

COMMUNICATION STUDIES/JD 3+3 DEGREE, BA

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies/JD Degree

The BA/JD Communication Studies degree is an accelerated program which allows highly qualified and disciplined students to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and a Juris Doctor degree in six years (180 credits) instead of the usual seven by counting 29 credits from the first year of law school toward the bachelor's degree.

The Communication Studies degree equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to evaluate the role of communication in society and effectively develop messages to address organizational and community challenges. Students study communication practices, concepts, and theories that can be used to help build and maintain relationships in personal and professional contexts. Communication Studies graduates have strong communication, analytic, and critical thinking skills, which are necessary for success in the legal profession. They are prepared to craft meaningful messages and lead productive discussion and debate in society.

Requirements for Admission

- Admission to the 3+3 program as a first-year student requires an ACT of 25 (SAT of 980) and a minimum high school GPA of 3.4; admission of transfer and ICT students requires a GPA of 3.4.
- Any University of Akron Communication Studies major may apply for inclusion into the 3+3 program at the same time they apply for admission into the Communication Studies BA program, or anytime while enrolled as a Communication Studies major at the University of Akron.
- University of Akron Communication Studies majors participating in the joint 3+3 program who have completed the equivalent of three years or more of a baccalaureate degree will be admitted into the University of Akron School of Law so long as they:
 - Are in good standing academically, financially, and from a disciplinary perspective in the Communication Studies BA program.
 - Satisfy the character and fitness standards required of all students admitted to the Law School.
 - Have an LSAT that is at or above the 25th percentile of the previous year's entering class, and not below a 151 (GRE results can be considered if no LSAT score is available).
 - Have an undergraduate grade point average at or above the median of the previous University of Akron Law School entering class.

The following information has official approval of **The School of Communication** and **The Buchtel College of Arts & Sciences**, but is intended only as a supplemental guide. Official degree requirements are established at the time of transfer and admission to the degree-granting college. Students should refer to the Degree Progress Report (Stellic) which is definitive for graduation requirements. *Completion of this degree within the identified time frame below is contingent upon many factors, including but not limited to: class availability, total number of required credits, work schedule, finances, family, course drops/withdrawals, successfully*

passing courses, prerequisites, among others. The transfer process is completed through an appointment with your academic advisor.

Requirements Summary

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://bulletin.uakron.edu/undergraduate/general-education/)	36
	College of Arts & Sciences Requirements	9-24
	Communication Core	9
	Communication Studies Core	15
	Communication Studies Electives	15
	Minor Requirement	18
	Additional Credits for Graduation *	18-3
	Total Hours	120

* Bachelor's degrees require a minimum of 120 credit hours for graduation.

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	Students pursuing a bachelor's degree must complete the following General Education coursework	
	Breadth of Perspectives courses may also fulfill major or Breadth of Knowledge requirements. Integrated and Applied Learning courses may also fulfill requirements in the major.	
	Academic Foundations	12
	<i>Mathematics, Statistics and Logic: 3 credit hours</i>	
	<i>Speaking: 3 credit hours</i>	
	<i>Writing: 6 credit hours</i>	
	Breadth of Knowledge	19
	<i>Arts: 3 credit hours</i>	
	<i>Humanities: 3 credit hours</i>	
	<i>Natural Sciences: 7 credit hours</i>	
	<i>Social Sciences: 6 credit hours</i>	
	Breadth of Perspectives	
	U.S. Perspectives	
	Global Perspectives	
	Civic Literacy	
	Integrated and Applied Learning	1-3
	<i>Select one class from one of the following subcategories:</i>	
	Complex Issues Facing Society	
	Capstone	
	General Education Elective ¹	4-2
	<i>Review the General Education Requirements page for detailed course listings.</i>	
	Total Hours	36

¹ Credits may be selected from any approved General Education course not already accounted for.

College of Arts & Sciences Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Degree requirements in Arts & Sciences include either 1) the demonstration of ability to use another language by completion of the second year of a foreign language, or 2) the completion of a certificate program outside of the Communication department		
2 Year Language Proficiency		14
101	Beginning I	
102	Beginning II	
201	Intermediate I	
202	Intermediate II	
SLPA 222	Survey of Deaf Culture in America (American Sign Language option only)	
-or-		
Certificate program ¹		9-24

¹ Please see your advisor for a list of available certificate programs

Code	Title	Hours
Students must also complete a minimum of 40 credits (excluding workshops) consisting of either:		
Upper-level (300/400) courses both in and outside of the student's major;		
or other courses outside the major department approved by the student's major department chair (permission should be obtained prior to enrollment); these may not include workshops		

Communication Core ¹

Code	Title	Hours
COMM 101	Introduction to Communication ¹	3
COMM 384	Communication Research ¹	3
or COMM 331	Data Collection and Information Design	
Select one of the following Theory courses (<i>Courses not used for this requirement may be taken for elective credit</i>): ^{1,2}		3
COMM 305	Communication Theory	
COMM 360	Theories of Rhetoric	
COMM 406	Public Relations Theory	
COMM 474	Media Theory	
Total Hours		9

¹ Grade of C or better is required in Communication Core courses.

