Instructional Programs

Communication Studies

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Degree(s)
Transfer:
A.A. in Communication Studies AA.COMM.OPTB or AA.COMM.OPTC
(with Transfer Emphasis using General Education Requirements Option B or C)
See Also
A.A. in Liberal Arts - Arts, Humanities & Communications Emphasis

Non-Transfer:
None
See:
A.A. in Humanities

Certificate(s)
None

Employment Concentration Certificate(s)
None

Program Description

The Communication Studies Program offers lower division preparation for students who plan to transfer to pursue a bachelor's degree in Communication Studies.

The Communication transfer program major provides students with an opportunity to improve their personal and professional lives. Students will study communication dynamics in interpersonal relationships, groups and public settings. By studying how, why, and with what consequences people communicate, students themselves will become more competent communicators. Students will develop broad based competencies in oral and written communication as well as critical analysis. This major will prepare students for further studies in international relations, intercultural studies, rhetoric, public relations, advertising, journalism, corporate communications, mass media, and a variety of other disciplines.

Communication is a discipline with its roots in ancient Greek and Roman oratory. Oral communication skills have been important throughout the history of western culture and essential in the rise of democratic forms of government. During the Twentieth Century, the discipline has broadened from its original focus on public speaking to include the teaching of communication skills needed in all aspects of daily life: family, friendships, work groups, social contacts, intercultural relations, politics, and mass media production and consumption. Currently, the discipline plays a key role in the technologically driven Information Age.

Communication courses involve the student in the process of learning both theory and skills. Students learn by engaging in class activities that allow for application of theory to everyday experiences, development of critical thinking abilities, and practice of oral communication skills.

Career Opportunities

Transfer Degree
For any BA/BS careers, please see your transfer institution.

Transfer Preparation

MSJC offers a range of course work to prepare students to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. All four-year institutions prescribe their own standards for course evaluation and admissions. Prospective transfer students are advised to research careers, degrees and majors in the Career/Transfer Center, access www.assist.org, review the MSJC catalog and meet with a counselor to expedite their transfer plan.

Learning Outcomes

- Recognize and discuss the ways in which communication, both verbal and nonverbal, affects lives in various social contexts (e.g., intrapersonal, interpersonal, intercultural, group, organizational, mass, and mediated communication among others).
- Locate, read, and critically evaluate research (traditional and electronic), comparing and contrasting research methodologies used in the discipline.
- Construct and responsibly present different types of speeches both individually and group, demonstrating effective communication practices (e.g., active listening, self-presentation).
- Explore, compare and evaluate the basic communication theories of small group, public, organizational and mass communication, the ways in which technology affects communication, as well as the rhetorical foundations of the field of Communication studies.
The transfer Associate of Arts (AA) degree in Communication Studies offers the student an opportunity to explore the diverse possibilities offered in the field of communication and to facilitate transfer to a four-year institution to obtain a baccalaureate degree in Communication, Communication Studies, and/or Speech Communication. Courses required in the program are specifically designed to be transferable to prepare students for an area of study or to fulfill the lower division requirements of a major at four-year colleges.

An Associate of Arts (AA) degree in Communication Studies is available by completing the following:

1) General Education CSU-GE Breadth or IGETC

Units necessary to meet CSU-GE Breadth or IGETC Certification requirements only. Total 33-39 units

2) MSJC Core Communication Courses:

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>COMM-120</td>
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Total 15 units

3) MSJC Elective Communication Courses:

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<td>COMM-201</td>
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Total 6 units

Total MSJC Communication Courses: Total 21 units

4) Elective units

Elective units may be necessary to total 60 units required for the Associates degree. These units must be transferable to the CSU and/or UC for appropriate credit.

Total Units Required: 60 units