BACHELOR OF ARTS: COMMUNICATION STUDIES

University Requirements

General Education
The UMKC General Education Core (http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/general-education-requirements) is the university-wide curriculum that all undergraduate students will complete. The 30-credit hour core curriculum includes three course types designated as Anchor, Discourse and Focus and is detailed in the General Education (http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/general-education-requirements) section of the catalog.

Constitution Course
Every undergraduate student must take a course covering the United States Constitution and the Missouri State Constitution before graduation. Course options are included in the program requirements section below.

RooWriter Assessment
Candidates for all baccalaureate degrees must complete the online UMKC RooWriter Writing Assessment after they have passed Discourse 200 (or its equivalent) but before they have attained 90 credit hours. Incoming transfer students with more than 90 credit hours must complete the RooWriter by the end of their first semester of enrollment or within one semester after passing Discourse 200 (or its equivalent). Students who have not completed the RooWriter Writing Assessment within two semesters after passing Discourse 200 (or its equivalent) will be blocked from enrollment until they successfully complete the RooWriter. Additional information is available in the Undergraduate Academic Regulations and Information (http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/roowriter) section of the catalog.

Exit Examinations
Information on exit examinations and/or major field exams is available in the Undergraduate Academic Regulations and Information (http://catalog.umkc.edu/undergraduate-academic-regulations-information/graduation/exitexams) section of the catalog.

Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement Examination
In accordance with Missouri Senate Bill 807 (section 170.013.1), 'any student entering a public institution of higher education for the first time after July 2019 who is pursuing an associate's or bachelor's degree from such institution shall successfully pass an examination on the provisions and principles of American civics with a score of seventy percent or greater as a condition of graduation from such institution'. To satisfy this requirement at UMKC, students access the exam through the Canvas site. This requirement will be listed in the degree audit system as, 'Take State Mandated Missouri Higher Education Civics Achievement Examination', and listed on the transcript as 'Missouri Civics Examination'.

College of Arts & Sciences Degree Requirements
Students pursuing the bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees must complete a major. Students pursuing the bachelor of liberal arts degree must complete a minor. Additional details are available in the Student Services (http://catalog.umkc.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/student-services) section of the catalog.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALEKS Math Placement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Humanities Division of CAS or any UMKC Focus A course¹</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and Math Division of CAS or any UMKC Focus B course</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and Behavioral Sciences Division of CAS or any UMKC Focus C course</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Intensive Course (300-level or above)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language (3rd Semester Level)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 110</td>
<td>Precalculus Algebra (or any 200-level or above Math/Stat course)²</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MATH 116</td>
<td>Mathematics For Liberal Arts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MATH 120</td>
<td>Precalculus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Science Experience</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ ENGLISH 110, ENGLISH 225, COMM-ST 110, and foreign language courses at 211 or below do not fulfill this requirement.
² This requirement may be fulfilled by courses from either the UMKC General Education Core or the College of Arts and Sciences Degree Requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students graduating from this program will:
• Understand social science research using analytical skills by demonstrating the ability to conduct historical and contemporary research using print and online resources.
• Understand how human values determine communication outcomes. Included in this understanding are cultural, political, legal and philosophical perspectives.
• Demonstrate the ability to recognize his/her bias, identify argument fallacies and increase their objectivity to view their ideas from all sides of an issue.
• Demonstrate that they can communicate effectively in oral, written, and/or visual styles; as well as establish relationships with others based on respect and equality. This includes supportiveness, empathy, collaboration, and conflict management in personal and professional behaviors.
• Develop reasoned and supported arguments in a logical progression with both requisite competence and grammatical precision.

Core Program Requirements
The department provides a multidisciplinary approach so students can satisfy their educational and occupational needs across multiple, firmly grounded degree tracks. Regardless of the emphasis, students are required to satisfactorily complete the department’s core courses. Students must maintain a 2.0 GPA in their major field. A grade of “D” in a course within the major will not be accepted for credit in the program. With prior permission, three hours of elective credit from another department may be accepted as Communication Studies elective credit. At least 18 of 33 credit hours must be at the 300- or 400-level. Transfer students may transfer a maximum of 15 hours from another institution, and in addition, must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours within the department.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM-ST 110</td>
<td>Fundamentals Of Effective Speaking And Listening</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM-ST 483</td>
<td>Research Seminar In Communication Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or COMM-ST 471</td>
<td>Advanced Media Production</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 6

The program of study for the Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies consists of 33 total credit hours. COMM-ST 110 and COMM-ST 483 are required for all three emphasis areas; Film and Media Studies Emphasis Area students may opt to take COMM-ST 471 instead of COMM-ST 483. COMM-ST 483 must be taken during a student’s final semester. Students are expected to work closely with a departmental advisor in designing an undergraduate program of study for their emphasis. Only three credit hours within the 33 hours for a major may be taken in one-credit-hour courses. Students are required to take one writing intensive course within their emphasis area with the exception of Film and Media Studies. Film and Media Studies students must take one designated writing intensive course in any discipline.

Note: Students must complete the RooWriter before enrolling in any writing intensive courses. As noted in Pathway, the following classes do not count toward electives in Communication Studies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM-ST 390</td>
<td>Forensic Activities</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM-ST 421P</td>
<td>Multimedia &amp; New Media Streaming</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM-ST 422P</td>
<td>New Media Writing For The Web</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM-ST 423P</td>
<td>Shooting Digital Video For The Web And New Media</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM-ST 424P</td>
<td>Web Radio</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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Tools for Planning and Fulfilling Academic Requirements
UMKC’s Major Maps (https://cf1.umkc.edu/majormaps) are detailed, semester by semester plans that lead a student to complete all degree requirements within four years. Plans include benchmarks and critical courses by term that assist a student’s evaluation of progress and major “fit”. In order to ensure that the appropriate courses are taken, students are encouraged to consult with the undergraduate advisor for this major.

UMKC’s Degree Audit System (https://www.umkc.edu/registrar/majors-degrees/planmydegree.asp) provides an individual evaluation of all degree requirements (General Education Core, Degree Specific, Major Specific, etc.) for student’s officially recorded (Office of Registration and Records) and “what if” plans of study. This evaluation is used to certify all graduation requirements.

UMKC’s Transfer Guides (https://www.umkc.edu/transferguides) provide detailed guidance on recommended transfer coursework, plans of study, transfer timelines, and transfer contact information. To ensure a seamless transfer experience, students are encouraged to work with both their community college advisor and a UMKC advisor when planning their coursework.