

COMMUNICATION STUDIES (AA)

Award: Associate of Arts Degree

No. of credits required: 60

For more information: Contact Linda Heil, 443-412-2106, lheil@harford.edu; or Admissions, 443-412-2109.

Program Description

Students of this program will develop an understanding of core communication concepts and apply them in a wide variety of many different careers, relationships, and settings. Because skilled communicators are highly desired by business and industry, students may go on to hold a variety of positions in a wide range of fields and/or to a four year Communication Studies Degree Program.

Students will have knowledge of foundational theories of communication; prevailing communication research paradigms; roles and functions of communication in interpersonal, group, and public contexts; and the impact and ethics of communication in a diverse and global society. Students will also have the ability to think critically; conduct and evaluate communication research; communicate effectively in interpersonal, group, and public contexts; create and deliver effective and ethical messages via oral, print, and electronic modes.

Program Goals

Upon completion of the Communication Studies AA Degree Program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to communicate ethically and effectively with others in a variety of oral and written contexts and situations.
2. Demonstrate the application of communication theories in various life situations.
3. Monitor, analyze, and adjust personal communication behavior.
4. Demonstrate intercultural sensitivity.

Transfer Information

Students have options for transfer to many institutions, both in Maryland and across the United States.

Employment Information

Effective and appropriate communication is required for success in any career path. Strong and effective skills (formal and informal) are required in writing, verbal, and group communication. In October 2013 the National Association of Colleges and Employers reported that, "When it comes to the importance of candidate skills and qualities, employers are looking for team players who can solve problems, organize their work, and communicate effectively."

Degree Requirements

Recommended Course Sequence

Course	Title	Credits
First Semester		
CMST 101	Speech Fundamentals (GI)	3
ENG 101	English Composition (GE)	3

Behavioral/Social Science Elective (GB) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#behavioral-social-science)		3
Mathematics Elective (GM) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#mathematics)		3
General Elective		3
Credits		15
Second Semester		
CMST 105	Interpersonal Communication (GI) (D)	3
ENG 216	Business Communications	3
PSY 101	General Psychology (GB)	3
Biological/Physical Science Elective (GS) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#science)		3
General Elective		3
Physical Education Elective		1
Credits		16
Third Semester		
CMST 200	Communication Theory	3
PHIL 205	Ethics (GH)	3
Arts/Humanities Elective (GH) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#arts-humanities)		3
Behavioral/Social Science Elective (GB) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#behavioral-social-science)		3
General Elective		3
Credits		15
Fourth Semester		
CMST 230	Nonverbal Communication	3
CMST 210	Group Communication and Leadership (GH)	3
Biological/Physical Lab Science Elective (GL) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#biological-physical-laboratory-science)		4
General Elective		3
Physical Education Elective		1
Credits		14
Total Credits		60

General Education Degree Requirements

Note: The following codes identify courses which satisfy the General Education Degree Requirements:

Behavioral/Social Science (GB)
 English Composition (GE)
 Arts/Humanities (GH)
 Interdisciplinary and Emerging Issues (GI)
 Biological/Physical Laboratory Science (GL)
 Mathematics (GM)
 Biological/Physical Science (GS)