

COMMUNICATION (BA)



This program was approved for students entering the university in the Summer 2025-Spring 2026 catalog year. For more information about catalog year, go to Catalog Year Information (<https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/university-wide-unit-specific-policies/catalog-year/>).

Bachelor of Arts in Communication

Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (<http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/>) (AS)
Department: Communication (<http://comm.louisville.edu/department/>)
Academic Plan Code(s): COMMBA, COMMBA_O

Program Information

This program can be completed 100% online.

The Department of Communication offers both a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication.

A Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Science degree are equally valued. Both offer the students who earn them the opportunity to continue their education at the master's degree level if they are so inclined. But, the two tracks do tend to hone different strengths. The coursework required for a Bachelor of Arts degree generally allows students to sharpen their oral and written communication skills. The demands of a Bachelor of Science degree include sharpening basic Communication skills as well as developing analytical skills relevant to Communication in a more in-depth manner.

Completion of this degree requires work to be submitted for the department's Learning Outcomes Measurement. For details, contact the department.

Degree Summary

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ¹	31
	College/School Requirements ²	19
	Program/Major Requirements ^{1, 2}	36
	Supporting Courses	35
Minimum Total Hours		121

Accelerated BA/MA (Master of Arts) in Communication

While the Communication BA can be completed 100% online, graduate courses taken toward the MA portion of the accelerated BA-MA option are not available 100% online.

Communication majors who are considering pursuing a master's degree (MA) in Communication can speed up the process by applying some of their undergraduate credit hours toward a master's degree. Undergraduate students interested in participating in an accelerated dual bachelors/master's degree offered through the University's Soaring Scholar Program must first meet with their academic advisor and be accepted into the program. Once accepted, students will receive an official admission letter outlining program policies and details. They will then work with their department and academic advisor to register for classes each semester, ensuring they meet the milestones and academic progress requirements of the Soaring Scholar program. Students accepted into the Accelerated BA/MA take three graduate courses (9 credit hours) as an undergraduate that apply toward both the bachelor's degree and the eventual master's degree. A Soaring Scholar student is considered an undergraduate student until their bachelor's degree is conferred. In their final undergraduate semester, they are expected to apply for admission to their respective master's program.

- ¹ Some credit hours from the General Education Requirements may be satisfied by courses defined by the program, in which case additional electives will be required to complete the minimum hours for the degree. See the Degree Requirements tab for specific coursework.
- ² 3 hours of College/School requirement is satisfied in Natural Science requirement in Program/Major supporting coursework.

Specific coursework information can be found on the Degree Requirements tab.

Departmental Admission Requirements

Admission to the BA in Communication requires:

1. Completion of COMM 201 with a minimum grade of C
2. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0
3. A minimum grade point average of 2.0 on courses in the major

The Change Major Request form can be found under the Academic Progress tile on ULink.

Accelerated MA Program (Soaring Scholars)

Interested students must apply for admission to the Soaring Scholars program. Admission will be based on cumulative GPA (3.25 or better after earning 45 credit hours), completion of COMM 316 with a grade of B or higher, and two letters of recommendation from Communication faculty.

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) [*]	31

The following courses are required by the program and can satisfy the respective General Education Requirement:

COMM 201 Introduction to Communication Studies - SB
(<https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/>)

Some other courses approved as options for satisfying program requirements (e.g., MATH 109) may also satisfy General Education requirements.

*All degrees require the completion of the University-wide General Education Program (link provided above). Some General Education requirements may be met in the requirements for the major or supporting coursework, in which case additional electives may be required to complete the minimum hours for the degree.

College/School Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Arts & Sciences Requirements		
GEN 100	Student Success Center First Year Experience	1
or GEN 101	Arts & Sciences First Year Experience	
Foreign Language ¹		12
Electives in Humanities or Natural Sciences at the 300-level or above ²		6
WR—two approved courses at the 300 level or above ³		
Minimum Total Hours		19

Program/Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Department of Communication		
COMM 201	Introduction to Communication Studies - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ⁴	3
COMM 303	Introduction to Communication Technologies	3
COMM 304	Argument In Everyday Life	3
COMM 305	Introduction to Mass Communication	3
COMM 315	Introduction to Interpersonal Communication	3
COMM 316	Research Methods	3
COMM elective at 200 level or above		3
COMM electives at 300 level or above		9
COMM electives at 400 level or above		3
COMM CUE course (see list below)		3
Minimum Total Hours		36

