

# COMMUNICATION STUDIES (COMM)

## Courses

- COMM 100 - Introduction to Public Communication** Credits 3  
Development of communication skills in public speaking. The course will include presentational skills, attention to multicultural communication encounters, audience analysis, speech opportunities, research, organization and critical thinking. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 170 - Small Group Communication** Credits 3  
This course focuses on the individual's communication in a group setting: leadership in groups; group communication norms and processes with emphasis on problem solving and conflict management techniques.  
**Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 200 - The Rhetorical Act** Credits 3  
This course develops student understanding of rhetoric as the foundation to all effective communication. Based on a communication model that recognizes the rhetorical situation as a determining factor in all communication decisions, the course provides students with instruction on gathering, organizing, and presenting information appropriate for the audience, context, and purpose of the communication event. Students will understand their role as both communicator/audience and will be asked to deliver/critique oral and written products to demonstrate their development of rhetorical skills. Core Curriculum: Approved for Core - Communication. **Note(s):** Students should take this course in the second semester of their Freshman or the first semester of their Sophomore year at Biola; ideally, a student would have had a COMM 100 (public speaking) or other fundamentals of communication course as part of their high school curriculum; if students have already fulfilled the COMM Core requirement, then COMM 200 may be taken as an option for a lower division COMM elective. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Course Fee:** \$30.
- COMM 235 - Interpersonal Communication** Credits 3  
This course focuses on developing communication skills in the dyadic setting including emphasis on essential preconditions, conflict management, interpersonal relationships, nonverbal behavior and creative supportive climates. Core Curriculum: Approved for Core - Communication. **Note(s):** Course has been revised and renumbered from COMM 270. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 254 - Communication Theories** Credits 3  
Descriptions and applications of communication theories such as symbolic interaction, relational theories, narrative paradigm and selected group operational theories. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 272 - History of Communication** Credits 3  
A historical and interdisciplinary analysis of the development of communication studies theories, concepts, and practices from the classical rhetorical tradition to the present. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 275 - Communication in the Workplace** Credits 3  
This class is designed to help you succeed in your academic, professional and personal life, particularly by developing a practical and theoretical understanding regarding workplace communication. Each of you begins this class with your own, individual experiences, perspectives and expectations. Learning and growing in the concept of work-life will provide you with a practical "tool belt" of specific methods and critical thinking abilities to: (a) Develop your capacity to conceptualize and apply valuable workplace communication strategies, (b) Strengthen your analytical and critical thinking skills, (c) Increase your ability in writing and presenting your thoughts, including content organization and delivery, (d) Equip you with career essentials: creating and/or polishing your resume, interview competence and rhetorical sensitivity, and (e) Utilize library resources and develop effective researching approaches.  
**Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 280 - Oral Interpretation** Credits 3  
Learning to read types of literature aloud in a manner that enhances and enriches the audience's understanding and appreciation of that literature. Core Curriculum: Approved for Core - Communication. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 281 - Argumentation and Debate** Credits 3  
Effective oral communication: invention, analysis, evidence, methods of attack and defense and arrangement of ideas. Core Curriculum: Approved for Core - Communication. **Note(s):** Course has been revised and renumbered from COMM 181. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 282 - Intercollegiate Forensics** Credits 2  
Practical speech experience in debate and individual speaking events.  
**Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (total number of credits):** 4.
- COMM 320 - Advanced Public Communication** Credits 3  
Additional experience in improving public speaking skills in power point presentations, critiquing of speeches, and groups presentations. Speeches include: Semiotics Analysis; Apologetics Speech; Tribute Speech; and Group Presentation. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMM 100.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 348 - Rhetoric of Media Studies** Credits 3  
Rhetorical criticism and evaluation of communicative messages in film, television, theatre, popular music, the popular press/books, and Internet. **Note(s):** This course has been revised and renumbered from COMM 469. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 368 - Methods of Communication Research** Credits 3  
Methodology for communication research, with attention to quantitative and qualitative research. Includes sampling, questionnaire design, introduction to statistics, ethnography, and other qualitative methodologies. Students conduct survey research projects. Learning to read and evaluate research components is an expected learning outcome. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 382 - Intercollegiate Forensics** Credits 2  
Practical speech experience in debate and individual speaking events.  
**Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (total number of credits):** 4.

