Two Big Things:
- Socially Engaged Internships
- Student Scholarship presentations and competition

Communication Studies examines the myriad ways that people construct their world and shared social reality using words, signs, and symbols. Courses explore such dimensions of communications as the settings in which communication takes place (interpersonal, small group, mass media), the politics of communication (national, gender, economic), and the structure of social communication systems (organizational, media law, media systems). Additionally, current developments in communication technology and its uses, such as surveillance, are integral components of the course of study.

Career Opportunities
Graduates with the Bachelors of Arts are well prepared to work in a variety of areas and fields. The course of study focuses on providing students with strong skills in public speaking and writing in addition to analytic and critical thinking skills applicable to many careers. Recent graduates of the program have found jobs in public relations, advertising, human resources, mass media, as government staffers and other areas, and many have gone on to advanced study in postgraduate programs both at EWU and elsewhere.

Students are encouraged to take minors in related fields to help them further develop their interests and skills.

Curriculum
All Communication Studies majors must meet the general university requirements for admission to EWU, and must satisfy the university requirements for international studies, gender and cultural diversity, as well as the senior capstone.

Upon registering as a major in Communication Studies, students will complete an introduction to the major consisting of CMST 207 (Communication, Careers, and Citizenship) and CMST 208 (Introduction to Mass Media and the Information Society). Students then undertake the core technology and theory courses in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (CSBS 310 and CSBS 330).

The Bachelor of Arts Communication Studies offers two options:
1. Communication Studies and
Both options provide you with an introduction to concepts in communication and the social sciences through a shared core of classes. As one progresses in his or her education, one will choose a course from each of the following areas of communication: Rhetorical and Cultural Studies, Organizational and Leadership Studies, and Language and Social Interaction Studies.

Full requirements for the B.A. degree in Communication Studies are given in the university catalog.

Special Features
Communication Studies features a committed faculty who teach at all levels of the degree. The department encourages scholarship, research, and publication, thus creating an environment in which students work with faculty at the cutting edge of the discipline.

Small class sizes ensure that students have maximum opportunities to work closely with faculty. Additionally, students are encouraged to participate in regional and national conferences, such as the Northwest Communication Association (NWCA) held annually.

The engagement requirement of the degree allows students to experience real-life professional and social situations. Students are encouraged and aided as well to develop their skills in exercising the responsibilities of citizens in a democratic society. In addition to internships with a range of local companies and organizations, activities such as event planning, debate and other
activities conducted through the department prepare students to apply their learning in the world.

**Preparation for College**

Beyond the standard secondary education, students interested in communications as a field of study are encouraged to read widely in contemporary US and world affairs, history, and technology. Skills in computing, media, and knowledge of technology are also helpful. Prior experience in debate and public speaking are desirable as well. Most importantly, students should endeavor to develop a critical consciousness about media, language, and their relationship to them.

**For Further Information**

Communication Studies
229 Communications Building
Eastern Washington University
Cheney, WA 99004-2408
Phone: 509-359-2313

**Internet Access**

The department website provides more information. Please go to: http://www.ewu.edu/csbssw/programs/communication-studies

**The University**

Eastern Washington University is a student-centered, regionally based, comprehensive university. Its campus is located in Cheney within the Spokane metropolitan area, with additional learning centers in the region and elsewhere in Washington State. With more than 100 fields of study, nine master’s degrees, four graduate certificates, 76 graduate programs and a physical therapy doctoral program, its mission is to prepare broadly educated, technologically proficient, and highly productive citizens to attain meaningful careers, to enjoy enriched lives, and to make contributions to a culturally diverse society.

Our mission to be a student-centered, regionally engaged university will be fulfilled best through a distinguished EWU academic experience that is integrated and interdependent. This vision informs and inspires our future.

**Note:**

Information in this guide is subject to change without notice. To learn more about the official program of study for Communication Studies please check the catalog online at: http://www.ewu.edu/academics/catalogue

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