

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES

The Graduate Certificate in Communication Studies is an 18-hour online program that is part of the department's offerings. The certificate consists of three required courses and three elective courses. Full-time students will be able to complete the program in a year. Using summer classes, part-time students will be able to complete the certificate in a year and a half.

This Graduate Certificate is eligible to receive Title IV funding – Direct Unsubsidized Loans and Graduate PLUS loans by request. To be considered for aid, students need to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Applications to the online Communication Studies Certificate Program are reviewed on a rolling basis, with **priority application deadlines** of: March 1st for the fall semester; October 1st for the spring semester. We will accept and continue to review applications until all program slots are filled.

Students seeking admission to the graduate program in Communication Studies must submit the following documents to the Office of Graduate Admissions (<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions/prospective-students.html>):

1. Graduate Application (<http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/apply-texas.html>): The Graduate Application is an institutional application required by SHSU. Students must provide biographical and educational information and information relevant to determining State of Texas residency.
2. Application fee (<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-studies/application-fee.html>): An application fee is required for all applications to graduate programs at SHSU.
3. Transcripts documenting all prior degrees.*
4. Two letters of recommendation that discuss the applicant's suitability for graduate study.
5. A letter of interest that summarizes the applicant's educational and professional goals, how a Communication Studies degree or certificate will help the applicant obtain his/her professional goals, and how the applicant's personal and professional experiences have prepared him/her for our graduate program.
6. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher is expected. Applicants who do not possess a graduate degree and have an undergraduate GPA below 3.0 may submit additional information as evidence of their academic and professional potential. Additional information may include, but is not limited to: GRE scores, a narrative that provides an explanation for the applicant's low GPA and why the GPA is not indicative of the applicant's academic and professional potential, etc.
7. A resume'.

*Applicants may submit unofficial transcripts for review by the admissions committee. However, under university policy, admission decisions are contingent upon receipt of official transcripts.

Applicants must submit all application materials directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions (<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions/transition.html>) by the relevant deadline. A holistic review of each applicant's file will then be completed, with admission to the MA in Communication Studies program awarded on a competitive basis.

Note: Incomplete applications will be held by the Office of Graduate Admissions until the application file is complete. If students have questions about their application file, they should contact the Office of Graduate Admissions.

Code	Title	Hours
Graduate Certificate in Communication Studies		
Required Courses		
COMS 5331	Comm Studies Methods & Resrch	3
COMS 5335	Advanced Communication Theory	3
COMS 5360	Adv Interpersonal Communicatn	3
Prescribed Electives		
Select 3 of the following:		9
COMS 5332	Statistical Methods For Comm	
COMS 5350	Computer Mediated Comm	
COMS 5361	Dark Side of Communication	
COMS 5362	Advanced Intercultural Comm	
COMS 5363	Interpersonal Conflict	
COMS 5370	Health Communication	
COMS 5371	Sex & Gender In Communication	
COMS 5375	Grad Readings in Communication	
COMS 5380	Advanced Family Communication	
COMS 5381	Intergenerational Family Comm	

COMS 5382	Dark Side of Family Comm
COMS 5390	Seminar In Interpersonal Comm
COMS 5391	Seminar In Family Communicatn
COMS 5395	Social Support and Well-Being
COMS 5396	Risk Communication
COMS 5397	Persuasion & Social Influence

Total Hours

18