Code	Title	Hours
Supporting Courses		
<i>Statistics/Quantitative Methods</i>		3
Select one of the following: ⁵		
BSTA 201	Business Statistics	
COMM 255	Communication and Statistics - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
CJ 326	Quantitative Analysis in Criminal Justice - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
HSS 377	Foundations of Quantitative Statistics - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	

PAS 408	Research Methods in Pan-African Studies - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
MATH 109	Elementary Statistics - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
POLS 390	Political Science Research Methods	
PSYC 301	Introduction to Social Statistics	
SOC 301	Introduction to Social Statistics	
<i>Social Science Elective in Human Behavior</i> ⁹		3
Select one of the following: ⁶		
ANTH 201	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
ANTH 203	Archaeology of Human History - D2 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SBH (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
ANTH 309/ PAS 368	Sex, Gender and Culture	
CJ 200	Introduction to Criminal Justice - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
CJ 201	Introduction to Law Enforcement - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
CJ 202	Introduction to Corrections - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
GEOG 324	Race and Place	
HIST 321	Black Culture and U.S. Democracy	
HIST 326	History of Childhood in America - SBH (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
HSS 364	Women's Health Issues - D1 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
LALS 317	Social Sciences Special Topics in Latino Studies	
PAS 200	Introduction to Pan-African Studies - D1 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
PAS 301	Social Sciences Special Topics in Pan-African Studies	
PSYC 201	Introduction to Psychology - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
SOC 201	Introduction to Sociology - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	

SOC 202	Social Problems - D1 (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
SOC 203	Self and Society	
SOC 210	Race in the United States - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
SOC 305	Urban Sociology	
SOC 325	Sociology of Human Sexuality	
SOC 327/ WGST 313	Sociology of Gender	
WGST 201	Women In American Culture - AH (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
WGST 301	Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Studies	
<i>Natural Science Elective in Human Behavior, Development, Environment or Health</i> ⁹		3
Select one of the following: ⁷		
BIOL 102	Biology: Current Issues and Applications - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
BIOL 240	Unity of Life - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
BIOL 242	Diversity of Life - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
BIOL 260	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	
CHEM 101	Chemistry and Contemporary Society - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
CHEM 105	Chemistry for Health Professionals - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
CHEM 201	General Chemistry I - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
ENVS 200	The Global Environment - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
ENVS 220	Introduction to Weather and Climate - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
ENVS 360	Global Environmental Change	
ENVS 363	Climate Science	
HSS 302	Nutrition in Healthy Living	
HSS 303	Advanced Nutrition and Energy Metabolism	
PHYS 107	Elementary Astronomy - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
PHYS 111	Elements of Physics - B (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
PSYC 305	Brain and Behavior	
BSW 203	Human Biology for Social Sciences	

Social Science electives (other than Communication) with 12 hours at the 300 level or above ^{8,9}	15
Minimum Electives ¹⁰	11
Minimum Total Hours	35

At least 50 of the total minimum hours required must be at the 300 level or above.

Code	Title	Hours
Culminating Undergraduate Experience (Graduation requirement)		
Requirement fulfilled by completing one of the following:		
COMM 375	Communication and the Environment	
COMM 385	Public Persuasion - WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 402	Independent Research in Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 417	Senior Communication Internship - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 427	Case Studies in Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 429	Documentary Production - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 430	Health Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 436	Health Communication Campaign Planning - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 437	Mass Media and Close Relationships - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 445	Strategic Communication Campaigns - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 450	Advanced Intercultural Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 464	Special Topics in Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
COMM 466	Special Topics in Communication Studies - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	

COMM 465	Special Topics in Communication Service Learning - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
COMM 481	Senior Practicum - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
COMM 498	Senior Thesis - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
COMM 505	Perspectives on Religion and Media - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
COMM 506	Ethical Problems in Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)
COMM 565	Special Topics in Communication Service Learning - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)

- ¹ Completion of the intermediate level of a single foreign language
- ² In addition to courses counted toward General Education
- ³ May be incorporated into other degree requirements
- ⁴ Fulfills General Education requirement.
- ⁵ Or another statistics elective approved by an advisor
- ⁶ Or another Social Science elective approved by an advisor
- ⁷ Or another Natural Sciences course approved by an advisor
- ⁸ Only 12 hours needed if statistics requirement fulfilled in a social science discipline.
- ⁹ In addition to courses counted toward General Education
- ¹⁰ Students who satisfy General Education Requirements by courses defined by the program will require additional electives to complete the minimum hours for the degree. With approval from the accelerated program advisor, successful applicants to the Accelerated BA-MA program will identify up to 9 credit hours at the 500-600 level to count toward both the undergraduate and graduate degree. These credits will count as elective credits toward the undergraduate degree.

