Communication:

Communication Studies

Journalism

Public Communication

Film and Media Arts

Suggested Program for Potential Majors

Students planning to major in communication may take COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 either in the fall or the spring of the freshman year. Although the School of Communication offers a number of general education Communication courses, students may not take more than two General Education courses in any one discipline. For example, you may only take two COMM courses out of your ten General Education courses. General education COMM courses include: COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1, COMM-105 Visual Literacy 1:1, COMM-270 How the News Media Shape History 2:2, COMM-275 Dissident Media: Voices from the Underground 4:2 or COMM-280 Contemporary Media in a Global Society 3:2. Students should consult with their academic advisor in order to determine if a second COMM course for the General Education program is appropriate for their academic plans.

First Semester

- College Writing
- University Mathematics Requirement
- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- General Education foundation course in area 1
- General Education foundation course in area 3

or

Elective

or

Foreign language course (consult with academic advisor)

Second Semester

- College Writing Seminar
- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3) (if not taken in fall)
- COMM-209 Communication and Society (3) (Public Communication majors only)

or

COMM-105 Visual Literacy 1:1 (Film and Media Arts majors only)

- General Education foundation course in area 2
- General Education foundation course in area 5

or

Elective

Foreign Language and Communication Media

Suggested Program for Potential Majors

Tracks are available in French, German, Russian, or Spanish combined with broadcast journalism, print journalism, public communication, or film and media arts.

First Semester

- College Writing
- University Mathematics Requirement (may be taken in fall or spring)
- COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3)
- Major language (French, German, Russian, or Spanish) course at appropriate level *
- One or two General Education foundation courses

Second Semester

- College Writing Seminar
- University Mathematics Requirement (if not taken in fall)

or

COMM-100 Understanding Media 4:1 (3) (if not taken in fall)

- Major language (French, German, Russian, or Spanish) course at appropriate level *
- Two General Education courses

* Students with three years of high school preparation in a language normally place into 200-level courses. Students with four years of high school preparation in a language normally place into 300-level courses. Students who have completed two or more years of study in French, German, Russian, or Spanish at the pre-college level should take the computerized placement tests for those languages, which are available on the web portal. To take the test, after logging on to my.american.edu, click on Language Placement and follow the instructions. Placement tests for Arabic, Chinese, Italian, and Japanese may be taken during summer or welcome week orientation in the Language Resource Center (LRC), Asbury Building, lower level.