² Courses not used for this requirement can be taken for elective credit.

Communication Studies Core

Code	Title	Hours
COMM 245	Argumentation and Advocacy	3
COMM 324	Interpersonal Communication	3
COMM 325	Intercultural Communication	3
COMM 344	Small Group Communication	3
COMM 435	Organizational Communication	3
Total Hours		15

Communication Studies Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Students must complete 15 credit hours of electives in COMM. Any COMM class that is not a COMM major core requirement, a COMM core requirement, or public speaking can count toward electives. At least 9 credit hours of electives must be at the 300/400 level.		
<i>Recommended electives:</i>		
COMM 235	Business and Professional Communication	
COMM 305	Communication Theory ¹	
COMM 334	Leadership Principles & Practices	
COMM 355	Freedom of Speech	
COMM 360	Theories of Rhetoric ¹	
COMM 438	Health Communication	
COMM 444	Communication & Conflict	
COMM 475	Political Communication	
COMM 480	Communication Internship	
<i>The following course DOES NOT satisfy this requirement:</i>		
COMM 105	Introduction to Public Speaking	
Total Hours		15

¹ Can be used for elective credit if not used to fulfill Communication core requirement.

Recommended Sequence

1st Year

Fall Semester	Hours
ENGL 111 English Composition I	3
COMM 101 Introduction to Communication ¹	3
COMM 105 Introduction to Public Speaking	3
Beginning Language I or Certificate Course ^{1,2}	3-4
Mathematics, Statistics and Logic	3
Hours	15-16

Spring Semester

ENGL 112 English Composition II	3
COMM 305 Communication Theory ¹	3
or COMM 360 or Theories of Rhetoric	
or COMM 406 or Public Relations Theory	
or COMM 474 or Media Theory	
Beginning Language II or Certificate Course II ²	3
Natural Science Requirement	3
Social Science Requirement	3
Hours	15

2nd Year

Fall Semester	Hours
COMM 245 Argumentation and Advocacy	3
COMM 325 Intercultural Communication ³	3
Natural Science with lab Requirement	4
Intermediate Language I or Certificate Course III ²	3
Social Science Requirement	3
Hours	16

Spring Semester

COMM 324	Interpersonal Communication	3
	Intermediate Language II or Certificate Course IV ²	3
	Communication Studies Elective	3
	Arts Requirement	3
	Global Perspectives Requirement	3
Hours		15

3rd Year

Fall Semester

COMM 384 or COMM 331	Communication Research ¹ or Data Collection and Information Design	3
COMM 344	Small Group Communication	3
	Communication Studies Elective	3
	Communication Studies Elective	3
	Humanities Requirement	3
Hours		15

Spring Semester

COMM 435	Organizational Communication	3
	Communication Studies Elective	3
	Communication Studies Elective	3
	Complex Issues Requirement	3
	Civic Literacy Requirement	3
Hours		15

4th Year

Fall Semester

LAWX 601	Civil Procedure - Federal Jurisdiction	3
LAWX 611	Contracts	4
LAWX 619	Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I (LARW I)	3
LAWX 625	Torts	4
Hours		14

Spring Semester

LAWX 602	Civil Procedure - Federal Litigation	3
LAWX 607	Criminal Law	3
LAWX 620	Legal Analysis, Research & Writing II (LARW II)	3
LAWX 645	Property	4
LAWX 675	Entrepreneurship	3
Hours		16
Total Hours		121-122

Transformation & Social Entrepreneurship [370016C], Parent and Family Education [H40203C], Entrepreneurship [630000C], Health Care Selling [660108C], Applied Politics [370005C], Asian Studies [340001C], Environmental Studies [337004C], Field Archaeology [324001C], Gerontology [300006C], Latin American Studies [300008C], Linguistic Studies [330008C], Middle Eastern Studies [340002C], Pan-African Studies [300002C], Research Methods for the Social Sciences [385000C], Teaching English as a Second Language [330003C], Women's Studies [300110C], Manual Communication [H70007C], Museum and Archives Studies [140001C], Managing People [650010C], Campus Arts and Culture [140005C], Environmental Ethics [360006C], Applied Community Engagement [140004C], Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion [375001C], and Addiction Services [226106C].
³ COMM 325 Intercultural Communication meets the U.S. Perspectives course requirement.

¹ A grade of C or better is required in order to graduate.
² Students are required to complete four semesters of a modern language or sign language OR complete a certificate from the approved list (see below). Demonstration of ability to use another language by completion of the second year of a modern language or sign language is required through coursework, AP, CLEP, or Oral Proficiency Interview. See your advisor for placement. Please note that all four semesters must be completed in the SAME language and it's recommended you begin your first language course as soon as possible. Students can also complete one of the following certificates, instead of a language, to satisfy this requirement: Applied Political Communication [370019C], Artificial Intelligence [360010C], Conflict