Soaring Scholars Accelerated BA-BS/MA Requirements

With approval from the accelerated program advisor, successful applicants will identify up to 9 credit hours at the 500-600 level to count toward both the undergraduate and graduate degree. These credits will count as elective credits toward the undergraduate degree.

Flight Plan

Year 1		Hours
Fall		
GEN 100 or GEN 101	Student Success Center First Year Experience or Arts & Sciences First Year Experience	1
ENGL 101	Introduction to College Writing - WC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities US Perspectives - AHP1		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Quantitative Reasoning - QR		3-4
Foreign Language 1		3-4

COMM 201	Introduction to Communication Studies - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Hours		16-18
Spring		
ENGL 102	Intermediate College Writing - WC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
COMM 111 or COMM 112 or COMM 115	Introduction to Public Speaking - OC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) or Business and Professional Speaking - OC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) or Interpersonal Skills - OC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences - S		3
Communication Elective (200 level or above)		3
Foreign Language 2		3-4
Hours		15-16
Year 2		
Fall		
COMM 305	Introduction to Mass Communication	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Social & Behavioral Sciences Historical Perspective - SBH		3
Foreign Language 3		3-4
Communication Elective (300 level or above)		3
General Elective		2
Hours		14-15
Spring		
COMM 304	Argument In Everyday Life	3
Statistics/Quantitative Methods Elective		3
Humanities or Natural Science Elective (300 level or above)		3
Foreign Language 4 (if needed) or General Elective		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences - S		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Sciences Lab - SL		1
Hours		16
Year 3		
Fall		
COMM 303	Introduction to Communication Technologies	3
COMM 315	Introduction to Interpersonal Communication	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities Global Perspectives - AHP2		3
Humanities or Natural Science Elective (300 level or above)		3
Social Science Elective in Human Behavior		3
Hours		15
Spring		
COMM 316	Research Methods	3
Communication Elective (300 level or above)		3
Communication WR Elective (300 level or above)		3
Social Science Elective		3
Natural Science Elective in Human Behavior, Development, Environment or Health Elective		3
Hours		15
Year 4		
Fall		
Communication Elective & WR (400 level or above)		3
Social Science Elective (300 level or above)		3
Social Science Elective (300 level or above)		3
Social Science Elective (300 level or above)		3
General Elective		3
Hours		15

Spring

Communication CUE course	3
General Elective	3
Social Science Elective (300 level or above)	3
General Elective (300 level or above)	3
General Elective	3
Hours	15
Minimum Total Hours	121-125

Year 4

COMM 450	Advanced Intercultural Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
COMM 506	Ethical Problems in Communication - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/), WR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
COMM 510	Special Topics in Communication Studies	3
Hours		9
Minimum Total Hours		9

- Students may, pending approval from the program advisor, select other classes cross-listed at the 400 and 500 levels

The Flight Plan outlined above is intended to demonstrate one possible path to completing the degree within four years. Course selection and placement within the program may vary depending on course offerings and schedule, elective preferences, and other factors (study abroad, internship availability, etc.). Please consult your advisor for additional information about building a flight plan that works for you.

Degree Audit Report

Degree Audit reports illustrate how your completed courses fulfill the requirements of your academic plan, and which requirements are still outstanding. Degree audits also take transfer credits and test credits into account. "What-if" reports allow you to compare the courses you have completed in your current academic plan to the courses required in another academic plan. Should you have questions about either report, please consult with your academic advisor.

Flight Planner

The Flight Planner tool is available for you to create a personalized Flight Plan to graduation. Advisors have access to review your Flight Planner and can help you adjust it to ensure you remain on track to graduate in a timely manner.

To create these reports:

1. Log into your ULink account.
2. Click on the Academic Progress tile.
3. Select the appropriate report.
 - a. To run a Degree Audit report, click on "View my Degree Audit."
 - b. To create a What-if report, click on "What-if Advisement Report."
 - c. To run a Flight Planner report, click on "Use My Flight Planner."

Click here to run a Degree Audit report, create a What-if report, or run a Flight Planner report. (<https://ulink.louisville.edu>)

Accelerated BA/MA (Master of Arts) in Communication (Soaring Scholars)

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