• Please note, all courses in the major and minor/approved electives must be passed with a “C” or better.
• Students are advised to take Contemporary Math or Statistics/Math to fulfill their Math Core requirement. Other General Education Core Math courses are also accepted.
• Students are not required to select a second teaching area.
• Due to the workload, please do not take COMM 3350 Communication Research and COMM 3333 Communication Theory during the same semester. It does not matter which one you take first since these courses complement each other.
• Argumentation and Debate is only offered at South Texas College. It must be taken there.
• You may apply to the College of Education after you complete your General Education Core and have completed 60 hours, including 12 hours in your major, (minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA).
• We recommend students visit the department to get the most up-to-date information from our departmental administrative assistant. There is a handout on Courses Available for the Communication Studies major/minor.

Additional Info

Contact Info

Interim Department Chair
Dr. Jennifer Lemanski
jennifer.lemanski@utrgv.edu

Brownsville Office Location
Office Manager: Anavelia Wilson
956-882-8297
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Degree Info

The Bachelor of Arts in Communication – Communication Studies prepares a student to work in fields as varied as sales, education, training and development, management, law enforcement and in administrative roles in information and service industries such as health care organizations. Our graduates also work in public relations, events planning, advertising, and with public and private agencies and organizations as Press Secretaries and Information Officers. The Bachelor of Arts in Communication also prepares the students to pursue graduate programs in Communication, Media Management, Law, Social Work, Education, Health Management, Rehabilitation Counseling, and Public Administration.

UTRio Grande Valley

COMMUNICATION STUDIES (BA)
•7th-12th Teacher Certification
Catalog: 2019-20
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
**FIRST YEAR**

- Make it a point to visit them!
- Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
- Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.0.
- Take MATH 1332 or 1342 in your first year.
- Meet with your academic advisor and bring your course selection in order to choose classes that align with your major.
- Choose a major with confidence - visit MyUTRGV.edu and check out MyMajors.
- Visit a faculty member during their office hours and ask a question about class.
- Classes fit up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your class.
- Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Services on campus and free office visits.
- Look for a service-learning course! For guidance, visit Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
- Ask a student in class to study with you.
- Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through My.UTRGV.edu.
- Take MATH 1332 or 1342 in your first year.
- Complete major foundation courses, such as COMM 1311.
- Complete 30 credit hours.

**SECOND YEAR**

- Want to explore different careers? Check out the Career Center.
- Come ready with course suggestions and questions when you visit your academic advisor.
- Visit the Communication Hauser Lab for help with your research.
- Trouble making your tuition payment? The Financial Aid Office can help. Payment plans and emergency loans are also available.
- To find undergraduate research opportunities, visit the Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
- Consider attending the Leadership Institute or attend the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- Look at study abroad opportunities! Consider going to China, Spain, Mexico or England.
- Check out a cultural campus or community event such as HESTEC or ESTIBIA.
- Join another student organization. Perhaps in the field of interest or in a different field.
- Check out a campus event that offers free lunch or learning course! For guidance, visit www.utrgv.edu/cep.
- Update your resume in Handshake and have it reviewed.
- Visit the Career Center site to find a job fair to attend. At the event, approach a recruiter and discuss internships.
- With a minor expand your career options? We recommend a second teaching area such as English, history, etc.
- Explain to someone how your academic program aligns with your strengths and interests.
- Check out the Communication department website for postings on career/graduate school.
- Think about three people you can ask for letters of recommendation (professors, mentors, advisors, supervisors, etc.). Give them at least two weeks’ notice before the anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center to ensure you are on track.
- Choose a major with confidence. Visit MyUTRGV.edu and check out MyMajors.
- Shoot for a GPA of 3.2.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen.
- Apply to the College of Education and P-16 Integration. For additional information, check out www.utrgv.edu/csp.
- “I have a plan for after graduation.” If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center! Shoot for at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
- Submit your application(s) for graduate school, an apprenticeship, or for full-time employment.

**THIRD YEAR**

- Seek out research opportunities within your major and join a professional organization, perhaps within the field of education.
- Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year.
- Apply for internship and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.
- Seek out research opportunities within your major and join a professional organization, perhaps within the field of education.
- Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year.
- Apply for internship and/or job shadowing opportunities. Discuss this with your advisor, faculty mentor, or Career Center.
- Consider attending the LeaderShape Institute or Hauser Lab.
- Continue to present research or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium or at a regional or national poster session in speech communication pedagogy.
- Set up an informational interview with an individual (especially an alumnus) currently in the field you aspire to work in.
- Consider serving on a campus life/community committee or become a student leader and make a difference. Visit VLink or speak with your Student Government Association for more information.
- Travel the world! Look into study abroad opportunities at Office for International Programs & Partnerships.
- Go show off your research, service-learning or creative works at the Engaged Scholar Symposium.
- Sharpen your writing skills! Take an intensive writing course such as an ENGL 2000 level course or become the secretary for your organization.
- Identify employers of interest and seek them out at job fairs and on-campus information sessions, staffing agencies, etc. The Career Center can help.
- Before a job interview, schedule a mock interview with the Communication Center or speech coaching with the Communication Hauser Lab.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Complete 30 credit hours.
- Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen.
- Apply to the College of Education and P-16 Integration. For additional information, check out www.utrgv.edu/csp.
- “I have a plan for after graduation.” If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center! Shoot for at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
- Submit your application(s) for graduate school, an apprenticeship, or for full-time employment.

**FOURTH YEAR**

- Engage in an independent study project or an academic internship to complement your major, such as EDUC 4611: Student Teaching Secondary or All-level.
- Discuss future plans with your faculty mentor or advisor that includes employment, finances, and other life goals.
- Apply for graduation one semester prior to your anticipated date. Visit the Academic Advising Center to ensure you are on track.
- Complete at least 30 credit hours.
- Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
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