

2009-2010

B.A.Ed. in Communication-Elementary

College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Woodring College of Education

What Is the Study of Communication-Elementary?

According to our National Communication Association, we focus on how people use messages to generate meanings. We promote effective and ethical practices across different channels, cultures, situations and media.

Why Should I Consider This Major?

Communication graduates qualify for a variety of careers. Strong attention to research and writing provides students with skills needed for entry-level positions in organizational training and development, public relations, marketing, electronic media and other information-oriented occupations. The entire communication field is growing rapidly with increased diversification of employment opportunities.

Most people are born with the ability to acquire communication skills, and we can help you realize your full potential. We believe the educational techniques of direct instruction, guided rehearsals and modeling provide tools for developing effective communication practices. In addition, you can learn more about developing stronger communities through ethical interaction, civil public discourse and cooperative decision-making.

How to Declare:

Students wishing to declare a major in Communication must have completed 90 credits, 12 to 15 of which have been completed at WWU with a GPA of 2.7 or above. Declaration Portfolios are to be submitted to the department on or before Monday of the fourth week of fall, winter and spring quarters. The Department will review portfolios and announce names of successful applicants approximately three weeks later. Note: Although there is no GPA requirement for admission into the Department, the average grade point for those accepted into the program is 3.18. The number of applicants and the quality of content in the portfolios will be considered when admissions decisions are made. An applicant may make a maximum of two attempts to enter the major.

Mid-Program Checkpoint:

Students intending to complete a Bachelor's of Arts in Education degree in Communication—Elementary within four years should complete the following courses by the start of their junior year. Students are expected to follow all prerequisite requirements for courses and seek early departmental advisement.

Coursework:

Complete COMM 101 or 235 with a B- or better.
Complete COMM 220 with a B- or better.

Other Activities:

Submit portfolio application to the Communication Department.
Maintain a GPA of 2.75 for all college work.

Contact Information:

Communication Department
Website:
<http://www.wvu.edu/depts/communication/>

Department Chair:
Anna Eblen
CF293; 650-3890
Anna.Eblen@wwu.edu

Department Manager:
Ann Reynolds
CF295; 650-3870
Ann.Reynolds@wwu.edu

Undergraduate Advisor:
For pre-major advising, visit the drop-in Communication Peer Advisors in CF203, or the Communication Department Manager in CF295.

Sample Careers:

Elementary Teacher



Communication-Elementary Major Requirements: 50 Credits

Complete with a B- or better:

- COMM 101 Fundamentals of Speech (4)
or COMM 235 Exposition and Argumentation (4)
- COMM 220 Communication Theory (5)

Complete the following:

- COMM 224 Small Group Processes (4)
- COMM 327 Interpersonal Communication (5)
- COMM 454 Instructional Communication (5)

Choose one:

- COMM 235* Exposition and Argumentation (4)
- COMM 236 Intercollegiate Forensics (2)

* Unless used to satisfy the departmental major requirement.

Select 27 credits of departmental courses, under advisement. Twelve of the 27 credits must be upper division (300-400 level.)

A maximum of six credits from the following list may be applied to the 27 credits:

- COMM 236 Intercollegiate Forensics (2)
- COMM 300 Directed Independent Study (1-12)
- COMM 339 Practicum in Applied Communication (1-3)
- COMM 400 Directed Independent Study (1-12)
- COMM 436 Advanced Forensics and Debate (2)
- COMM 450 Communication Pedagogy I (3)
- COMM 451 Communication Pedagogy II (3)
- COMM 459 Field Internship in Communication (3, 6, 9, 12)

Students must maintain a 2.75 GPA for all college work.

Other Communication Options:

B.A. Communication (50 credits plus minor)

Minor in Communication (25 credits)

Minor in Internet Resource Creation and Management (27-29 credits)

These courses are offered within this major and may be used to satisfy GUR or Writing Proficiency requirements:

BCOM: COMM 101, 224, 235

CCOM: COMM 322

WP: Three Writing Proficiency points are required for graduation (they are noted as WP1, WP2, and WP3).

Check [Classfinder](#) or [Online Timetable](#) for departmental offerings each quarter.