COMMUNICATION STUDIES

The Speech and Communication Studies Department at Ohlone College offers a wide range of communication studies courses that meet students' general education requirements, lower division transfer requirements for CSU and UC Communication Studies Departments, requirements for Speech and Communication Studies certificates, and the Associate in Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer. This department strives to help students gain knowledge of theoretical perspectives of communication and learn to speak, think, and write clearly and concisely, critically and creatively. Students study the necessary skills to prepare them for transfer in communication studies or related majors. Finally, the department encourages students to use their communication expertise ethically and in service to the larger community and to enhance their relationships and their own personal growth.

The Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act (Senate Bill 1440, now codified in California Education Code sections 66746-66749) guarantees admission to a California State University (CSU) campus for any community college student who completes an “associate degree for transfer,” a newly established variation of the associate degrees traditionally offered at a California community college. The Associate in Arts in Communication Studies for Transfer is intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor's degree in a similar major at a CSU campus. Students completing this degree are guaranteed admission to the CSU system, but not to a particular campus or major. In order to earn one of these degrees, students must complete a minimum of 60 required semester units of CSU-transferable coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.0. Students transferring to a CSU campus that does accept the AA-T will be required to complete no more than 60 units after transfer to earn a bachelor’s degree. This degree may not be the best option for students intending to transfer to a particular CSU campus or to university or college that is not part of the CSU system. Students should consult with a counselor when planning to complete the degree for more information on university admission and transfer requirements.

Requirements for Associate in Arts for Transfer Degree:

a) Complete all Major and Supporting Courses with a grade of C or better.

b) Complete Plan B or Plan C General Education requirements. These requirements are specified in the Ohlone College catalog.

c) Complete a minimum of 60 CSU-transferable semester units.

d) Complete a minimum grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in all CSU-transferable coursework. While a minimum GPA of 2.0 is required for admission, some majors may require a higher GPA. Please consult with a counselor for more information.

e) Complete a minimum of 18 semester units in the Communication Studies major.

f) Complete at least 12 units at Ohlone College.
MAJOR FIELD

SPCH-101 Introduction to Public Speaking 3

Choose two courses from the following.

SPCH-102 Small Group Communication/Critical Thinking 3
SPCH-103 Interpersonal Communication 3
SPCH-106 Critical Thinking/Argumentation and Debate 3

SUPPORTING COURSES

Choose two courses from the following.

COMM-100 Introduction to Communication Theory 3
SPCH-102* Small Group Communication/Critical Thinking OR 3
SPCH-103* Interpersonal Communication OR (3)
SPCH-106* Critical Thinking/Argumentation and Debate (3)
SPCH-104 Critical Thinking/Persuasion 3
SPCH-105 Intercultural Communication 3
SPCH-110A3 Forensics Workshop OR 3
SPCH-112A3 Argumentation and Debate Workshop OR (3)
SPCH-114A3 Oral Interpretation Workshop (3)

*SPCH-102, SPCH-103, and SPCH-106 cannot be double-counted to apply towards Major Field and Supporting Courses.

ELECTIVES

Choose one course from the following:

ANTH-102 Cultural Anthropology 3
ENGL-101B Reading and Composition (Introduction to Literature) 4
ENGL-101C Critical Thinking and Composition 3
JOUR-101A Newswriting 3
PSY-101 General Psychology 3
SOC-101 Introduction to Sociology 3
SPCH-107 Leadership Communication 3
SPCH-108 Gender Communication 3
SPCH-115 Career Communication 3
SPCH-122 Family Communication 3
SPCH-130 Oral Communication of Literature 3
SPCH-132 Voice and Diction 3
SPCH-190C Speech Communication Lab Consultant 3

Total Required Units 18-19