

Science Communication (Minor)

The minor in Science Communication offered by the Department of Communication is available to undergraduate students interested in developing their understanding of and abilities in communication science to public audiences. It is open to students in all undergraduate majors on campus who want to deepen and broaden their knowledge of how citizens make sense of science and technology in their everyday lives. Required coursework includes 15 credit hours, including (1) an overview course that introduces major issues in contemporary debates about science communication and public engagement, (2) electives that allow students to develop further understanding of communication processes and practices, and (3) a capstone course that engages students on more advanced topics such as climate change, risk communication, environmental communication, and others.

Admissions

Students interested in the Science Communication minor must contact the minor advisor before their junior year and/or before the completion of 90 credits toward undergraduate degree. To be admitted to the program, a student must have a GPA of at least 2.0. Application for admission to any University minor program is now available via MyPack Portal. Admission will be based upon the student's academic record, and in most cases no longer requires departmental review. Go to Add a Minor (<https://studentservices.ncsu.edu/your-degree/coda-home/add-a-minor/>) to apply.

Certification

A University Minor Declaration Form (https://studentservices.ncsu.edu/forms/registrar/declare_minor.pdf) should be submitted to Registration and Records for inclusion of the minor on the student's official record no later than during the registration period for the student's final semester at NC State. The minor must be completed no later than the semester in which the student expects to graduate from his or her degree program. Students will receive official recognition on their transcripts for the completed minor.

Contact Person

Dr. Andrew R. Binder
Associate Professor of Communication
201 Winston Hall, Campus Box 8104
919.515.9750
arbinder@ncsu.edu

SIS Code: 16SCM

Plan Requirements

- Completion of 15 credit hours.
- At least nine (9) credits must be completed at 300-400 level: three (3) credits for the 400-level capstone course and six (6) credits of 300-400 level elective courses.
- A maximum of TWO (2) courses may be used (double-counted) towards departmental major requirements and/or requirements for additional minor(s).
- No more than six (6) transfer credits may be counted towards the minor.

- A grade of 'C' (2.0) or better will be required for all courses taken to fulfill minor requirements.
- No coursework may be taken for S/U credit.

Required Courses (6 credit hours)

Code	Title	Hours
COM 289	Science Communication and Public Engagement	3
Capstone Course: Advised 400-level COM elective ¹		3

Elective Courses (9 credit hours) ²

Code	Title	Hours
Group I - Foundational Communication Skills		
COM 110	Public Speaking	
COM 211	Argumentation and Advocacy	
COM 301	Presentational Speaking	
ENG 316	Introduction to News and Article Writing	
ENG 323	Writing in Rhetorical Traditions	
ENG 333	Communication for Science and Research	
ENG 426	Analyzing Style	
Group II - Understanding Public Communication Processes and Practices		
COM 200	Communication Media in a Changing World	
COM 201	Introduction to Persuasion Theory	
COM 226	Introduction to Public Relations	
COM 292	Language, Communication, and Culture	
COM 321	Survey of Rhetorical Theory	
COM 327	Critical Analysis of Communication Media	
COM 362	Communication and Gender	
COM 392	International and Crosscultural Communication	
COM 395	Studies in Rhetoric and Digital Media	
COM 402	Advanced Group Communication	
COM 411	Rhetorical Criticism	
COM 417	Communication & Race	
COM 421	Communication Law	
COM 436	Environmental Communication	
COM 441	Ethical Issues in Communication	
COM 442	Communication and Conflict Management	
COM 447	Communication and Globalization	
COM 451	Visual Rhetoric	
COM 456	Organizational Communication	
COM 466	Nonprofit Leadership & Development	
COM 467	Advanced Topics in Gender and Communication	
COM 479	Climate Change Communication	
COM 487	Internet and Society	
COM 493	Advanced Topics in Public Relations	
ENG 341	Literature and Science	
ENG 425	Analysis of Scientific and Technical Writing	
ET 455	Adaptive Management and Governance	
MEA 488	Meteorology for Media	
NR 484	Environmental Impact Assessment	
STS 214	Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society	

STS 302	Contemporary Science, Technology and Human Values
---------	---

Verify Requirement

At least six (6) hours of electives must be 300- or 400-levels.
(p. 2)

¹ Capstone course is recommended to be taken after at least 9 credits in the minor.

(For this elective, COM 436, 479, future risk communication or advanced science communication course can be taken by permission)

² Choose 1 course from EACH Group (2 courses total) AND choose 1 additional course from either of the 2 Groups. *At least 6 credits must be completed at 300-400 level.*

Note: Students who have officially declared the minor and who wish to take a course on the elective list for which they do not currently meet the prerequisites should express their interest in the course to the minor adviser to discuss the possibility of applying for a waiver of the course prerequisite(s).

Verify Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
------	-------	-------

This is a verify requirement and may not require additional hours.

Students can fulfill this requirement through other academic requirements.

COM 301	Presentational Speaking	3
COM 321	Survey of Rhetorical Theory	3
COM 327	Critical Analysis of Communication Media	3
COM 362	Communication and Gender	3
COM 392	International and Crosscultural Communication	3
COM 395	Studies in Rhetoric and Digital Media	3
COM 402	Advanced Group Communication	3
COM 411	Rhetorical Criticism	3
COM 417	Communication & Race	3
COM 421	Communication Law	3
COM 436	Environmental Communication	3
COM 441	Ethical Issues in Communication	3
COM 442	Communication and Conflict Management	3
COM 447	Communication and Globalization	3
COM 479	Climate Change Communication	3
COM 487	Internet and Society	3
COM 493	Advanced Topics in Public Relations	3
ENG 316	Introduction to News and Article Writing	3
ENG 323	Writing in Rhetorical Traditions	3
ENG 333	Communication for Science and Research	3
ENG 341	Literature and Science	3
ENG 425	Analysis of Scientific and Technical Writing	3
ENG 426	Analyzing Style	3
ET 455	Adaptive Management and Governance	3
MEA 488	Meteorology for Media	3
NR 484	Environmental Impact Assessment	4
STS 302	Contemporary Science, Technology and Human Values	3