnam War (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 378	History of Aviation (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3-6	RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3
HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3	WMST 407	Transnational Sexualities	3
HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3	<p><sup>1</sup> A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global contexts (<a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global</a>) requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<a href="http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/">http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/</a>).</p>		
HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	3			
JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3			
JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3			
JAPA 380	Japan in Motion	3			
KORE 300	Korean Culture and Society	3	<h3>Mason Core</h3> <p>Some Mason Core (<a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>) requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core (<a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>) requirements.</p> <p>Students who have completed the following credentials are eligible for a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower level) requirement categories. The Integration category (upper level) is not waived under this policy. See Admissions (<a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-policies/#transfertext">https://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-policies/#transfertext</a>) for more information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VCCS Uniform Certificate of General Studies</li> <li>VCCS or Richard Bland Associate of Science (A.S.), Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.&amp;S.), or Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.)</li> </ul>		
KORE 320	Korean Popular Culture in a Global World	3			
KORE 385	Introduction to Korean Linguistics	3			
MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3			
RELI 211	Introduction to Religions of the "West" (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3			
RELI 212	Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3			
RELI 312	Islam (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3			
RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a> )	3			

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Foundation Requirements</b>		
	Written Communication (lower-level) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written</a> )	3
	Oral Communication ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral</a> )	3
	Quantitative Reasoning ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative</a> )	3
	Information Technology and Computing ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology</a> )	3
<b>Exploration Requirements</b>		
	Arts ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts</a> )	3
	Global Contexts ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-contexts">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-contexts</a> )	3
	Global History ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history</a> )	3
	Literature ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature</a> )	3
	Natural Science ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science</a> )	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science</a> )	3
	Just Societies (optional) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#justsocieties">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#justsocieties</a> ) <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Integration Requirements</b>		
	Written Communication (upper-level) ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written</a> )	3
	Writing Intensive ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi</a> ) <sup>2</sup>	3
	Mason Apex ( <a href="https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#apex">https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#apex</a> ) <sup>3</sup>	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>40</b>

<sup>1</sup> In addition to covering content related to the designated category, Exploration level courses marked with a Just Societies "flag" are specifically designed to help students learn how to interact effectively with others from all walks of life, including those with backgrounds and beliefs that differ from their own. Students who wish to increase their knowledge and skills in this area may choose to enroll in a Just Societies-flagged course. Students interested in this approach to completing their Mason Core Exploration Requirements should work closely with their advisor to identify the appropriate Just Societies-flagged courses.

<sup>2</sup> Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

<sup>3</sup> Minimum 3 credits required.

needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor each semester and with their PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.

## Honors

### Honors in the Major

Highly-qualified students may pursue advanced coursework leading to graduation with honors in the major.

### Eligibility

Students are eligible to apply for honors coursework if they meet the following requirements:

- Completion of a minimum of 75 credit hours, including COMM 200 Communication Theory and two of COMM 300 Writing and Rhetorical Criticism (Mason Core) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>), COMM 301 Interpersonal Communication: Theory to Practice, COMM 302 Media Theory, COMM 305 Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core) (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>).
- Minimum GPA of 3.25 in all coursework completed at George Mason.
- GPA of 3.50 in all communication coursework completed at George Mason and applied to the major.

Honors coursework in communication is a fall-spring sequence. Applications may be submitted by eligible students for fall semester enrollment. The deadline is March 15 each spring, for the sequence beginning the following fall. Student eligibility will be dependent on the GPA at the time of application. If accepted to pursue honors coursework, the student must then enroll in COMM 490 Honors Research Methods in Communication. Under the guidance of the COMM 490 Honors Research Methods in Communication instructor, the student will complete a research prospectus for an honors project to be implemented in the following semester in COMM 491 RS: Honors Research Project in Communication.

### Honors Requirements

To remain eligible for honors coursework, the student must

- receive a grade of 3.00 (no lower than B) in COMM 490 Honors Research Methods in Communication;
- have the research prospectus approved by the COMM 490 Honors Research Methods in Communication instructor and the honors director; and
- maintain an overall GPA of 3.25 and a minimum GPA of 3.50 in all COMM coursework completed at George Mason University and applied to the major.

In the following semester, the student enrolls in COMM 491 RS: Honors Research Project in Communication. The student conducts his/her research and prepares a written project conforming to the standards set by the instructor. Upon completion of the project, the COMM 491 RS: Honors Research Project in Communication instructor and the honors director will determine if the project is of honors quality, which is then indicated by the grade earned in COMM 491 RS: Honors Research Project in Communication. For honors designation, the student must achieve an average grade of 3.50 across COMM 490 Honors Research Methods in Communication and COMM 491 RS: Honors Research Project

## 4-Year Plan

### Bachelor of Arts in Communication Sample Plan of Study

A sample four year graduation plan and degree planning worksheet can be found at <https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets> (<https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets/>). The plan is a recommended sequencing of courses based on prerequisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student's

in Communication and must also maintain minimum GPA eligibility requirements outlined above.

## Program Outcomes

### Program Outcomes

1. Students should be able to explain the origins of the Communication discipline, summarize the broad nature of the Communication discipline, and identify intellectual specialization(s) in the Communication discipline.
2. Students should be able to explain, synthesize, apply, and critique Communication theories, perspectives, principles, and concepts.
3. Students should be able to evaluate and design communication research, including the following steps: (1) articulate and refine a question or problem appropriate for Communication scholarship, (2) locate, interpret, and evaluate existing communication scholarship, (3) apply existing communication scholarship to frame inquiry, (4) distinguish between personal beliefs and evidence, (5) identify relevant ethical issues and follow ethical principles, (6) choose an appropriate research method for scholarly inquiry, and (7) explain how scholarly inquiry has value to society.
4. Students should be able to demonstrate (1) effective writing skills, (2) effective oral presentation skills, and (3) the ability to produce and disseminate effective messages via the modalities and platforms most central to the student's chosen concentration.
5. Students should be able to identify meanings embedded in messages, discuss the cultural, social, and/or political significance of messages, and recognize the impact and influence of messages.
6. Students should be able to identify ethical perspectives, explain the relevance of various ethical perspectives, and articulate and evaluate the ethical dimensions of a communication situation.
7. Students should be able to articulate the connection between communication and culture, appreciate the influence of individual and cultural similarities and differences on communication and social interaction, understand how communication can sustain and/or challenge existing relations of power and authority, and respect diverse perspectives and the ways they influence communication.

## Accelerated Master's

Many accelerated master's programs are available for any bachelor's degree at Mason. See the full list of degrees ([https://catalog.gmu.edu/programs/#filter=filter\\_24](https://catalog.gmu.edu/programs/#filter=filter_24)) with accelerated programs at George Mason.