- COMM 385 - Persuasive Communication** Credits 3  
Techniques of persuasive speaking and communication persuasion theories. Experience in the preparation and delivery of speeches. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 386 - Forms of Public Communication** Credits 3  
Application, practice and analysis of selected communication forms from a rhetorical perspective. Sections offered in political, social issues and nonverbal communication. **Note(s):** May be taken multiple times with different course content. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (after first attempt):** 10.
- COMM 387 - Organizational Communication** Credits 3  
The dynamics of organizational communication centering in systems, structures and patterns of work/workplace communication; the role of communication in organizational development. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 390 - Jesus the Rhetor** Credits 3  
This course will examine the rhetoric of Jesus in the ancient world in which he lived and make application to our rhetorical action as believers in the present age. The course will examine major elements of rhetorical action (public communication, interpersonal communication, intercultural communication, etc.) used by Jesus in his earthy life and ministry and make application to the rhetorical action of Christians today. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 392 - Engaging Perspectives** Credits 3  
Utilizing communication theory (e.g., cognitive complexity, perspective-taking, symbolic maps, communication climates) and the wisdom of the Scriptures, students will learn to identify and winsomely engage a person's worldview. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 403 - Organizational Rhetoric** Credits 3  
In this course students will extend their development by engaging in seminal texts, discussions, and case-studies focusing on Organizational Rhetoric, the link between applied practices existing in organizational settings and the philosophical tenets of persuasion as identification, resulting in a mastery understanding of this area. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 432 - Rhetorical Theories** Credits 3  
Major theories of rhetorical and public address from classical to contemporary periods. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMM 254.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 440 - Communication Internship** Credits 1-3  
For students prepared to gain practical experience. Usually off campus in a work situation. **Grade Mode:** A, C.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Junior Class, or Senior Class; and Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (total number of credits):** 6.
- COMM 445 - Teaching Assistant** Credits 1-3  
Grade assignments and/or exams, learning how to use rubrics and to apply communication pedagogy in comments and marks. Proctor exams and assist with teaching, research, and administrative duties as needed. **Note(s):** Special approval required; contact the Communication Studies Office for details. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Junior Class, or Senior Class; and Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (after first attempt):** 10.
- COMM 450 - Communication Practicum** Credits 1-3  
Directed practical experience in the various fields of communication. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (total number of credits):** 6.
- COMM 465 - Rhetorical Criticism** Credits 3  
Evaluation and assessment of communication sources and artifacts. Application of critical methodologies (e.g., pentadic, narrative, feminist, metaphoric, generic) to generate scholarly commentary. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Prerequisite(s):** COMM 254.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Course Fee:** \$100.
- COMM 469 - Rhetoric of Media Studies** Credits 3  
Rhetorical criticism and evaluation of communicative messages in film, television, theatre, popular music, the popular press/books, and Internet. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Junior Class, or Senior Class; and Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 470 - Communication Seminar** Credits 1-3  
Various aspects and problems in the fields of communication. **Note(s):** May be taken multiple times with different course content; \$70 fee may apply. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (after first attempt):** 10.
- COMM 472 - Intercultural Communication** Credits 3  
Relationship between communication and culture with emphasis on factors affecting the quality and processes of interpersonal communication between persons of different cultures or subcultures. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.
- COMM 473 - Communication and Diversity** Credits 3  
Study and analysis of intercultural communication and identity within the context of the United States. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Course Fee:** \$50.
- COMM 474 - Advanced Studies in Communication Behavior** Credits 3  
Selected communication topics varied by semester. Sections offered include: gender studies, relational studies, family communication, leadership communication, and engaging worldviews. **Note(s):** May be taken multiple times for credit with different course content. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (after first attempt):** 10.
- COMM 480 - Directed Research** Credits 1-3  
Individual research in areas of communication determined in consultation with the instructor. **Note(s):** Special approval required. **Grade Mode:** A.  
**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.  
**Repeat Limit (total number of credits):** 3.

**COMM 490 - Conflict and the Christian Credits 3**

This course is designed to facilitate practical, theoretical, critical, and theological analysis of the role of communication in interpersonal conflict and negotiation. This will include an examination of conflict styles, theories, and strategies in conjunction with a practical modeling of communication practice and Christian ethics. This course will evaluate relevant contexts for conflict including workplace, family, church, both interpersonally and organizationally. **Grade Mode:** A.

**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.

**COMM 492 - Authentic Communication Credits 3**

In this course, students will study the foundations of authentic communication through the development of a biblical vision and action plan for influencing some particular aspect of the culture. Students will learn to identify and explain the central characteristics of what it means to be a counter-public. **Grade Mode:** A.

**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.

**COMM 495 - Advanced Methods of Research Credits 3**

In this course students will complete a previous proposed research study. This includes: a) learning how to complete the NIH training and application to complete your research to the universities PHRRC (Protection for Human Rights in Research), b) building a robust literature review, c) collecting and interpreting data, d) submitting a research study to NCA (National Communication Association, and e) completing a full research study. Students will extend their development by reading previous studies, methods of communication research, and engaging in the link between communication and their research topic, resulting in a mastery understanding of this area. **Grade Mode:** A.

**Prerequisite(s):** COMM 368.

**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.

**Course Fee:** \$50.

**COMM 496 - Ethnography in Communication Studies Credits 3**

This course focuses on a major method of communication research based on place and everyday interaction. **Grade Mode:** A.

**Prerequisite(s):** COMM 368.

**Restriction(s):** Must be Undergraduate Level.