

BA in Communication - Open Emphasis

Program Requirements

A minimum total of 120 credit hours is required for the BA in communication - open emphasis. Students majoring in communication must maintain a 2.500 grade point average (overall and in the major) and complete a minimum of 39 credit hours in communication, including 21 credit hours in the communication core. At least 18 credit hours must be in the open emphasis area. The 18 credit hours should be selected in consultation with a faculty advisor. In addition to meeting the requirements of the WSU General Education Program (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/general-education-program/>) and the requirements of Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, students in the BA in communication - open emphasis must take the following courses:

Course	Title	Hours
Communication Core Courses		
COMM 130 or COMM 190	Communication and Society Introduction to Human Communication	3
COMM 301	Writing for the Mass Audience	3
COMM 325	Speaking in Business and the Professions	3
COMM 535	Communication Analysis and Criticism	3
COMM 305 or COMM 306	Visual Technologies Introduction to Multimedia	3
Select two of the following:		6
COMM 430	Communication Research and Inquiry	
COMM 630	Communication Law and Responsibility	
COMM 631	Historical and Theoretical Issues in Communication	
Select 18 credit hours of open emphasis electives with advisor approval.		18
Total Credit Hours		39

Open Emphasis

Students can develop and propose an open emphasis more appropriate for their interests and needs than a structured emphasis area and which respects their background and experience. These proposals must be developed by students in consultation with a faculty advisor, be substantially different from the structured emphases available, and be coherent and justifiable to a faculty committee, which will review and act on these proposals at specified times during the academic year. Each student must submit for approval an open emphasis plan of study to the Undergraduate Admissions Committee of the Elliott School of Communication at the beginning of the student's junior year or upon completion of 18 credit hours in the major.

Applied Learning

Students in the BA in communication - open emphasis are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement can be met by completing COMM 481, COMM 481N, COMM 500, COMM 609, COMM 622, COMM 626 or COMM 662T.