

Major Planning Guide: Communication

What can I do with a degree in communication?

Communication can encompass a wide range of interests; some programs focus on theoretical analysis of communication, such as interpersonal communication, political communication, journalism, media, or rhetoric (persuasive communication). Communication majors may go on to work in a wide variety of fields, including public relations, business, the media, and education. Although a degree in communication does not prepare you for any specific career, you will gain a lot of practical and transferrable skills to make you successful in the job market.

Related Majors/Concentration

Marketing
Business
Journalism
Strategic Communication
Communication of Culture
Communication Technology and Society
Political Communication
Global Communication

Where can I earn a bachelor's degree in communication in Washington?

Many universities offer communication as an undergraduate major. You can use the College Navigator search engine found at <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator> to find these programs in Washington state or around the country.

How do I prepare to major in communication?

Here are a few steps that we recommend you take to make sure that communication is the right choice for you. There are many different types of careers in communication, and it is important to do some research ahead of time to find the one that best fits your goals. An advisor can help you choose the transfer degree, and what courses you should take while you are here at Seattle Central.

Step One: Research

- Those who are undecided about a major/career can make an appointment with our Career Exploration Center in BE 1102E take a career assessment test. This assessment can reveal your interests, values, and skills which then match you up with potential careers and programs that prepare you for specific career paths.
- Almost all universities offer a communication major, but the concentrations offered and the overall focus of the departments vary. A student who is most interested in intercultural communication, for example, may want to apply to different universities than a student interested in broadcast journalism, even though both specialties fall under the umbrella of “communication”.
- Our Transfer Center in BE 1102F can help find universities you are interested in attending and guide you through the application process.

Step Two: Pick a Degree

Students planning to major in communication often earn the Associates of Art (AA-DTA) degree. Advisors can help students understand what communication requirements are necessary for transfer. You may pick up a degree planning worksheet for the AA-DTA ([purple sheet](#)) in BE 1102 lobby.

Step Three: Make a Long Range Academic Plan

Students planning to major in communication at a university usually take courses in communication, as well as general education requirements, to prepare to transfer. Communication programs rarely have a specific math requirement beyond the college-level math needed to meet graduation requirements. Students considering journalism should take classes that will improve their writing and look for opportunities to gain practical experience through working on student or local publications.

English	Communications	Other Courses
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL& 101	<input type="checkbox"/> CMST& 101	<input type="checkbox"/> SOC& 101
<input type="checkbox"/> ENGL& 102	<input type="checkbox"/> CMST& 102	<input type="checkbox"/> HUM 105
	<input type="checkbox"/> CMST& 210	
	<input type="checkbox"/> CMST& 220	

Please note: this is not a complete list of prerequisites. You should consult with an advisor at Seattle Central to make sure you take the appropriate courses to be prepared to enter the major.

*Check prerequisites, admission requirements, and GPA requirements at your intended transfer university early so you can be well-prepared to transfer.

What are my next steps?

- Once you have had the chance to explore the career opportunities in communication you might want to schedule an appointment to meet with an advisor to plan out your course of study. You can make an appointment by stopping by the Advising office in BE 1102D or calling us at 206-934-4068. *(If you are an international student, please stop by International Education Programs in BE 1113).*
- Attend Transfer Fairs and Career & Networking Fairs hosted by our office throughout the year.
- Explore the professional organizations in your area of interest for more information about education and career options.

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