

What is Health Communication

Health communication offers a unique blend of theory, research, and application focusing on health issues in interpersonal, small group, organizational, intercultural, public, and mass-mediated contexts. The coursework includes classes from the Department of Communication Studies, the Department of Psychology, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the School of Health Administration resulting in an interdisciplinary minor in health communication.



The study of health communication contributes to disease prevention and health promotion. Students gain knowledge in areas like provider-patient communication, patient-family communication, public health messages and campaigns, health in mass media, public health, and technology including the use of social media.



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Health COMM Minor

Required Core Courses

COMM 4326	Health Communication	3
MC 4382P	Health Communication Campaigns	3

Elective Courses (Select 1)

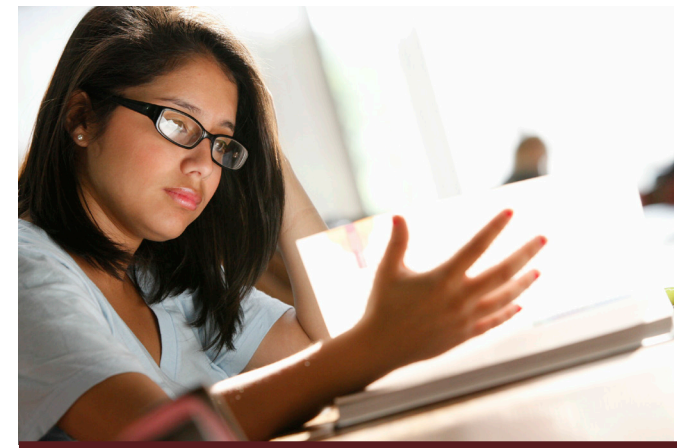
COMM 2315	Interpersonal Communication	3
COMM 2330	Small Group Communication	3

Elective Courses (Select 2)

COMM 3318J	Communication in Health Organizations	3
COMM 3319	Organizational Communication	3
COMM 3325	Communication & Conflict Management	3
COMM 3326	Family Communication	3
COMM 3328	Communication & Gender	3
COMM 3329	Intercultural Communication	3
COMM 3330	Nonverbal Communication	3
COMM 3358	Professional Communication	3
COMM 4324	Organizational Rhetoric	3
COMM 4329	Training & Development	3
COMM 4331	Persuasion	3
COMM 4345	Political Communication	3
COMM 4347	Leadership	3
COMM 4351	Relational Communication	3
COMM 4390	Communication Internship	3

Elective Courses (Select 2)

HA 3308	Healthcare Organizations	3
HA 3309	Ethics in Health Professions	3
HA 3315	Healthcare Administration History, Culture, and Language	3
HA 3341	Training and Professional Development in Healthcare	3
HA 4320	Seminar in Healthcare Administration	3
MC 3355	Mass Media & Society	3
MC 3343	Introduction to Public Relations	3
MC 4309	Visual Literacy: Film	3
PSY 3300	Lifespan Development	3
PSY 3315	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 3324	Psychology of Human Diversity	3
PSY 3325	Psychology of Persuasion	3
PSY 3331	Social Psychology	3
PSY 3333	Industrial Psychology	3
PSY 3361	Health Psychology	3



Why is Health Communication important?

Effective healthcare communication results in improved patient health. If health professionals lack communication skills then patients suffer. A minor in health communication provides essential skills to enhance communication among physicians, nurses, health specialists, health technicians and patients.

Skilled health communication professionals are needed because:

- Few healthcare workers receive health communication training.
- Healthcare professionals need collaborative problem-solving skills.
- Interpersonal communication skills are vital for enhancing healthcare provider-patient relationships
- Healthcare professionals receive little training in conflict management and negotiation skills.
- Improved communication between patient and healthcare provider promotes healing.
- Technology and social media play an increased role in promoting healthy lifestyles.
- Healthcare is a growing priority in national political and economic discussions.

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Health COMM Careers



What Can You Do With a Minor in Health Communication

Health Communication & Professional Careers

- Health communication trainers
- Health communication human resource specialists
- Hospital health communication specialists
- Healthcare consultants to health providers
- Healthcare counselors

Business & Industry Health Communication

- Healthcare administrators
- Healthcare consultants
- Healthcare sales and marketing specialists
- Public health advocate

Healthcare in Media & Technology

- Developers of health campaigns
- Social media and healthcare experts
- Specialists in health communication and public relations
- Specialists in health communication and advertising
- Communication development specialists in health organizations
- Political communication and health communication advisors

For More Information

Academic Advising Center
College of Fine Arts &
Communication,
512-245-1932

Dr. Melinda Villagran, Chair
Department of Communication
205 Centennial Hall, Suite 205
512-245-2165



*The Chair welcomes students to
our interdisciplinary minor: Health
Communication!*

Dr. Melinda Villagran, Chair

TEXAS STATE
COMMUNICATION STUDIES

**For more information, contact:
The Department of Communication Studies**

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512.245.2165

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Health Communication



Interdisciplinary Minor

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