PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION MAJOR: BUSINESS AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION OPTION (B.S.)

https://cps.unh.edu/online/program/bs/professional-communication-business-strategic-communication-option

Description

The Bachelor of Science in Professional Communication hones the skills of analytical thinking, compelling writing, effective persuasion, and clear expression to prepare graduates to work in an information-based economy and to be engaged citizens of a media-driven culture. The major is well-suited to students interested in careers or further studies in such areas as public relations, public service, nonprofit advocacy, and corporate communications. Courses provide students the opportunity to study fundamental theory and multiple sectors of practice in the discipline of communication and to prepare to contribute to public and private enterprises that consistently need to convey messages effectively, manage information appropriately, and respond ethically and effectively to opportunities and to crises.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 120 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 30 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 2.0 is required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: General Education Program

Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*GPA: Major and any state certification GPA requirements may be higher and are indicated in program details.

A minimum grade of C- is required in all Major coursework. Some programs may have higher grade requirements for Major coursework as noted in the Major requirements section below. Students are allowed a maximum of two course overlaps. Overlaps can be used between Major, Minor, and General Education requirements with only one overlap being utilized between the Major and Minor. Please note that Option requirements are considered part of the Major. Students must complete 16 upper-level credits in majors within the College of Professional Studies, Online.

General Education Program Requirements

A minimum grade of D- is required in all General Education coursework. Students are allowed a maximum of two course overlaps. Overlaps can be used between Major, Minor and General Education requirements with only one overlap being utilized between the Major and Minor.

Writing Program Requirements

All bachelor’s degree candidates are required to complete four writing intensive courses as part of the University Writing Program Requirements as follows:

Writing Intensive courses are identified with the label "Writing Intensive Course" in the "Attributes" section of the course description and/or a W following the course number.

Major Requirements

Prior to capstone enrollment, students are expected to complete the majority of their required major courses along with CRIT 602 Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking and IDIS 601 Interdisciplinary Seminar. Students should consult with their advisor regarding specific major courses that may be completed with their capstone. Academic Advisor approval is required for registration to be processed.
Electives

Open electives are courses students will need to take in addition to their general education and major requirements in order to satisfy the remaining credit totals for their programs. Open electives are defined as any credit course offered by the College not already included in the student’s general education, major, option or minor. Students will need 120 credits total to graduate with a bachelor’s degree from the Online Division of the College of Professional Studies.

Degree Plan

This degree plan is a sample and does not reflect the impact of transfer credit or current course offerings. UNH CPS Online undergraduate students should develop individual academic plans with their academic advisor during their first year at UNH.

Sample Course Sequence

First Year

Fall Credits
COM 440 Persuasive Communication 4
ENG 420 The Writing Process 4
General Education Course 4
Elective 4

Credits 16

Spring
COM 465 Communication Theory 2
MTH 402 Math for Our World 4
or MTH 504 or Statistics
or MTH 510 or Pre-Calculus
COM 480 Visual Communication 4
CRIT 501 Introduction to Critical Inquiry 4

Credits 14

Second Year

Fall
COM 460 Interpersonal Communication and Group Dynamics 4
COM 535 Visual Media Production 4
General Education Course 4
Elective 4

Credits 16

Spring
COM 565 Strategic Communication 4
COM 590 Professional Communication 4
General Education Course 4
Elective 4

Credits 16

Third Year

Fall
COM 665 Media and Strategic Communication 4
CRIT 602 Advanced Critical Analysis and Strategic Thinking 4

Credits 8

Fourth Year

Fall
IDIS 601 Interdisciplinary Seminar 4
COM 710 Managerial Communication 4
Elective 4
Elective 4

Credits 16

Spring
COM 797 Integrative Capstone: Project in Professional Communication 4
APST 705 or LD 660 or MGMT 566 or MKT 615
Grant Writing or Leadership Theory or Organizational Behavior or Digital Storytelling and Brand Management 4
Elective 4

Credits 14

Total Credits 120

Student Learning Outcomes

- Survey foundational theories of communication relating to individuals, groups, and mass media.
- Create and deploy distinct messages suited to specific audiences and situations, in written, verbal, and digital formats.
- Compose, design, and deliver targeted and engaging presentations.
- Identify and respond to complex communication practices and challenges within organizations, and effect strategic improvements thereto.
- Analyze and critique rhetorical strategies and communication methods specific to cultural and industry norms.
- Employ an understanding of the impact of cultural differences on communication in a global context.
- Integrate individual reflection on questions of ethics and citizenship, particularly in digital contexts, to include the personal and professional ramifications of netiquette, digital footprint, and digital citizenship.
- Demonstrate aptitude with research methods, both quantitative and qualitative, as these inform and are applied in the field of professional communication.
• Develop specialized knowledge and skill in a specific aspect or professional practice within professional communication.